The Institute for Nursing Leadership (INL), a signature initiative of the American Academy of Nursing (Academy), was launched in 2014 to cultivate and promote nurse leaders to key appointments on boards and commissions as well as focus on professional development. This year’s INL workshop, “Social Entrepreneurship: Overcoming Challenges to Lead Change,” which was held during the Academy’s Policy Conference in Washington, DC, in October, provided attendees with thoughtful reflection on how they can build leadership skills and act in their communities to champion causes they are passionate about to impact the greater social good.

Nursing Economic$ is also committed to these ideals and supports nurses in building their leadership skills. Recently the journal linked efforts with the Nurses on Boards Coalition to feature a new Nurses on Boards department in the journal (see page 324). Our mutual goal is to highlight the importance and benefits of nurses on boards, and support nurses in finding their leadership voices.

Finding Your Circle and Discovering Your Potential

During the Social Entrepreneurship workshop, Linda Burnes Bolton, DrPH, RN, FAAN, Senior Vice President and Chief Health Equity Officer, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, spoke about unique ways nurses can make an impact and take practical actions to serve as leaders. She shared her insights on how she seeks to widen networks, specifically, opportunities to create and contribute that emerge outside Cedars-Sinai and California. In other words, she encouraged attendees to find their circle and discover their leadership potential. Dr. Burnes Bolton described the personal value and ability of “calling the circle.” She explained that “…the call is for people who care about advocating for patients and all humankind, raising consciousness through communication.” Dr. Burnes Bolton’s moving words and actions demonstrate the ways in which nurses role model in respectful, dignified ways inclusive of leadership by soliciting ideas while seeking to ensure equitable access to care and health information to help make good care decisions for themselves, patients, and families. Nurse leaders find their circle by discovering and fulfilling their potential for greater social good.

Year of the Nurse and Midwife: Calling the Circle

In 2020, nurses nationally and globally will be called to the circle as we celebrate the Year of the Nurse by engaging with colleagues, thought leaders, and consumers in acknowledging the many ways nurses promote excellence, infuse leadership, and foster innovation. The World Health Assembly, the governing body of the World Health Organization (WHO), declared 2020 the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife, in honor of the 200th anniversary of Florence Nightingale’s birth. WHO seeks to draw attention to the nursing profession to honor and describe how nurses worldwide provide leadership in academic, practice, and education settings while illuminating their connection to human caring in their nursing practice and beyond. The path of promoting human caring and for making the world a more caring place begins with what Dr. Burnes Bolton called the “courageous circle caller.” Nurses throughout history were leaders in a variety of circles, charting new pathways centered on human caring and promoting public good.

continued on page 331
Recognizing Nurses: A Special Platform
#yearofthenurse

The 2020 celebration of the Year of the Nurse and Midwife provides a special platform to recognize past and present nurse leaders globally, raise the visibility of the nursing profession in policy dialogue, and invest in the development and increased capacity of the nursing workforce. The year-long declaration of the Year of the Nurse will also be featured by the international Nursing Now campaign, which seeks to elevate the profession and ensure nurses are leading efforts to improve health and health care. Nurses are encouraged to use the #yearofthenurse hashtag and engage through social media to celebrate nurses in 2020. Hear the call. Join the celebration. Stay connected throughout the year at https://pages.nursingworld.org/yearofthenurse