



member SPOTLIGHT



Esther Chipps, PhD, RN, NEA-BC

1. How has your involvement in ALSN changed, improved, or otherwise served an interesting role in your career trajectory?

As a nurse scholar practicing in a joint appointment before I found ALSN, I felt somewhat “professionally homeless.” While there are many strong nursing practice and academic professional organizations, ALSN was the first organization where I felt a great fit with all of the aspects of my professional role. Specifically, I found people who held similar roles, or had experience in both academia and practice, who could relate to the unique ongoing challenges facing academic-service roles.

2. What doors have opened to you as a result of your involvement in ALSN?

My professional network has expanded exponentially through ALSN. When I have an idea for research, I have a vast pool of others who have experience with conducting systems research who can either help me flesh out my design or participate as co-investigators. To have collaborators and partners in these endeavors makes all the difference to my satisfaction as well as to the value of the research I’m conducting.

3. What would you say to nurse leaders in academia or practice who are considering joining ALSN right now?

Don’t wait to join! There is something for everyone, in academia and in practice, and for those who hold joint roles. Try our annual meeting...the topics are always relevant, and the venues are perfect for smaller sessions which enable greater connection and conversation. People new to the meeting always want to return.

4. Specific to nursing leadership, how can we create a better balance between academic and practice partners?

We need grass-roots energy and effort invested in bridging the gap that sometimes exists between academia and service practice settings. More academic-service collaborative research not only will add to our body of professional knowledge but will build partnerships and collaborations at the same time. Senior faculty can bring so much to nurses in direct care on the frontline and vice versa. The great diversity between settings offers rich opportunity to each partner.

5. How can ALSN assist with this partnership?

ALSN is one of few organizations I am aware of that has a balanced membership with both academic and practice/ service nurse leaders. Our meetings create a perfect forum for enhancing communication and setting the stage for collaboration and partnership. “Leadership Science” lends itself nicely to building and growing partnerships.

6. What is one additional thing you would like ALSN members to know?

Each time I have interaction with ALSN members I always leave feeling inspired. It becomes so clear to me that the things I am passionate about have real meaning. I'm hoping we can advance our study of care delivery systems, top of license practice, and staffing models, as the knowledge is so needed today and for the foreseeable future."

Submitted by

Shelly Fischer, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE
Membership Committee

Bio

Dr. Chipps is the Clinical Nurse Scientist at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center and an Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing. Dr. Chipps' hospital-based clinical nurse scientist role focuses on directing the program of research for the nursing staff at the academic medical center. In addition to facilitating the bedside clinical research projects of staff RNs and advanced practice RNs, she is also involved in many interdisciplinary research teams throughout the health system. Dr. Chipps is certified as a Nurse Executive-Advanced through the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Dr. Chipps has more than 35 publications in a variety of high-impact nursing and interdisciplinary journals and has been successfully funded for her research by national, regional, and local agencies. Her specific research interests on addressing clinically focused practitioner-driven problems and the nursing practice



Which ALSN member do you think we should highlight?
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