



Anna J. Kiger, DNP, DSc, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FAONL

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Kiger is the System Chief Nurse Officer for Sutter Health, a not-for-profit integrated healthcare system operating in the Northern California and San Francisco Bay area. As the system's first Chief Nurse Officer, Dr. Kiger is accountable for executive nursing leadership, clinical nursing practice, education, nursing research, and workforce labor optimization.

Anna holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice from Texas Tech University School of Nursing, a Doctorate of Science in Public Health, Health Systems Management, from Tulane School of Public Health & Tropical Medicine, an MBA from Averett University, Danville Virginia and a Master of Science in Nursing from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA. Her undergraduate BSN is from West Virginia University School of Nursing.

Dr. Kiger serves as a Board Regent for Samuel Merritt University in Oakland, California, as Board member for MedicAlert Foundation in Turlock, CA and as a Board member for HealthImpact in Oakland, CA. Finally, Dr Kiger also serves on the Editorial Board for the Journal of Nursing Administration (JONA) and for Voice of Nursing Leadership, both publications of the American Organization for Nurse Leaders (AONL).

STATEMENTS

1. Statement describing the significant issues facing AONL and potential strategies to address them.

In the last year, as many hospitals move through the COVID crisis, middle management nurse leaders have "had enough" and are leaving their leadership positions. The loss of a nurse leader - at any level - can be very disruptive to a healthcare organization. As the largest organization representing nurse leaders, AONL has an important role in guiding the middle management nurse leaders forward with new and novel leadership education offerings and annual conference sessions. I would advise a review of current educational curriculums and possible adjustment to fit the needs of today and tomorrow's nurse leaders. We need to teach design thinking in nursing leadership and solve problems differently.

2. Statement describing the applicant's perspective of diversity, equity and inclusion and strategies AONL can take to demonstrate its commitment.

I view diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) as a requirement for achieving excellence in the delivery of healthcare especially within the nursing profession given it is the largest segment of the US healthcare workforce. Until we are able to narrow the diversity gap in our nursing workforce and become more open to inclusion and equity of care, nursing will struggle to provide care that is culturally competent. I personally make a commitment to DEI across the nursing workforce at Sutter Health - in nursing leadership selection, in our School of Nursing faculty selection, and as a founding member of our system's Institute for Advancing Health Equity. I would role model that work as an AONL Board member.