



FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSING MISSION STATEMENT

Improve health and achieve health equity by impacting policy through nursing leadership, innovation, and science.

SPONSOR STATEMENT EXEMPLARS

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR SPONSORS

When verifying and amplifying the applicant's statements that describe the impact of their contributions, it is helpful to reinforce with specific examples or evidence your first-hand knowledge of their work and how that relates to ways in which they can leverage their expertise to advance the mission of the Academy.

New this year, the Academy is providing a few examples of exemplary sponsor statements to help provide greater understanding on how to frame and express the impact of the candidate's work. **These exemplars are intended for informational purpose only.** Admission into the Academy is based on the evaluation of a candidate's full application by the Fellow Selection Committee.

SPONSOR STATEMENT EXEMPLARS

These examples only represent responses to the Sponsor Question.

Sponsor Question:

Please verify and amplify the applicant's statement, citing evidence of significant and sustained contributions and the impact or potential impact of those contributions. Consider the Criteria for Selection of Fellows in your statement, basing your comments on their professional background and how they can help advance the mission of the Academy (500 word limit).



Sponsor Statement Exemplar 1

It is a privilege to endorse this candidate for Fellowship into the American Academy of Nursing. In five years of examining her work intensively through the Center for Innovation in Quality and Safety, her engagement as a Fellow would be advantageous. She is a scientist who is an innovator, patent recipient, care model developer, and policy influencer. Dedicated to the Parkinson's Disease population, most of whom are aged, her work emanates from the impact that neurostimulation vibrations have on the sixty percent of movement disorders patients. Her research has ideated a neurostimulation device that can be placed in a discriminate sock pocket, designed with and for patient users to their specifications. I have seen the device in action and its remarkable transformative stability in the patient's gait. This discovery has international acknowledgment and is featured through national and international media. The science is ongoing and is now being tested with other body parts such as arms. Patients' narrative descriptions describe the intervention as life-changing in their quality of life, fall prevention, and ambulation frequency.

The candidate blends research design with design thinking protocols, where ideation, prototyping, and testing are central to empathy-based care. She receives funding from multiple sources. As an Affiliate Scholar with the Center, she received its inaugural innovation grant award, so I witnessed her work's progressive impact. At this juncture, the neurostimulation device and sock are marketplace scalable. These abilities would benefit the Academy as we expand Edge Runner innovations models.

When patients with Parkinson's Disease lacked access to care in her state, the candidate introduced telehealth technology, assembling a team of experts to the clinic model, and embedding the care model within an existing Federally Qualified Health Center. This clinic is now a multi-state regional center. She was instrumental in leading coalitions in state that led to the passage of legislation, the telemedicine parity bill that authorized payment for telehealth services, among the first in the nation. This ability – to identify a complex issue, deconstruct the variables that created the problem, provide leadership to address the multiple variables that impact change, and then create a care model and state policy to ensure that the solution became normalized is unique and a hallmark of Academy Fellows.

She is published in highly respected and peer-reviewed journals, some of which include The Annals of Movement Disorders, International Journal of Human Caring, The Gerontologist, Transactions on Neural Systems and Rehabilitation Engineering, Journal of American Geriatrics Society, and others. She has held leadership positions in directing Parkinson's Telehealth Centers, coordinator of medical-neurology units, and a Neurological Clinical Nurse Specialist prior to an academic career. I can attest that she is an outstanding educator as she co-leads a certificate program in health innovation, a shared program that brings nursing students together with product innovation graduate students.

I hope you will appreciate the formidable achievements of this candidate and advance her to Fellowship in the Academy.



