American Academy of Nursing Announces 2023 Election Results

President-Elect, Treasurer, Board of Directors, and Committee Members will Assume Leadership Positions Following Academy’s Annual Business Meeting

Washington, DC (October 2, 2023) – The American Academy of Nursing (Academy) announces its election results for President-Elect, Treasurer, Board of Directors, Fellow Selection Committee, and Nominating Committee.

“The Academy is pleased to announce the following Fellows, elected by their peers, will assume leadership positions within the organization following the Annual Business Meeting on October 7 taking place at the 2023 Health Policy Conference,” said Academy President Kenneth R. White, PhD, AGACNP, ACHPN, FACHE, FAAN. “Throughout my term as President, I have been inspired by the expertise within the Fellowship as well as our collective ability to impact health policy. I applaud the Nominating Committee for their exceptional work to slate individuals for this election that are dedicated to the Academy’s values of equity, diversity, inclusivity, inquiry, integrity, and courage. I am confident our newly elected leaders will continue to champion the Academy in pursuit of these values and the advancement of health equity.”

Debra J. Barksdale, PhD, FNP-BC, CNE, FAANP, ANEF, FAAN, Dean & Professor, University of North Carolina Greensboro, will assume the role of President-Elect. She has remained a staunch advocate of the Academy’s commitment to excellence since her induction in 2012. Dr. Barksdale has served in many capacities, including as a member of the Board of Directors, and as a previous Co-Chair of the Policy Conference Planning Committee. In her role on the Board, she served as the liaison to the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Committee and several Expert Panels as well as on the review committee for the National Academy of Medicine’s Distinguished Nurse Scholar-in-Residence program, supported by the Academy, the American Nurses Association, and the American Nurses Foundation.

“I am honored to have been voted President-Elect by my peers within the Academy,” said Dr. Barksdale. “I look forward to serving and collaborating with our Fellows as the organization continues to dedicate its work to advancing equity through evidence-based health policies. The timing is particularly exciting as the Academy will undertake its strategic planning process for 2025-2028 during my term and I intend to build off the excitement and energy that has been demonstrated throughout our 50th anniversary year to create a stronger, more inclusive Academy.”

Bernice Coleman, PhD, ACNP-BC, FAHA, FAAN, Director, Nursing Research and Quality Improvement Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, will assume the role of Treasurer. She is committed to advancing the financial strength of the organization while striving to uphold the Academy’s focus on innovation, research, and leadership. Since her induction in 2012, Dr. Coleman has engaged in several volunteer leadership positions including most recently as a member of the Finance Committee, where she served a pivotal role in vetting the Academy’s investment firm and providing fiduciary oversight of the implementation of the organization’s Strategic Plan.

“Serving as Treasurer of the Academy is in an incredible responsibility and privilege,” said Dr. Coleman. “I intend to continue our organization’s strong fiscal management while furthering our policy impact to promote health and wellness within the communities we live and serve.”
Ronald Hickman, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, FNAP, FAAN, Ruth M. Anderson Endowed Professor and Associate Dean for Research, Case Western Reserve University Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors. An innovator known for his work promoting technology-based solutions to improve end-of-life decision-making and chronic disease self-management, Dr. Hickman has demonstrated his passion for advancing nursing innovation and science through his numerous roles within the organization. Inducted in 2015, Dr. Hickman is a member of the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science’s (CANS) National Advisory Council and Program Committee.

“I look forward to my service on the Academy’s Board of Directors and to advancing our organization’s mission to improve health and achieve health equity by impacting policy through nursing leadership, innovation, and science,” said Dr. Hickman.

Eun-Ok Im, PhD, MPH, CNS, FAAN, Dean, University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing, has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors. Dr. Im is a dedicated researcher and advocate for diversifying the nursing profession. She has served in numerous equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) roles, including as a Board member of the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations and member of the AARP EDI Steering Committee. Dr. Im is also a past president of the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses Association. Since her induction into the Academy in 2005, Dr. Im has sponsored over 15 nurse leaders for Fellowship and has remained an active member of CANS and the Nursing Theory-Guided Practice Expert Panel.

“It is a great honor to be elected to serve on the Academy’s Board of Directors,” said Dr. Im. “I will strive to bring new perspectives and partnerships to the forefront of the organization’s work during my term so that the Academy can continue to lead our profession forward.”

John Lowe, PhD, RN, FAAN, Joseph Blades Centennial Memorial Professor at the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing (UT Austin), has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors. As Director of the Indigenous Global Research Alliance in Nursing at UT Austin, Dr. Lowe strives to elevate and congregate Indigenous nursing researchers worldwide. He was inducted into the Academy in 2007 and has since been awarded an Academy Edge Runner and served on both the Academy’s EDI and Fellow Selection Committees.

“It has been a privilege and honor to be involved in the Academy since my induction and am thrilled to have been elected to serve on the Board of Directors,” said Dr. Lowe. “I hope to continue to elevate the Academy’s EDI priorities and commitment to innovation during my term to create a more inclusive, equitable organization.”

Continuing Board Members Include:

- **President-Elect Linda D. Scott**, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FNAP, FAAN, Dean and Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing. *(Dr. Scott will assume the Presidency following the October 7, 2023 Annual Business Meeting of the Academy.)*
- **Angela Amar**, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean & Professor, New York University, Rory Meyers College of Nursing
- **Ching-Min Chen**, DNS, RN, FAAN, President, Taiwan Nurses Association
• Secretary Karen N. Drenkard, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, Senior Fellow, AARP Public Policy Institute
• Rebecca Patton, DNP, RN, CNOR, FAAN, Chair, Lucy Jo Atkinson Professorship in Perioperative Nursing & Assistant Professor, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University

This year’s election ballot also included positions for the Fellow Selection Committee and the Nominating Committee. The following individuals will join these committees at the conclusion of the policy conference.

Newly Elected Members of the Fellow Selection Committee:
• Natalia Cineas, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, Senior Vice President, Chief Nurse Executive, New York City Health & Hospitals
• Mario R. Ortiz, PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN, Dean and Professor, Decker Endowed Chair in Community Health Nursing, Binghamton University Decker College of Nursing and Health Sciences (Dr. Ortiz was re-elected to serve a 2nd term.)

Newly Elected Members of the Nominating Committee:
• Anne H. Gross, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, Senior Vice President for Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
• Wendy A. Henderson, PhD, CRNP, FAASLD, FAAN, Professor, University of Connecticut
• Alicia Gill Rossiter, DNP, FNP, PPCNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, Associate Professor, Chief Officer of Military and Veteran Affairs, University of South Florida

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About the American Academy of Nursing

The American Academy of Nursing serves the public by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge. Academy Fellows are inducted into the organization for their extraordinary contributions to improve health locally and globally. With more than 2,900 Fellows, the Academy represents nursing’s most accomplished leaders in policy, research, administration, practice, and academia.

Contact:
Caroline Kane | 202-777-1173 | ckan@AANnet.org