

ARIN Membership Survey Results

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INTRODUCTION

In January 2012, the Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing (ARIN) Board of Directors (Board) embarked on a process to examine the structure and function of the organization. This process was guided by the book *Race for Relevance: 5 Radical Changes for Associations* written by Harrison Coerver and Mary Byers. The book and process were featured at the 2011 Nursing Organizations Alliance (NOA) meeting in Miami, Florida, attended by two of the ARIN officers. The process goal was to critically appraise each position and operational facet of ARIN to ensure that the organization is fiscally and organizationally sound and poised to meet the membership goals of the future.

The Board constructed a membership survey to assess the ARIN members' perspectives to help with identifying our strengths, as well as to determine goals for our future. Currently, the responses gathered in this survey are important to the ARIN Board in the formulation of a revised five (5) year plan for the organization.

SURVEY DEVELOPMENT AND DATA COLLECTION

The process goal was discussed at a January 2012 Board meeting. At this meeting, the Board decided to construct a survey tool to ascertain the needs of the ARIN membership. In this manner, the ARIN Board could fulfill the goal recommended by *Race for Relevance* and update the five (5) year plan for the organization. The last membership survey was conducted in 2007 by the Center for Nursing Education and Testing Inc. (CNET) and Radiologic Nursing Certification Board Inc. (RNCB) and published in the *Journal of Radiology Nursing* in the December 2010 issue. Based on Board discussions and follow-up meetings, the Board developed the following questions. Cross-referenced and scrutinized with surveys from other professional nursing organizations, the questions ensure that ARIN is capturing the majority of the needs of our organization. Questions included:

1. What radiologic or imaging practice setting do you work in?
2. How many years have you working in radiologic/imaging nursing?
3. What radiologic or imaging department(s) do you work in?
4. How many nurses work in your radiologic/imaging department?
5. What are your expectations from ARIN membership?
6. What aspect of your membership experience has NOT met your expectations?
7. Do you prefer electronic or printed communications?
8. Have you attended an ARIN educational meeting? How many times?
9. Are you currently a Certified Radiology Nurse?
10. Do you belong to a local ARIN chapter?
11. Would you join a virtual chapter to gain information, exchange ideas, and network?
12. In your opinion, what would enhance your experience as an ARIN member?
13. What other professional nursing or nursing-related organizations do you belong to?

The number of questions was capped at thirteen (13) to maintain brevity and attempt to boost the number of replies. The survey ran in the fall of 2012. The survey ran over four (4) weeks. Eblasts sent as reminders encouraged ARIN membership participation. In addition, a drawing and prize encouraged participation. The survey link went to members and the survey was on the "Members Only" section of the ARIN website to ensure accuracy for the data and reliability of the target audience. Members could respond only one time.

ANALYSIS

The survey was sent to 2,803 members. The survey had 253 respondents for a 9% participation rate. Actual responses are not included in this article due to space restrictions. ARIN members may request the raw response survey data by contacting the ARIN Board. The following graphs display the respondent data:

QUESTION 1. (Select all that apply)

QUESTION 2.

QUESTION 3. (Select all that apply)

QUESTION 4.

QUESTION 5. (Select all that apply)

QUESTION 6.

QUESTION 7. (Select all that apply)

QUESTION 8. (Select all that apply)

QUESTION 9.

QUESTION 10.

QUESTION 12. In your opinion what would enhance your experience as an ARIN member?

Below is a sample of the results:

- Opportunities to share policies, procedures, and protocols relevant to the patient in imaging.
- Improve patient care by increasing knowledge.
- Starting stroke intervention – what things to expect, meds, protocols, outcomes.
- Having more contact hour opportunities, potentially sponsored by industry partners.
- More evidence and best practice sharing between members.
- More networking opportunities and dialogue with similar-size operations.
- Contact hours available through the *Journal of Radiology Nursing*.
- More web-based education and more affordable.
- International opportunities to connect.
- Making conferences more affordable.
- Engagement by the Board with membership directly.
- Opportunities to be involved in leadership and become more active at the national level.
- More exposure of ARIN in the industry.
- M&Ms at the conventions!

QUESTION 13. What other professional nursing, or nursing related, organizations do you belong to?

Answers to this question ranged from “none” to international organizations. Many of ARIN’s members hold multiple association memberships.

