April 6, 2022

President’s Message

Dear Colleagues,

The Academy, at its core, is an organization of extraordinary nursing innovators, practitioners, academicians, scientists, and leaders who are working to bring more justice and equity in healthcare and advance wellness for all. Our Expert Panels are currently working on policy papers designed to align federal policies with the Academy’s mission and vision, including: Nurse-Directed Tobacco Dependence Treatment to Achieve Health Equity; Refugee and Immigrant Pandemic Vulnerability and Health Care Needs; Climate Change and the Adverse Impact on the Health and Well-Being of Women and Girls; and Response to the NASEM Report on Nursing Home Quality. Each of these documents will include carefully considered recommendations to further support the health and well-being of individuals and communities by changing policy in ways that advance health equity. Additionally, the Academy, in conjunction with the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science, commented on the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) Center for Scientific Review draft strategic plan for 2022-2027 with recommendations to ensure the research review process is transparent, open, and fair.

Over the past month, we’ve witnessed a tremendous reaction in response to the conviction of RaDonda Vaught, a former nurse, who was charged with reckless homicide in the death of a patient under her care. I am sure many of you have read the reports, reviewed the legal documents, or even consulted the CMS report on the case. Decades of research have illuminated the need to protect patient safety and reduce healthcare errors. The Institute of Medicine’s (now National Academy of Medicine) landmark report, To Err is Human, calls for a culture of safety within care environments to protect patients, their families, and providers. The report recommended that healthcare organizations focus on systemic organizational and engineering controls, rather than being harshly punitive when mistakes are made, to encourage the honest reporting of errors. Mistakes are inevitable, especially in the increasingly demanding, and often understaffed, conditions of healthcare today; we must identify the potential for errors and mitigate that potential before a mistake happens. We must work to create a culture where providers feel safe to report errors. Otherwise, we create a system that would leave us uninformed about the opportunities we have for preventing them. Even one small mistake in a chain of interactions can have devastating effects; we must identify and mitigate potential errors to change the conditions, practices, and procedures that create risks.

As a former healthcare system administrator and board member, I know firsthand that it is critical to reflect on root causes and to make changes that lead to safer environments for patients and healthcare providers alike. Unless we sincerely reflect upon the systems in which we practice, lead, and teach, we cannot make meaningful improvements in safety and promote a culture of trust. Commitment to patient safety demands that we analyze every contributing factor to errors and then work to fix system issues and failures, such as competing priorities, distraction, and fatigue, that can negatively impact human performance and our ability to
complete routine tasks. These concerns have only become more acute during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are a profession rooted in science; we examine cause and effect, and we must apply that same approach towards existing systemic policies. It is our responsibility to collaborate with our interprofessional colleagues to critically examine and, when necessary, change policies to ensure that we continue to put safety at the forefront. We are also a profession of caring—our ethos of caring means we also understand that behind these policies are real people—patients, providers, and families, who experience firsthand the policies by which we navigate our practice.

In these challenging times, the voice of nursing needs to be heard OUT LOUD on pressing issues. But we also need partners and allies; a single organization cannot do it all. Advocacy groups, specialty associations, and local, state, and global organizations help us bring the nursing perspective to many tables. We must find and use the routes and strategies that maximize our impact and make the highest and best use of our resources and expertise.

Sincerely,

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

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 March. 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.

Rhonda M. Anderson  Betty R. Ferrell
Karen N. Drenkard    Diana J. Mason

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.

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Academy News & Upcoming Events

2022 LIVING LEGENDS

NOMINATIONS DUE MAY 5, 2022

Learn More
2022 Honorary Fellows
Nominations Due May 5, 2022

NEW OPPORTUNITY
AAN FELLOWSHIP at NAM
Call for self-nominations open through April 18, 2022.

UPCOMING WEBINAR
How does the Magnet Recognition Program® advance nursing science in the clinical setting?
April 27, 2022 | 3:00–4:00 PM ET
Hosted by the Clinical Nurse Scientist Special Interest Group

SAVE THE DATE
2022 STATE OF THE SCIENCE CONGRESS ON NURSING RESEARCH
September 15-17, 2022

SAVE THE DATE
2022 HEALTH POLICY CONFERENCE
October 27-29, 2022
Fellow Achievements

Chris Coleman, PhD, MS, MPH, BS, AS, FAAN, PMHCNS-BC, has been named the Mark and Maureen Miller Head of the School of Nursing and the inaugural Associate Dean for Clinical Education for Purdue University's College of Health and Human Sciences West Lafayette Campus, effective July 1, 2022.

