Policy Updates

House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations: The Administration's Border Policies

On February 8, 2019, the American Academy of Nursing and the American Nurses Association sent a letter to Chairwoman Diana DeGette (D-CO) and Ranking Member Brett Guthrie (R-KY), of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, in response to the hearing held on February 7, 2019 regarding the Trump Administration's family separation policy. In the letter, the Academy and ANA implore Congress to take measurable action to address the health and well-being of children, families, and refugees separated at the border. The Academy and ANA have long supported the reduction of toxic stress associated with adverse childhood events like the traumatizing experiences the children at the border have faced. As nurses, we must work to protect and preserve the human rights of vulnerable groups, such as these, at all times. The Academy and ANA urge for a swift resolution to this policy. Read the letter here.

The Academy also joined 33 Nursing Community Coalition organizations in signing a letter to the subcommittee on this important issue.

Comments Submitted: Modifying HIPAA Rules to Improve Coordinated Care

On February 12, 2019, the Academy submitted comments to the Office for Civil Rights (OCR), within the Department of Health and Human Services, in response to their request for information on Modifying HIPAA Rules to Improve Coordinated Care. The Academy's comments urged OCR to make modifications to HIPAA rules to reduce existing barriers to effective care coordination while protecting patients' privacy. Read the comments here.
Support the Academy

Your gift, at a level that is meaningful to you, is truly appreciated and is a critical investment in the future of health policy. The Academy is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and your financial gift is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowable by law.

Click here to donate to the Rheba de Tomyay Development Fund!

Council Call for Nominations

The Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science is seeking nominations for the following elected positions:

- Chair-Elect (1 position; 2-year term)
- Councilor at Large (1 position; 3-year term)
- Nominations Committee (2 positions; 2-year term)

The terms for these positions begin October 23, 2019. The deadline for nominations is TODAY, February 15. Read about eligibility, position responsibilities, and how to apply here.

Council Accepting 2019 Abstracts

The Council's conference will be October 23-24, 2019 at the Marriott Marquis Washington, DC.

In Memoriam
Debra L. Wiegand, PhD, RN, CCRN, FAHA, FPCN, FAAN, passed away on November 13, 2018.

Dr. Wiegand was an associate professor with the Department of Organizational Systems and Adult Health at the University of Maryland, School of Nursing. Dr. Wiegand was a pioneer and a visionary researcher regarding family decision-making and the dying process in the ICU setting. Her prospective, observational studies of families in the ICU were among the first such studies that laid the foundation for our science. In addition to her positions in academia and clinical practice, Dr. Wiegand contributed enormously through her tireless work and leadership in national and international organizations related to family nursing, hospice and palliative care, critical care, and heart disease. The intersectionality of her scholarship and its national and international impact are recognized through awards and fellowships from the American Academy of Nursing, Palliative Care Nursing by Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, the American Heart Association, and the International Work Group on Death, Dying and Bereavement.

Dr. Wiegand was inducted into the Academy in 2003.

Feleta L. Wilson, PhD, RN, FAAN, a long-standing associate professor of nursing at Wayne State University in Detroit, passed away on January 29. She was 73 years old.

Dr. Wilson focused her academic research on patient education and patient health literacy to reduce health disparities and inequities in vulnerable populations. Her research contributed to nursing science and made a significant impact at the clinical level where her findings translated into easy-to-read, culturally sensitive educational materials. She was widely published in top-tier journals including the Western Journal of Nursing Research, Nursing Science Quarterly, the Journal of Pediatric Nursing, Reference and User Services Quarterly, and Public Libraries. She also served as principal investigator on research grants from the National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, National Institute on Aging, National Institute for Nursing Research, and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation. Dr. Wilson was a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

In addition to her academic career, Dr. Wilson was also a dedicated community leader. She served as chair, vice chair, secretary, and member of the board of directors of the Detroit Community Health Connection, which provides primary health care to uninsured and underinsured individuals. In 2014, the organization dedicated The Dr. Feleta Wilson Health Center in her honor. Dr. Wilson held a bachelor's degree in nursing from North Carolina A&T State University, a master of public health degree from the University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. from Wayne State University.
Dr. Wilson was inducted into the Academy in 2011.

Fellow Achievements

**Melissa A. Fitzpatrick, MSN, RN, FAAN**, became the Chief Operating Officer at Kirby Bates Associates (KBA), bringing more than 35 years of experience in innovative nursing and industry leadership roles.

Previously, she led the clinical team at Hill-Rom as their first Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer. Prior to that, she served as Chief Nurse Executive and Senior Associate Chief Operating Officer for the Duke University Health System, was president of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses and Editor-in-Chief of the Nursing Management Journal. Her publications and keynote addresses have touched thousands of nursing and healthcare leaders and her global industry experience will be a key driver of growth for KBA. “Nothing is more important to patient care delivery than assuring that the strongest leaders are in place to drive patient outcomes and organizational excellence. It is an honor to join the KBA team as we place the current and future leaders of our industry,” said Fitzpatrick.

Ms. Fitzpatrick was inducted into the Academy in 1997 and is a member of the Acute & Critical Care and Informatics & Technology Expert Panels.

**Susan K Newbold, PhD, RN-BC, FAAN, FHIMSS, FAMIA**, has been selected as a Fellow of the American Medical Informatics Association. She is a member of the inaugural class of AMIA Fellows and will be inducted in Atlanta in April.

She is identified as a Pioneer in Nursing Informatics (NI) by the AMIA NI Working Group and a Fellow in the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society. She co-founded CARING which is now the American Nursing Informatics Association. Susan conducts the two day Nursing Informatics Boot Camp and is certified in Nursing Informatics by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Dr. Newbold was inducted into the Academy in 2000 and is a member of the Informatics and Technology Expert Panel.

**Marla Weston, PhD, RN, FAAN**, is the 2018 recipient of the University of Arizona (UA)
College of Nursing (CON) Alumni of the Year Award. The award is presented by the university to alumni who have demonstrated extraordinary achievement in their profession, significant contributions through humanitarian or public service, and distinguished volunteerism. Dr. Weston was nominated by the dean and colleagues for her outstanding contributions at the state and national levels in health policy, patient advocacy, and advancement of the profession of nursing.

Inducted into the Academy in 2013, Dr. Weston is a member of the Building Health Care System Excellence and Quality Health Care Expert Panels.

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**Career Opportunities**

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**Assistant Professor, Nursing (Gerontology Nurse Practitioner)**

University of Rhode Island

The College of Nursing is searching for Assistant Professor, tenure track, appointment Fall 2019/Spring 2020. Visit the URI jobs website: [https://jobs.uri.edu](https://jobs.uri.edu) to apply online for job (F00126). Search is open till filled. Review of applications will begin February 1, 2019.

APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED ONLINE ONLY.

The University of Rhode Island is an AA/EEOD employer. Women, persons of color, protected veterans, individuals with disabilities, and members of other protected groups are encouraged to apply.

**Associate Dean for Research and Innovation**

Villanova University M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing

The Villanova University M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing (FCN) invites inquiries, nominations, and applications for the position of Associate Dean for Research and Innovation. FCN seeks a visionary, dynamic scientist and leader to maximize the college’s potential for innovative research that builds science addressing important health challenges. For complete details and to apply, visit [jobs.villanova.edu/postings/15334](https://jobs.villanova.edu/postings/15334). Villanova is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.