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January 11, 2023

President's Message

Dear Fellows,

It seems strange not to start with "Happy New Year," but we'll get there in a minute. The new year prompts both celebration and reflection; there are both fireworks and resolutions, quiet time with friends and big parties. Regardless of how we started 2023, we enter this fourth pandemic year (COVID isn't finished with us yet) a little tentatively; we're understandably cautious, and not just because of viruses and their



swarming variants. Climate change is right in our faces now; terms like "atmospheric rivers" and "bomb cyclones" make weather forecasts scary adventures. Bedrock assumptions about government "of the people and for the people" have become unstable; how many times have you said some version of "I never thought I would see the day when..." and then you do see it? Soldiers and citizens continue to fight and die in Ukraine; peace seems an ephemeral goal. Some of us just hope 2023 will not be as bad as 2022, which we had hoped would not be as bad as 2021.

Pretending that the challenges, stresses, and doubts that surround us aren't there won't make the new year any happier—but seeing them clearly and honestly and putting them in perspective helps us be prepared and ready. And the possibility of renewal, even if it is embedded in a somber welcome to 2023, always lifts us up. That possibility motivates us, elevates us, inspires us—all the more so now, since 2023 is a very special new year indeed for all of us, as members of the Academy. Renewal is what the 50th anniversary of the Academy is all about. We will celebrate, not just by shouting "happy new year" or blowing toy horns as that fabled ball of crystal and lights dropped at Times Square, but by recognizing all that the Academy has achieved—our collective impact on policy, recognition, and leadership—and by charting a course for the future.

2023 is, after all, the Year of the Rabbit (the Water Rabbit, in particular) in Chinese astrology and culture. The rabbit is held up as the luckiest of the twelve animals that populate the Chinese calendar; it is a sign of peace, prosperity, and longevity, and a symbol, and harbinger, of hope. 2023 will certainly be a time of hope for us as the Academy honors its past and designs its future; may it also be a year of greater hope for a troubled world.

The Academy has a personal meaning for each of us; from our own unique experience, we see how nursing's influence has or is changing the experience of health and health care, lighting the way toward an equitable, empathic, efficient, effective, and excellent approach to health and wellbeing for everyone. Likely the Academy has lighted the way for many of you, as well; next month, the Academy will be sending a link for you to share your own memories to help us create a diverse digital collection of the Academy's impact over five decades. In addition to the stories you share with us, we will be recording discussions that retell the moments where the Academy took bold steps and sought to transform traditional thinking. The 50th Anniversary Committee is developing a statement to acknowledge and begin to reconcile the moments when the Academy's efforts to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion did not measure up; truth about the past provides fuel for the future.

During 2023, the Academy will also continue policy efforts to advance key priority areas. In December, the Board approved the 2023-2024 Policy Priorities to Advance Health Equity; these will be released later this month. The Board also approved the selection of policy dialogues to be offered this year and in January 2024,

and during our January Board meeting, we will review seven policy proposals from Expert Panels that highlight an expansive look at topics important to the work of the organization.

Following up on the recently completed review of the Fellow selection process, the Board has approved creation of an International Taskforce. Last October, the Board affirmed that the Academy is an American organization that welcomes and celebrates the achievements of nurses from other countries—but that we are not an international organization. International Fellows have strengthened and diversified our critical efforts to advance health policy and brought new perspectives to our thinking. Interest in Fellowship in the Academy from countries around the globe has continued to climb; this requires that we consider how to enhance international engagement while also accounting for the short and long-term impact on the organization and its mission. This taskforce, chaired by Dr. Stephanie Ferguson, will explore these issues and the questions raised during the recent review regarding how best to support the increased number of international applications. The work of the taskforce will help the Academy align its mission and commitments with the practical aspects of international membership. And speaking of the Fellowship: this week we officially opened applications for 2023. Our Fellow Selection Committee will have, yet again, the difficult job of selecting our newest class of exceptional Fellows. Please join me in thanking Drs. Teri Murray (Chair) and Marla De Jong (Vice Chair) for their leadership.

