Learning Objectives:
1. Describe at least two ways in which a nurse can be an effective advocate.
2. Identify at least three core issues affecting the nursing profession today in which nurses political power is needed across the nation.
3. Identify at least two specific legislative issues that are important to health care in Iowa and describe at specific ways you can get involvement in health policy.
4. In small groups, identify and practice effective advocacy strategies that will streamline your message to legislators and policy makers.

8:30 a.m.  Registration

9:00 a.m.  Welcome from INA Leadership
Judy Collins, RN, BSN, MA, INA President
Bob Mulqueen, INA Lobbyist from the Capitol Group
Jim Obradavich, INA Lobbyist from the Capitol Group
Chad Moore, IANS President
Sue Whitty, RN, MA, ARNP, Chair of the Public Policy Committee

9:15 a.m.  Harnessing Nursing's Political Power
Janet Haebler, RN, MSN Senior Associate Director for State Government Affairs with the American Nurses Association (ANA)
Janet serves as a resource to the state nurses associations supporting their efforts to advance legislative and regulatory agendas. She has 14 years of experience in policy and advocacy work primarily with a state focus. She responds to public health and professional related issues by working with state regulatory agencies and lobbying legislators. She executes the American Nurses Advocacy Institute which is an annual offering of the year-long mentoring program designed to develop nurses gain political competence, thereby expanding nursing policy leaders and grassroots capacity.

10:15 a.m.  Break

10:30 a.m.  How to Get Things Done in Iowa: Working with Your Statehouse Advocates
Bob Mulqueen, INA Lobbyist from the Capitol Group
Colleen Brems, RN, MN, ARNP, PMHCNS-BC, Advanced Practice Provider Adult Psychiatry/Behavioral Health, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Member of INA Public Policy Committee

11:00 a.m.  Getting to the Point: Keeping Your Message Simple
An interactive process to streamline your message and influence health policy.
Carol Chesterman, MSN, RN Assistant Professor, University of Dubuque Nursing Department.
Robin Carmichael, RN, BSN, Career System Development Iowa Job Corp
Mary Kovarna, RN, EdD, Professor and Chair Morningside College/Nylen School of Nursing
Bob Mulqueen, INA Lobbyist from the Capitol Group
Sue Whitty, RN, MA, ARNP, INA Public Policy Committee Chair; Therapist, Hillcrest Mental Health Center

11: 45 a.m.  Questions, Wrap-up and Instructions for the Capitol
Betty Lord-Dinan, RN, Former INA Lobbyist & Long Term Care Consultant for LTC Resources
Followed by lunch and individually scheduled visits at the capitol

12:00-3:00 p.m.  Your legislators are expecting you at the Capitol
- Get to know your local legislators. It is best to schedule in groups.
- Plan to discuss important 2016 health care legislation that directly impacts nursing.
- Make your appointments using:  https://www.legis.iowa.gov
• Confused about how to begin talking to your legislator? We will help you get started on our INA Public Policy page at: www.iowanurses.org
• Handouts available to help nursing students prepare. Includes possible assignments and fact sheets outlining issues that will be focused on during the last half of the morning.

Continuing Education: 3.0 Contact Hours or 0.3 CEU's. The IOWA NURSES FOUNDATION IS IBON CONTINUING EDUCATION PROVIDER #25 APPROVED BY THE IOWA BOARD OF NURSING.