ANI Innovator Profiles

Technology Informatics Guiding Education Reform (TIGER)
Interview with Marion J Ball, Ed.D, FAHIMA, FCHIME, FACMI,FAAN LFHIMSS
Co-Chair of the TIGER Committee
[The TIGER Initiative](#)

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The Alliance for Nursing Informatics (ANI) is a collaboration of organizations that represents more than 6,000 nurse informaticists and brings together 33 distinct nursing informatics groups globally.

Mission: To advance NI leadership, practice, education, policy and research through a unified voice of nursing informatics organizations.

Vision: Transform health and health care through nursing informatics and innovation.

ANI Innovator Profiles Program
The purpose of this program is to capture an ANI Innovator Profile for each ANI member organization to increase awareness and visibility of ANI members and describe how they contribute to a unified voice for nursing informatics.

ANI Innovator Profile – American Academy of Nursing, Expert Panel on Nursing Informatics & Technology
TIGER advances the integration of health informatics by enabling the interprofessional clinical workforce to use informatics and technology to improve patient care and foster a learning health system. Focused on education reform and interprofessional community development, TIGER seeks to maximize the integration of technology and informatics into seamless practice, education and research resource development.

Interview with Marion Ball
1. **Can you please tell us about yourself and the career path that led you to become a leader of TIGER?**
   For the past 40 years I have been involved in the field of informatics. When I went to college computer science was not an option so I received my Bachelor's and Master's degree in Mathematics and started off my career as a high school teacher. I went on to pursue a degree in medical education at Temple University given my appeal to the field.

   In the late 1960s, I worked at the University of Kentucky in the pathology clinical lab system and realized that every meeting dealt with system implementation. Given the time period, it was assumed that since I was female I was a nurse. Thus, although I am not a nurse by profession, I

became a strong nurse advocate and saw the need to train nurses and have them at the table with system administrators. With their clinical background, I thought it was important for nurses to have input on developing technology to improve patient care. This path is what eventually led me to TIGER.

In 2004, when the George W. Bush Administration declared the need for a stronger healthcare information technology environment, I went to DC with a group of like-minded individuals to ensure that informatics would play a major role in government efforts. To our great dismay, nursing informatics was barely mentioned and we created TIGER for nurses to have a voice in furthering the use of technology in healthcare.

2. **What is the primary mission of TIGER?**

TIGER seeks to advance the integration of health informatics by enabling the interprofessional clinical workforce to use informatics and technology to improve patient care and foster a learning health system. Thus, TIGER goes beyond providing academic curriculum education and tailors it to practicing clinicians by developing programs and e-training modules.

3. **What projects is your organization working on to advance informatics and innovation in healthcare?**

TIGER has worked diligently to advance informatics and innovation in healthcare. Throughout the past ten years, TIGER has developed leadership and implementation documents, integrated core competencies and contributed to the publication, *Nursing Informatics: Where Technology and Care Meet, 4th Edition,* which documents the TIGER activities throughout the years.

We are excited to transition TIGER under the HIMSS umbrella and to have the staff support of Tori Shaw, Clinical Informatics Manager at HIMSS. TIGER has been successful as a grassroots initiative and we are excited to see us progress and share our learnings with the recently developed TIGER International Committee.

The reimagined TIGER Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) is another avenue in which we are advancing informatics and innovation in healthcare. The TIGER VLE provides a health IT education portal for academics, professionals, students, adult learners and adult educators to learn about informatics and the skillsets and competencies needed. This has been a big project for TIGER and we welcome everyone to visit the TIGER website, www.thetigerinitiative.org, to learn more.

4. **What value do you see in TIGER being an ANI member?**

With TIGER being an ANI member, it provides the opportunity to share updates and knowledge with other ANI organizations. It is important to share resources across informatics-focused organizations as we do not have time to duplicate efforts and we want to ensure we are leveraging efforts.

In addition, ANI has a noticeable presence and it allows like-minded organizations to come together to share our work and have a unified voice for nursing informatics. We look forward to contributing to this collaborative partnership.

5. In what way(s) is your organization supporting ANI Initiatives e.g. the [ANI consumer pledge](#), ANI Comments & Testimony, the Emerging Leader program, etc.?
TIGER has been involved in ANI Comments & Testimony as well as other opportunities to offer insights from a clinical informatics perspective. This is a unique and collaborative opportunity to ensure we have a unified voice across all ANI member organizations.

6. What is your organization's vision for the future of nursing informatics?
For the past ten years TIGER has been focused on nursing informatics and we are now broadening our scope to become interprofessional. As we have recently transitioned under the HIMSS umbrella, I see a bright future for TIGER as we have more resources available along with a wider reach to connect with an international community. In addition, the newly reimagined VLE allows us to strengthen our community for the purposes of education, networking and resources.

7. Do you have any additional comments to share?
This has been a collaborative initiative over the past ten years and I would like to mention a few people who have invested much of their time to TIGER. I am honored to have Michelle Troseth, RN, MSN, DPNAP, FAAN, as my fellow TIGER Committee Co-Chair. We also owe a lot to Patricia Hinton Walker PhD, RN, FAAN, and Diane Skiba, PhD, FAAN, FACMI, whom I consider to be the mother of nursing informatics. Marisa Wilson, DNSc, MHSc, RN-BC, has been conducting incredible work with Tori Shaw on developing out the TIGER VLE. In addition, Carolyn Padovano PhD, RN, along with Heimar Marin RN, PhD, FACM have been representing us with their work in the TIGER International Committee. TIGER would not be possible without these key leaders. Lastly, I am proud and honored to be part of the TIGER initiative and look forward to our bright future.

Biography for Marion J. Ball, Ed.D, FHIMSS, FCHIME, FACMI, FAAN, FAHIMA
Dr. Ball is a member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM), and serves on the Board of Regents of the National Library of Medicine (NLM). She has served on a variety of boards in the area of health information technology, including serving as President of the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA), and as a board member of the American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA), American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA), and Vice Chair of the Healthcare Information & Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Board. She received the Morris F. Collen Lifetime Achievement Award from ACMI/AMIA, and is an honorary member of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing, and the Medical Library Association (MLA), and most recently was inducted as an Honorary Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN). In 2010, she received the Award of Excellence, an International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA) Lifetime Achievement award. In 2011, she was selected as one of the 50 most influential IT professionals over the last 50 years by HIMSS, and elected to the IBM Industry Academy. In 2012, she was invited to serve as an International Advisor to the Board of the China Hospital Information Management Association (CHIMA).

She is the author/editor of more than 25 books and over 260 articles in the field of Health Informatics. Her book, *Consumer Informatics,* received the HIMSS 2005 Book-of-the-Year Award. Several previous editions of her nursing books have been translated into Chinese, Portuguese, Japanese, German, Korean, and Polish. The *4th Edition* entitled *Nursing Informatics: Where Technology and Caring Meet* was published in January 2011, and 2015 saw the publication of the 4th Edition of the *Introduction of*

Nursing Informatics .Currently in press is the 4th edition of Healthcare Information Management Systems for early 2016 publication

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For the full interview recording you can [click here](#) or visit http://www.allianceni.org/members.asp.