Annual Elections Have Concluded!

Welcome Your New ONA/AURN Leaders!

Elected Seats
► President: Elisa Youngman
► Treasurer: Julie Jorgensen
► Member at Large: Evan Lafky

PNCC:
- Jazzmyne Walker
- Duncan Zevetski
- Annemarie Hartman-Charness

Uncontested Seats

Staffing Committee
► Acute Care Cluster
9K, 10K, 7C/11K, 13K, 14K, 5B, Acute Care & Nursing Resource Management (NRM)
- Lauren Doeneka
  Acute Care Float Pool

► Ambulatory 1
CHO, CHM, CHH
- Kartika Vasavada
  Oncology Infusion

► Ambulatory 2
CWH, Home Infusion, Family Medicine (*5), Digestive Health Center
- Vacant

► Procedural Services
Apheresis, Vascular Access Team, MSPU units
- Shawna Salo
  Recovery Float Pool

Newly elected nurse leaders are to take office beginning in June per our bylaws, however some positions may begin immediately depending on current vacancies, etc.

Election Recap

Did you miss any of these important announcements from ONA? Please make sure we have your email address on file www.OregonRN.org/11.

Getting important information out to our membership has always been both important and a difficult task. Now more than ever we rely on our hard-working nurse leaders, unit reps, and committee members to help get the information out by printing newsletters, putting them up on ONA bulletin boards, talking to coworkers and making sure folks know to get their contact information updated with ONA to receive our emails.

It takes all of us working together to keep our union strong! Please remember to keep your email address updated, check your ONA Bargaining Unit webpage for updates and as always talk to your unit representatives and nurse leaders.

Continued Vacancies
Although the annual election process has concluded we still have vacancies on several committees!

continued on page 2
Some committee seats are filled by appointment and others are filled by election. We have openings on several committees so please fill out a consent to serve form at: www.OregonRN.org/OHSU-CTS if you are interested in filling one of the vacancies.

Please submit no later than **May 31, 2022 or until filled**. All consent to serve forms received by the deadline will be reviewed in June to determine if elections need to occur for any of the openings that are filled by election.

If there are no contested seats, they will be filled by acclamation. If there are contest seats, we will run an election. Seats filled by appointment will also be reviewed and appointed in June.

**Seats are open on the following committees:**
- Elections Committee
- Staffing Committee
- Communications Committee (and chairperson)
- Membership Committee
- Unit Reps
- Bargaining Team

**Elections Committee**
This committee works closely with the secretary and ONA staff to ensure a fair election in compliance with bylaws. The seats on this committee are filled by appointment.

**Staffing Committee**
Improve staffing by serving on the staffing committee. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) completed a survey at OHSU over a year ago and cited OHSU for staffing law violations.

Since then OHA has rejected three plans of correction submitted by OHSU and OHSU remains out of compliance.

In light of this, the staffing committee is doing a lot of important work. The committee is made up of direct care registered nurses as well as an equal number of nurse managers. There is one opening in the ambulatory cluster (see below). The committee meets monthly on the first Wednesday of the month from 2 to 5 p.m.

Members are paid for attending this meeting. Members of the staffing committee review and approve staffing plans, staffing variance forms (SVF) and any new policies or procedures that impact nurse staffing.

If you are in the units listed below, please consider running to serve on this committee. If there is more than one applicant for the vacancy an election will be scheduled.

If you are interested in serving, please fill out the consent to serve form: www.OregonRN.org/OHSU-CTS.

**Current staffing committee vacancies:**
- **Ambulatory #2:** CWH, Home Infusion, Family Medicine (*5), Digestive Health Center

**Communications Committee**
This committee is appointed by the President with approval of the Executive Committee and is responsible for: the internal communications to District 52/AURN members, maintaining a network of Unit Representatives, and overseeing publication of the District 52/AURN newsletter.

**Membership Committee**
This committee helps with explaining our union to new hires and asking them to join. Since COVID we discontinued the in-person new employee orientation (NEO) sessions. We are looking for nurses who are creative thinkers and problem solvers who can help introduce newly hired nurses to our union and explain how ONA works at OHSU and across the state.

Specifically, we want committee members to explain to new hires what it means to work at a union hospital, promote full membership to new hires, and talk about your experiences as a nurse and union member. Membership is union power! If you are interested, please fill out a consent to serve form and write membership committee in the “other” box. www.OregonRN.org/OHSU-CTS.

**Unit Representatives**
Unit representatives are ONA nurse leaders for their unit. Unit representatives are the eyes, ears and backbone of a union.

Our union is stronger when we, as nurses, are empowered to advocate for ourselves and our patients. ONA unit representatives help peers to better

*continued on page 3*
understand their rights, and to help point them in the right direction when they have questions or concerns about our contract or things going on at work.

Every nurse needs someone to turn to for quick answers when they need help, that means we need unit representatives on every shift in every unit. Being a unit representative is easy.

The bulk of the commitment of a unit representative is simply updating your unit’s bulletin board, making sure your coworkers are receiving important updates and information from ONA, being available to your coworkers when they have questions/concerns and knowing how best to triage those questions.

ONA provides beginning and advanced training (like basic contract interpretation and how to help your coworkers if they get called in for investigatory meetings), and we have a network of unit representatives across our facility who work to help one another as much as possible.

We don’t have ONA unit representatives in many units. We need at least one unit representative for every unit, on every shift. If you can’t fill the role but know someone who would be good for it — ask them to help out! It’s important that nurses have someone to turn to that they already have a relationship with. Who in your area do you think would be a good fit for the role?

If you are interested in learning more about the role, please fill out a consent to serve form and write in unit representative in the “other” box [www.OregonRN.org/OHSU-CTS](http://www.OregonRN.org/OHSU-CTS)

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**Bargaining Team**

We are also recruiting for the 2023 ONA/AURN bargaining team. Our contract expires June 2023 and we are beginning to plan for the upcoming round of contract negotiations. Per our bylaws, our bargaining team includes our elected ONA/AURN president, vice president and other appointments made by your elected ONA/AURN executive team. Are you interested in serving on the ONA/AURN bargaining team? If you meet these qualifications, please fill out the nomination-consent to serve form! We hope to begin training and negotiations prep this summer.

**Qualifications:**

- Completed a minimum of three years as an RN in good standing in the ONA bargaining unit at OHSU preferred but not required.
- Prior bargaining team experience or unit representative/steward experience preferred.
- Must be a team player and interested in improving working conditions for our nurses to better serve our patients.
- Can commit to meeting up to once per week for six months to one year.
- There may be stipends available, but willing to volunteer your time.

The ONA/AURN executive team will review the applications over the next few months and make appointments to the bargaining team.

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**Steward Trainings**


**Introductory Steward Training**
- May 6
- June 4

**Grievance Handling Training**
- May 28

**Building Power Training**
- June 20
ONA Convention & House of Delegates
May 17-19 in Portland

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).


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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.


Additionally, ONA will host two online clinics to help members understand PSLF, find out more about Summer and get the relief they deserve.

- **April 20 at 9 a.m.**
- **June 6 at 4 p.m.**


Managing your student loan debt is the first step in taking on the inequities which plague our system of higher education.