In closing, I wanted to return to the importance of renewal with a message of hope. These are demanding, difficult, and stressful times for the nursing profession and our leaders around the globe—staffing shortages, people leaving the profession, strikes, budget cuts, the continuing threat of COVID-19, and high levels of demand for the work of nurses. These challenges weigh heavy on all of us. I share this wise counsel from the former First Lady, Michelle Obama: "Don't ever make decisions based on fear. Make decisions based on hope and possibility. Make decisions based on what should happen, not what shouldn't."

So now, finally, it's time for "Happy New Year." May all our thinking, all our decisions, and all our actions lead us to a place of possibility; in 2023, we hope to see the world a better place.

Sincerely,

Kenneth R. White, PhD, AGACNP, ACHPN, FACHE, FAAN

President

The International Taskforce members include:

Kenneth R. White

- **Stephanie Ferguson** (Chair), Director of the Harvard Global Nursing Leadership Program and Professor of the Practice of Health Policy and Management, Department of Health Policy and Management at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.
- Pam Cipriano, President at ICN International Council of Nurses; Professor University of Virginia School
 of Nursing
- Shelia Davis, CEO, Partners in Health
- Emerson Ea, Associate Dean for Clinical and Adjunct Faculty Affairs and Clinical Professor at New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing (Vice Chair of Academy's EDI Committee)
- Afaf Meleis, Professor of Nursing and Sociology and Dean Emerita, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
- Anne Marie Rafferty, Professor of Nursing Policy, and former Dean of the Florence Nightingale Faculty
 of Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care at King's College London
- Jane Swanson, Retired, Executive Director Cedars-Sinai Endowed Brawerman Nursing Institute (Former Fellow Selection Committee Chair)
- Lin Zhan, Dean and Professor, University of California Los Angeles, School of Nursing
- Margaret Moss, Professor and Director, First Nations House of Learning, University of British Columbia (Board Liaison)

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Academy support the organization's policy work and help make sure our voice is influencing policy actions that directly impact health and health care.

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January 20, 2023

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2023 HEALTH POLICY CONFERENCE

October 5-7, 2023

Fellow Achievements



Patricia Bruckenthal, PhD, APRN-BC, FAAN has been named **Dean, Stony Brook University School of Nursing**.

Dr. Bruckenthal was inducted into the Academy in 2014. She currently serves on the Informatics and Technology Expert Panel.



Vincent Guillamo-Ramos, PhD, MPH, LCSW, RN, ANP-BC, PMHNP-BC, FAAN, Dean, Professor, and Vice Chancellor for Nursing Affairs, Duke University School of Nursing has been appointed to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's ad hoc committee "Unequal Treatment Revisited: The Current State of Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Healthcare."

Dr. Guillamo-Ramos was inducted into the Academy in 2020. He currently serves on the Academy's Finance Committee.

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Fellow Highlights

The American Academy of Nursing congratulates Cherry Beasley, PhD, MS, RN, FAAN; John R. Lumpkin, MD, MPH, FAAN; and Margaret "Peggy" Wilmoth, PhD, MSS, RN, FAAN for being selected as members of the North **Carolina Institute of Medicine.**

Karen Cox, PhD, RN, FACHE, FAAN is featured in an article "Foundations, major donors tackle nation's nursing shortage."





Margaret Hattori-Uchima, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean, School of Health, University of Guam (UOG), passed on December 26, 2022.

Dr. Hattori-Uchima was a registered nurse for 35 years, a faculty member at UOG since August 2001, and the Dean of the School of Health since 2014. Dr. Hattori-Uchima displayed true leadership in her service and in her community. She was an advocate for improving the quality of health care in Guam and the rest of the Micronesia region and provided leadership in the study and alleviation of health

disparities. She also served for more than a decade with the Guam Homeless Coalition.

Dr. Hattori-Uchima was inducted into the Academy in 2020. She served as a member of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Committee.

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Lillian M. Simms, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor Emerita of Nursing, University of Michigan passed on December 11, 2022.

Dr. Simms' career appointments included staff nursing, clinical and management teaching, leadership of the first nursing administration program at the University of Michigan (UofM) School of Nursing. In 1981, she was named the first Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs and Associate Director for Nursing at the UofM Hospitals and School of Nursing. She published numerous articles and books over the course of her career. Her research on nursing work redesign and work

excitement continues to be widely used in the United States as well as abroad.

Dr. Simms was inducted into the Academy in 1991.

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