Dear Fellows,

About two-and-a-half months. This is the length of time the CDC lifted the mask mandate. Now, they have amended their guidance and recommend, again, that individuals wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status. However, you have processed this information, I am sure we all can agree that we are facing another critical apex in the pandemic. Cases due to the Delta variant continue to climb, but thankfully so are the number of those getting vaccinated. As of July 29, the country saw a 16.15% increase in the per-day vaccination rate compared to the prior week. Just as the CDC knew more must be done to get the pandemic under control, the Academy has closely watched the concerning trend of individuals not getting vaccinated, particularly among health care providers. That is why we joined more than 50 organizations and supported the position that the COVID-19 vaccine be required for those providing care. Given all that we know about the Delta variant, the risk of infection is too great for those who are immunocompromised and for children who have not reached the age of 12. Many healthcare systems and universities are also taking this approach to keep their communities safe. I know we keep hearing that this is a “pandemic of the unvaccinated,” but we all are affected and we all must come together to continue to keep our communities healthy and thriving.

What does this mean for our Academy community? First and foremost, the health and safety of our Fellows are paramount. We hope that as fall arrives, continued progress is seen in vaccination rates and key public health measures are not only reinforced but further implemented. The Academy will advocate for these policy changes at the national and global level, just as we know you will be doing the same at the state, local, and community levels as well. While the Academy’s Health Policy Conference is two months away, it is too early to tell what the local guidance will entail. Like many states and cities, the District of Columbia is currently requiring masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status and large gatherings can still occur. We will be updating our conference webpage as new information is known.

In the meantime, we have some critical work ahead of us. Thank you to those who have commented on the Academy’s proposed Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity (EDI) Statement. One question that has been asked is how will this statement move to action. We know that statements or policies are necessary to guide engagement and the subsequent actions are driven by all involved. The Board of Directors looks at the Academy’s work from this lens—action and engagement. From our Governance Steering Committee to our Fellow Selection Review Steering Committee, we are taking a critical look at how we can create new policies and procedures that reflect our EDI statement. Internally, under the leadership of Kathy Gorman, our Treasurer, and the dedicated Finance Committee, we are reviewing our financial policies. In our policy work, we review each opportunity and proposal with the same lens. Recently, Dr. Nancy Redeker, chair of the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science, and I provided remarks during an NIH listening session on Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H). Both Nancy and I commented on several key aspects that would help guide the standards for ARPA-H that emphasize EDI. And I am pleased to share that I will be facilitating a plenary session at the National Black Nurses Association’s 49th Annual Conference called "Leadership &
Impact: Fellowship Connection," along with Debbie Chatman Bryant, DNP, RN, FAAN, Christopher L. Coleman, PhD, MPH, FAAN, PMHCNS-BC, and Linda Scott, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FNAP, FAAN. This directly reflects the organization’s commitment to intentional outreach and informational sharing with our nursing organization partners. Moreover, we are thankful for the leadership and planning of the Diversity and Inclusivity Committee who will be offering an upcoming bystander training workshop webinar for Academy Fellows in advance of the Health Policy Conference.

Additionally, I am delighted to share that the National Advisory Council (NAC) for the Edge Runners program has been launched and they have already held their first meeting. A core goal of this new NAC will be to create guidelines and evaluation criteria for the Edge Runner models which consider EDI. More details will be released soon. Thank you to all of the members of the NAC and the Academy’s Board Liaisons, Mary Gullatte and Nelda Godfrey for their service to this key signature initiative.

The Academy has much work ahead as we gain more knowledge on how we can address racism and discrimination in all forms. I am heartened to know that this work is progressing daily and will continue to grow after my presidency. Addressing racism is not a singular project, statement, or set of tasks. It is a long-term, fully invested, continual effort that is achieved through meaningful actions at every level. Having served on the Board for many years, and now nearing the end of my presidency, I am proud of the progress the Academy has made, yet know there is more to accomplish. As we launch our work to capture milestones to celebrate our 50th anniversary, I know that there is an expectation that we elevate the Academy’s impact. I look forward to working with you, from our charter members to our incoming class of Fellows, to truly embrace our EDI statement. I am grateful to see the Fellowship’s dedication to this progress.

Sincerely,

Eileen Sullivan-Marx, PhD, RN, FAAN
President
@EileenSullivanM

Rheba de Tornyay Development Fund

We are proud to acknowledge the generosity of our supporters and their commitment to the Academy. The list below represents supporters who have made either unrestricted or restricted gifts to the Rheba de Tornyay Development Fund at the President’s Circle level of $1,000 and above in the month of July. All gifts to the Academy support the organization’s policy work and help make sure our voice is influencing policymakers on actions that directly impact health and health care.

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Join the President’s Circle

Academy News
The Academy will be offering Soiree Tables, which seat ten and include a bottle of celebratory wine, and Affiliate Reception sponsor opportunities at this year’s Induction Ceremony. There are limited spaces available. Learn more.

For questions, please contact conferences@AANnet.org.

For the first time, sponsorship opportunities will be available for the virtual policy dialogues. Learn more.
New Academy Staff

Rebecca Malaga has joined the American Academy of Nursing staff as the Executive Assistant. Rebecca received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and French from St. Mary’s College of Maryland in 2020. Prior to joining the Academy, she supported the development team at Center for American Progress.

