

Illinois ENA State Council  
Member Spotlight

Dr. Vicki Keough, PhD, APRN-BC, FAAN



The Illinois Nurses Foundation has named Vicki Keough “2017 Nurse of the Year”. Over the last thirty years, Vicki has been a “leader and legend” in advancing the role of nurses and nurse practitioners in emergency, trauma and acute care nursing. As an ENA member, Vicki contributed to special projects that provide nurses with tools to use in the Emergency Department. The SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) Toolkit is designed to assist nurses in screening, providing brief intervention and referral to treatment of emergency patients at risk for alcohol use disorder. The Work Injury Prevention Toolkit is another endeavor she was involved with in order to prevent nursing work-related injuries in the Emergency Department. Vicki also was honored by ENA as the very first recipient of the “Frank L. Cole Nurse Practitioner Award”. At the Illinois State Council level, Vicki has previously chaired the Research/Evidence-Based Practice Committee and has served as an Illinois delegate to the General Assembly at the ENA Annual Conference for many years. Vicki has numerous contributions to emergency nursing scholarship by publishing 27 manuscripts, and serving as editor for the book, *Advanced Practice Nursing: Current Practice Issues in Emergency Care*. As Dean of Loyola University Chicago’s Marcella Niehoff School of Nursing, she has oversight for all curricular, financial, scholarship and service initiatives for over 1200 students enrolled in the BSN, MSN, DNP, PhD programs, and in the exercise science, dietetics, and health systems management programs. Vicki is a generous and supportive mentor to her all of her nursing faculty. According to faculty testimonials, Vicki recognizes the passion, skills and determination that faculty bring to their roles, and finds ways to help them actualize their creative endeavors. Vicki has been described as a resilient, courageous colleague and friend, with the ability to portray true strength and leadership. She approaches every situation with kindness and care, and literally walks the talk of Loyola’s mission to “prepare people to lead extraordinary lives”. Vicki Keough is a truly extraordinary ENA member!