Sponsor Statement Exemplar 2

I have known the candidate for over 15 years as he completed his PhD and transitioned into a faculty role. I have served as a research and career mentor and can speak knowledgeably about his current and future contributions. Early on he identified, from his clinical practice, that air medical transport (AMT) was not a beneficial approach for all patients. Air medical transport is expensive (even with health insurance) and risky for both the patient and the health care workers. His focus has been to optimize the use of AMT for the persons most likely to benefit. In his work, he identified that in many cases, outlying community hospitals wanted to fly their patients to an academic medical center even when the prognosis was poor and death was likely. However, evidence was needed to support this and to do so he developed the cross-cutting data repository to allow him to evaluate this phenomenon. He has developed his own skills in this area and works with a superb team that has merged complex clinical databases into a repository that meets all the important HIPAA and security protocols and includes the span of care (from pre-transport, through transport, to receiving hospital care and discharge). Some of his early work was in data validation and his work with an interdisciplinary team (truly team science) demonstrated the data quality, always a concern for this kind of work. His work is a strong example of how clinical observations can drive research and evidence to support better clinical decision making.

As indicated in his statement, and as his CV supports, he has developed a simultaneous stream of research in mobile stroke units. This is a clinical innovation which holds great promise for improving the long-term outcomes and sequelae of stroke, which disproportionately impacts communities of color, rural residents and impoverished groups. Again, evidence was needed in this case to support the expansion of mobile stroke units (MSUs). The candidate's preliminary findings in being able to reduce treatment time by 35 minutes is significant for short- and long-term outcomes. He has pending research applications to create a national research network.

From the policy perspective, his work on the MSUs has already been used to address payment transport issues in California to support establishing reimbursement for patients treated by MSU. AMT policies are more complicated—there are financial incentives within the air medical transport industry, usually independent companies in contracts with health systems, to fly patient to hospitals, even when the prognosis is poor. His research has produced the evidence that will be essential to future policy decision as the US undertakes health care reform initiatives. There are known inequities in this area for persons without health insurance, and those with Medicaid are less likely to be flown, even when indicated.

In summary, he is exactly the kind of Fellow the Academy needs: his work is clinically driven, of high scientific caliber, innovative and he is actively engaged in promoting research, practice and policy



Sponsor Statement Exemplar 3

I wholeheartedly sponsor this candidate's applications as a Fellow in the Academy. I know him as the Health System Chief Nurse and Executive Vice President at X Health and as an adjunct professor at my institution. Not only has he been a great Academic Partner to my school, he has also been a great partner with the other nursing school, an HBCU in our area. Although his leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic was extraordinary having been assigned to stand up a COVID-19 hospital quickly, his leadership impact began long before the pandemic. Deservedly, his organization was recognized by the International Hospital Federation with the "Beyond the Call of Duty" award.

His expertise lies in patient care delivery systems and executive administrations. As such, while at University Hospital starting in 2012 he led many important initiatives including the introduction of the Clinical Practice Leader role and redesign of the nursing workforce plan. Under his leadership, UHospital received the Magnet Prize for innovation in evidence-based practice, received magnet recognition and was awarded the Beacon Awards for Excellence from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN) for a positive and supportive nursing culture. He also received the AACN In Leadership award and was recently named by the Becker's Hospital Review as one of 60 chief nurse executives to know.

At X Health, his list of accomplishments to benefit nurses, patients and health care is massive. For example, he led an acute care hospital operations team to overcome a \$114M deficit from COVID-19 and ended with a 3.2% margin. Through his use of Lean processes and in collaboration with the executive team, they exceeded three-years savings target of \$100M in operating expenses across the system. He also built connections by leveraging ACO relationships resulting in more efficient discharge planning, reduced readmissions, and improved post-hospital care. He was instrumental in partnering to promote health equity in 2020. This partnership included testing the "health equity toolkit" developed by the RWJF/AARP Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action.

I strongly believe that he will be a huge asset to the Academy's mission. He understands systems and finances but also is strongly committed to improving workplace environments, supporting nursing, building strong teams and partnering around DEI to assure access and understanding. I see him on the Finance Committee one day and also contributing to the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Committee and the Acute and Critical Care, the Health Equity and/or the Quality Health Care Expert panels. He is well deserving of recognition as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.