Fellow Achievements

Jose Alejandro, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, MBA, FACHE, FAAN, System Chief Nurse Executive/Associate Director – Patient Care Services at the VA Hines Medical Center in Chicago, was selected for the National Association of Hispanic Nurses’ Latino Legacy Award 2021 (Lifetime Achievement Award).

Dr. Alejandro was inducted into the Academy in 2014. He currently serves on the Academy’s Board of Directors.

Kristin Ashford, PhD, WHNP-BC, FAAN, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Faculty and Interprofessional Education Affairs and Endowed Good Samaritan Professor for Community Nursing, College of Nursing, University of Kentucky, Lexington, has been named a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow.

Dr. Ashford was inducted into the Academy in 2015. She currently serves on the Maternal and Infant Health Expert Panel.

Brenda Baker, PhD, RN, FAAN, Assistant Clinical Professor, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Emory University, Atlanta has been named a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Fellow.

Dr. Baker was inducted into the Academy in 2020 and has been a CANS member since 2012.
Kathy H. Bowles, PhD, FAAN, FACMI, of the University of Pennsylvania will receive the Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award from the Gerontological Society of America.

Dr. Bowles was inducted into the Academy in 2007 and has been a CANS member since 2018. She currently serves on the Informatics and Technology Expert Panel.

Pamela Z. Cacchione, PhD, CRNP, BC, FGSA, FAAN, Ralston House Endowed Term Chair in Gerontological Nursing, Associate Professor of Geropsychiatric Nursing, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing will receive the Joseph T. Freeman Award from the Gerontological Society of America.

Dr. Cacchione was inducted into the Academy in 2013. She currently serves on the Aging Expert Panel.

Wallena Gould, EdD, CRNA, FAAN, Founder of the Diversity in Nurse Anesthesia Mentorship Program, has joined the University of South Florida College of Nursing as a full-time Visiting Faculty member. Dr. Gould will also be a podium presenter on PhD CRNAs, Pain Management Fellowships, Simulation Experts & Faculty: A Pipeline Effort for an Inclusive Nurse Anesthesia Profession to Address Workforce Racial Inequities.

Dr. Gould was inducted into the Academy in 2015 and currently serves as a member of the Diversity & Inclusivity Committee.

Hae-Ra Han, PhD, MSN, RN, FAAN, has been named the Elsie M. Lawler Endowed Chair at Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing.

Dr. Han was inducted into the Academy in 2011. She currently serves on the Health Behavior Expert Panel.

Nancy A. Hodgson, PhD, RN, FAAN, FGSA, Anthony Buividias Term Chair in Gerontology, Professor of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing will receive the Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award from the Gerontological Society of America.

Dr. Hodgson was inducted into the Academy in 2014 and has been a CANS member since 2020.

Monica R. McLemore, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been appointed the Thelma Shobe Endowed Chair at the University of California San Francisco School of Nursing.

Dr. McLemore was inducted into the Academy in 2019.
Marie T. Nolan, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN has been named the M. Adelaide Nutting Endowed Chair at Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing.

Dr. Nolan was inducted into the Academy in 2009. She currently serves on the Global Nursing and Health Expert Panel.

Jing Wang, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, has been named the new Dean of the College of Nursing at Florida State University.

Dr. Wang was inducted into the Academy in 2017 and has been a CANS member since 2019. She currently serves on the Aging, Informatics and Technology, and Primary Care Expert Panels.

Fellow Highlights

Teresa Brockie, PhD, RN, FAAN, Odette Best, PhD, RN, FAAN, John Lowe, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Denise Wilson, PhD, MA, RN, FAAN, have coauthored "Indigenous social exclusion to inclusion: Case studies on Indigenous nursing leadership in four high income countries" in the Journal of Clinical Nursing.

Karen Cox, PhD, RN, FACHE, FAAN, has coauthored "Developing a Social Determinants of Learning Framework: A Case Study" in Nursing Education Perspectives.

Jennie Chin Hansen, MS, RN, FAAN, was interviewed for The Legacy Interviews by the American Society on Aging.

Terri H. Lipman, PhD, CRNP, FAAN, has coauthored the article, "Racial Disparities in Pediatric Type 1 Diabetes: Yet Another Consequence of Structural Racism," in Pediatrics.

Gloria J. McNeal, PhD, MSN, ACNS-BC, FAAN, served as a reviewer for the recently published Implementing High-Quality Primary Care: Rebuilding the Foundation of Health Care by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM).

Karen Myrick, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, ONP-BC, FAAN, was announced as the recipient of a $10,000 grant from the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses (NAION) to examine the physical examination technique, Myrick THIRD (The Hip Internal Rotation with Distraction).

Janice Phillips, PhD, RN, CENP, FAAN, has authored "We Must Protect Our Public Health Agencies from Political Interference" in Scientific American.

Victoria L. Tiase, MSN, RN-BC, FAAN, was interviewed for, "The future of nursing 2020 to 2030: Charting a path to achieve health equity," by Microsoft US Health and Life Sciences' Confessions of Health Geeks podcast.

Employment Opportunities
Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADDEI)
University of Virginia School of Nursing

The University of Virginia (UVA) School of Nursing (SON) seeks an Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ADDEI) to continue in the development and implementation of strategies to build and sustain a culture of respect and inclusion. The ADDEI will serve as a strategic partner to the Dean and the Dean’s Council and will bring an equity-consciousness into the heart of the School's mission and vision.

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