



eDelegate Report 2011

Thank you *eChapter* for the support you provided while allowing me to serve as a delegate to the 58th AORN Congress in Philadelphia. The NLDC did an excellent job and our national slate of candidates was awesome this year making our job as voters very tough.

This year the Congress Delegates supported the proposed Bylaw changes for the Association. These Bylaw changes for the most part were cleaning up the language and allowing the business to be conducted more easily in this world of technology in which we live. Anders and Tepp introduced the Universal Access plan of action to allow each member 25 CE sessions with our annual member renewal was announced at Congress in addition there will be a cafeteria style plan for membership to select benefits for their membership.

The General Session speakers such as Dr. Lucian L. Leape who spoke on patient safety, Dr. Edward O'Neil spoke about the Health Care Reform, and Dr. Richard Satava spoke on informatics of the future each challenging us as perioperative nurses to lead the process seeking ways to be at the table for the discussions and changes that will affect health care of patients.

The Institute of Medicine Report that came out in October 2010 was discussed throughout the week and led to a resolution adopted at the House of Delegates with two significant components supporting initiatives related to this report.

1. 80% of nurses are baccalaureate degree prepared by 2020
2. Double the numbers of doctorate prepared nurses by 2020

This resolution was met with energetic discussion as this no longer is the old issue and debate of which degree is best but that no nurse sees his/her first degree as the last. This is a challenge to each of us to continue the lifelong pursuit of education for each person to make a contribution to the health outcomes for our society.

Have a great year and again thanks for the opportunity and support to serve you at the 2011 AORN Congress in Philadelphia.

Joy Don Baker

PhD, RN-BC, CNE, CNOR, NEA-BC