Anne Tan Piazza Takes Over as Executive Director of ONA

On Monday, April 4, Anne Tan Piazza began as ONA’s Executive Director.

Piazza has worked for the Washington State Nurses Association (WSNA) for nearly 25 years, with 16 years as an executive leader of the union and professional association. Her roles with WSNA included lobbyist, Director of Governmental Affairs and Communications, Assistant Executive Director and, most recently, Labor and Operations Executive Officer.

Anne comes to ONA with a deep understanding of the unique challenges facing nurses in the Pacific Northwest, and across the country, that could only be achieved through her many, many years of leadership at WSNA,” said Lynda Pond, RN, President of the ONA Board of Directors.

Anne knows the breadth and depth of our work here at ONA, from creating and advancing health care and nursing policy to contract negotiations and bargaining, to membership services and member growth. There is not a single aspect of our work that Anne doesn’t know like the back of her hand.”

Steward Trainings

ONA stewards are the lifeblood of what makes our union strong. A strong union has at least one steward for every unit and shift. Stewards are there to answer colleague’s questions and discuss concerns and help keep every nurse up to date on important union activities.

Introductory steward, grievance handling and building worksite power trainings all focused on representing your coworkers and problem-solving workplace issues. Find the training that works best for you!

Space is limited so register today at:

www.OregonRN.org/Steward-Training
Staffing Committee Nominations Extended!

Nominations are extended for the Nurse Staffing Committee!

Please use the Consent to Serve Form to submit a nomination. You can nominate yourself or another nurse. If you nominate another nurse, they must also fill out a Consent to Serve form to verify their willingness to serve. Nominees must be an ONA member in good standing.

You can scan or photograph the completed form and email it to your labor representative, Claire Syrett at Syrett@OregonRN.com.

Deadline to submit is Sunday, May 1, 2022, at 5 p.m.

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<th>Position</th>
<th>Nominee</th>
<th>Nominee’s Home Unit</th>
<th>Signature Consent to Serve</th>
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<td>Medical Surgical/Emergency Dept</td>
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Conviction of Nurse RaDonda Vaught

Recently, former nurse, RaDonda Vaught, was convicted of criminally negligent homicide and impaired adult abuse after she mistakenly administered the wrong medication that ultimately killed a patient in 2017.

The American Nurses Association (ANA) and Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA) released a statement expressing their disappointment with the verdict as “harmful ramifications of criminalizing the honest reporting of mistakes.”

The ANA has a long-standing history of encouraging a more Just Culture Model, rather than relying on a punitive system where mistakes are less likely to be reported due to fear.

The statement goes on to read “The criminalization of medical errors is unnerving, and this verdict sets into motion a dangerous precedent.”

In light of this, the largest nursing malpractice insurer, Nurses Service Organization (NSO), released a position statement in support of nurses, “we always have and always will stand with nursing professionals. In light of recent news, NSO would like to reiterate our steadfast support to the nursing profession and community… we are concerned about the dismantling of just culture in the workplace… our mission is to prioritize the needs of individual nursing professionals, rather than those of their employer”.

ONA wants to remind all nurses, regardless of where you work, to obtain your own individual malpractice insurance.

► Click here to read ANA’s full statement
► Click here to learn more about obtaining malpractice insurance through NSO
► Click here to read NSO’s full statement supporting nurses

Student Debt Relief

Saddled with student debt? You may qualify for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF). Thousands of health care workers, teachers and others who work in public service and consistently pay their monthly student loan bills can have their loans forgiven after ten years.

ONA is affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) – Healthcare which means you have access to Summer, an organization that can help you navigate your student loan situation and support you through the repayment process.

Find more information at www.OregonRN.org/aft-summer.

Additionally, ONA is hosting an online clinic to help members understand PSLF, find out more about Summer and get the relief they deserve.

June 6 at 4 p.m.

Sign up at www.OregonRN.org/aft-summer.

Managing your student loan debt is the first step in taking on the inequities which plague our system of higher education.
The ONA Convention and House of Delegates will be held May 17-19, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency in Portland, OR. The theme for the convention is *Stand Up, Rise Up, Celebrate! The Power of Our Profession.*

The past two years have been difficult for everyone, bringing new challenges at every turn, all while exacerbating many of the issues that nurses have been facing for years. The 2022 ONA Convention is an opportunity for leaders from across the state to come together to learn from these challenges, share our knowledge, and move the nursing profession forward. Together, we can *stand up* to employers who seek to put corporate profits ahead of those who are caring for the community. Together, we can *rise up* and build a better health care system that values caregivers and patients. Together, we can *celebrate* our victories, small and large, over the last two years as we continue to fight for a health care system that works for us, our colleagues, our patients, and our communities.

Join us for the ONA House of Delegates (May 18) and two days of educational sessions (May 17 & 19).

Bring your voice to the Convention as a delegate by completing a delegate nomination form by April 8. Visit www.OregonRN.org/Delegate to learn more.

**Featured Sessions**
- Empowering Nurses to Lead at Uneven Tables
- Beyond Diversity: Addressing Racism in Nursing for the Good of the Profession
- Advocating for the Nursing Profession
- Medical Misinformation and Vaccine Hesitancy
- And more!

**Continuing Education**
Two days of nursing continuing professional development credits will be available, up to 12.5 contact hours.

Oregon Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing

**Registration**
- **Members:** $125 for all three days
- **Non-members:** $275 for all three days

Registration is open through May 6.

www.OregonRN.org/event/2022Convention