SUMMARY

The data collected was very beneficial for the Board. After careful analysis of the data, the Board developed new plans at the January 2013 Board meeting. These plans will help ensure that ARIN strategically leads the future of radiologic and imaging nursing. The plans formulated by the Board to meet members’ needs fall into four areas and include:

1. The Board created the Board Member Director for Education position. Based on direct feedback from the membership survey, this role offers new direction. The Board has now designated one of the Board positions to be the Director of Education. We received many comments requesting more education through continuing education units (CEUs), easier access to webinars, CEUs in the *Journal of Radiology Nursing*, less expensive CEUs, CEUs that are relevant for new radiology nurses, and Certified Radiology Nurse (CRN) certification or renewal assistance. The responsibilities of the Director of Education are to identify and develop opportunities for education, increase CEU opportunities via a multimedia format, improve access to outside CEUs, and investigate yearly CEUs in the *Journal of Radiology Nursing*. Certification promotion will also be a priority for this officer. The officer will monitor the Imaging Nurse Review courses and contribute to the course curriculum while establishing creative ways to provide members with CEUs for certification and recertification.
2. The Board created the Board Member Director of Leadership Development position. In order to keep ARIN moving forward, local chapters and the national organization need a developed pool of leadership. The Board responded to the member survey feedback and has now designated one of the Board positions to be the Director of Leadership Development. The role for this officer will be to assist in developing leadership potential in local chapters and the national organization. ARIN must be strong at its roots. This process is to be accomplished through the offering of a yearly pre-conference workshop highlighting leadership skills. Leadership development will also include a shadowing program at the national level for interested members to experience what it is like to be an officer. The survey results also provide an opportunity for further research in the area of radiology nursing.
3. The survey pinpointed the need for more reference policies, practice guidelines, and position statements. The Board is currently working on revision of the ARIN position statements and practice guidelines. The *ARIN Radiology Nurse Orientation Manual* is in the revision process. The *Radiologic and Imaging*

Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice was completed this year in cooperation with the American Nurses Association (ANA). The third edition of the *Core Curriculum for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing* is in the final stages approaching publication.

4. Chapter development for new and existing chapters was a survey concern for ARIN membership. The development of a virtual chapter was a frequent comment by respondents. The survey noted the need for an international chapter or chapters for our members that are outside metropolitan areas. The ARIN Chapters Committee currently meets every other month to oversee new chapter formation and smooth functioning of chapters. The Board intends to enhance this role with the addition of a virtual chapters concept. The Board is beginning to lay the foundations for a virtual chapter. The Immediate Past ARIN President will oversee this committee.

5. CONCLUSIONS

6. The 2012 Membership Survey was a key element in the formulation of a five (5) year plan for our organization. The Board used it as a focal point to review and revise the strategic plan to move ARIN forward in the healthcare arena. Principle elements of the plan are listed in the summary. Radiology nursing is diverse and "Other" responses were quite varied and included responses from nurses working in management, diagnostic radiology, general X-ray, cardiac imaging, neurointerventional, education, vascular access, anesthesia, pediatrics, quality, pain clinic, prep and recovery areas, interventional nephrology, and interventional oncology. The answers to the questions regarding expectations of ARIN membership generally included a need for information, continuing education opportunities, certification assistance, chapter support, and research opportunities. Other certifications held by ARIN members include nurse practitioner, oncology, research, education, vascular access, legal nurse consulting, medical-surgical, critical care, holistic nursing, gerontology, management, breast health, cardiology, technologist, and high-risk obstetrics. Many of our members hold multiple certifications.
7. It is the Board's pleasure to lead and serve the membership. For questions regarding this survey, membership ideas or concerns, and opportunities to move our organization forward, the Board is always available at www.arinursing.org.

8. Acknowledgements

9. The authors would like to acknowledge the assistance of Karen Green, MHA, BSN, RN, CRN, ARIN Executive Director and Harriet McClung, Administrative Executive in the compilation of the survey questions and data acquisition.

10. References

11. CNET & RNCB. (2010). *Practice analysis of radiology nursing. Journal of Radiology Nursing*, 29(4), 109-128.
12. Coerver, H. & Byers, M. (2011). *Race for relevance: 5 radical changes for associations*. Washington, D.C.: The Center for Association Leadership.

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ARIN National Convention: Spring 2014

15. Mark your calendars for the 2014 Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing (ARIN) National Conference! ARIN's 33rd convention will be held March 23–26, 2014 in San Diego, CA at the San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina. The theme for 2014 is "Bridge to the Future."
16. The spring convention is held in conjunction with the Society of Interventional Radiology (SIR) and the Association of Vascular and Interventional Radiographers (AVIR). Educational and networking opportunities abound. Look for more information on conference registration and educational opportunities, forthcoming in future issues of *Vision*.

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