Let Your **LIGHT** Shine in Leading Boards to Improve Health for All

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Action Coalition Leadership Meeting
December 10, 2013 – St. Louis
Objectives

1. Let’s frame the grounding needed to anchor strategy – without rancor – but with focus.

2. Using the acronym LIGHT – let’s be clear about the contributions that boards could expect from nurse directors.

3. Let’s discern about aligning innate skills with those needed to serve successfully on boards.
Healthcare Transformation is Serious Business
Interview with Jona Raasch, President
The Governance Institute

Complexity of Nursing – hard for boards to comprehend

Opportunity for Nursing – as outcomes are tied to public performance and care is extended
Shining our **LIGHT**

L = Listening (part of assessing fit) coupled with using **voice** with impact.

- Prepare the message
- Deliver the message
I = Interdependence

This is critical to board performance – we must have a sense of role and purpose – and interconnectivity. Know when to lead; know when to acquiesce without passivity.
G = GROWTH

What is being grown? Service or products? Market share?
Revenues? Branding/image? How can you contribute your LIGHT toward this growth?
And we are the hub of organizational systems and processes. Still, we BEHAVE narrowly with an orientation to reductionism. This is an anti-board trait! CLAIM THE HOLISTIC GIFT!

H = Holistic

This is such a great gift that nurses bring – do we fully appreciate this? We are trained to think in terms of individuals in the context of families, in the context of communities from a holistic model.
We are trust-worthy. We bring unparalleled integrity. The organization and the trustees must share these values in their culture.
The Role of Strategy & the IOM Blue Print: What it Means for Governance & for Nursing

An organization's or discipline’s process of defining its strategy, or direction, and making decisions on allocating its resources to pursue this strategy within the context of the current environment to meet future demands.
Human Attributes Needed

DRIVE – self-esteem, self-expression, ability to channel energy

INTELLECTUAL ACUMEN – intelligence and conceptualization

EXECUTIVE SKILL – how one thinks about role and conduct in the role

PEOPLE ACUMEN – relationship abilities, persuasion, individualized approach, growth orientation, and response to negativity

Talent+, Lincoln, NE
In Summary

The strategic impact of being placed in decision-making structures where resources are allocated, and the opportunity to address wickedly complex problems is within our collective purview. The LIGHT framework is one way of aligning individuals with organizations.
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