Cecelia Crawford, DNP, RN, FAAN, assumed the position of the Research Program Director for the Office of Research, Patient Care Services, at Stanford Healthcare on March 7th.

Dr. Crawford was inducted into the Academy in 2019. She is a

Joy Elwell, DNP, FNP-BC, CNE, FAAN, FAANP, Director, DNP Program, University of Connecticut School of Nursing has been appointed to a two-year term on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services’ Medicare Evidence
Dr. Coleman was inducted into the Academy in 2007. He currently serves on the Cultural Competence and Health Equity Expert Panel.

Dr. Elwell was inducted into the Academy in 2016. She currently serves on the Primary Care Expert Panel.

Maureen P. McCausland, DNSc, RN, FAAN, Senior Advisor at McChrystal Group, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Marshfield Clinic Health System.

Dr. McCausland was inducted into the Academy in 1991. She currently serves on the Building Healthcare System Excellence Expert Panel.

Rita Pickler, PhD, RN, FAAN, FloAnn Sours Easton Endowed Professor of Child and Adolescent Health, received the 2022 Distinguished Scholar Award from Ohio State University College of Nursing.

Dr. Pickler was inducted into the Academy in 2008. She is a member of CANS as well as the Child, Adolescent, and Family Expert Panel.

Juliann G. Sebastian, PhD, RN, FAAN, has announced her retirement as Dean of the University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Nursing, in early 2023.

Dr. Sebastian was inducted into the Academy in 1999. She is a member of CANS and the Quality Health Care Expert Panel.

Phyllis Sharps, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor Emerita, Johns Hopkins University, has been selected to serve on the Advisory Committee on Infant and Maternal Mortality of the Health Resources and Services Administration.

Dr. Sharps was inducted to the Academy in 2003. She is a member of CANS, serving as the American Nurses

George Thibault, MD, FAAN(h), immediate past president of the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation, has been named the 2022 recipient of the Geraldine “Polly” Bednash Lectureship Award from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Michelle Troseth, MSN, RN, FNAP, FAAN, has been selected for the Nicholas A. Cummings Highest Distinguished Fellow Award, bestowed upon a member of the National Academies of Practice.
Foundasion Partner Representative, as well as the Violence Expert Panel.

Dr. Thibault was inducted into the Academy as an Honorary Fellow in 2017.

Troseth was inducted into the Academy in 2012. She is a member of the Informatics and Technology Expert Panel.

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Do you have an achievement to share? Submit your news through the FAAN Mail Submission Form.

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**Fellow Highlights**

The American Academy of Nursing was referenced in a Chicago Tribune article related to nurse suicide prevention and upholding mental health and wellness, based on the Suicide Prevention in Nursing: Breaking the Silence Edge Runner model.

Elizabeth B. Dowdell, PhD, RN, AFN-C, FAAN, and Patricia M. Speck, DNSc, CRNP, FNP-BC, AFN-C, DF-IAFN, DF-AFN, FAAFS, FAAN, published "CE: Trauma-Informed Care in Nursing Practice" in American Journal of Nursing. This article resulted from the 2018 Policy Dialogue, Population trauma: A systems approach to trauma informed care, hosted by the Violence and Global Nursing and Health Expert Panels.

Charlene Harrington, PhD, RN, FAAN, was quoted in Kaiser Health News’ article "Biden’s Promise of Better Nursing Home Care Will Require Many More Workers."

*Health Equity* has been named the official journal of the National Collaborative for Health Equity. Editor-in-Chief Monica McLemore, PhD, RN, FAAN, is quoted.

Victoria Niederhauser, DrPH, RN, PPCNP-BC, FAAN, and Nan Gaylord, PhD, RN, CPNP, FAAN, will be leading a $5.5M grant to support vaccine education and outreach at the University of Tennessee Knoxville.

Elias Provencio-Vasquez, PhD, RN, FAANP, FAAN, announced a new partnership new partnership with Fort Lewis College to create a four-year undergraduate degree in nursing to the rural and Indigenous-serving campus of Southwest Colorado.

William E. Rosa, PhD, MBE, NP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, and Felicia Marie Knaul, PhD, FAAN(h), coauthored the article, "The value of alleviating suffering and dignifying death in war and humanitarian crises" in The Lancet.

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**Obituaries**

Jean E. Johnson, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor emerita at the University of Rochester School of Nursing, former associate director of nursing oncology at the University’s Cancer Center, and former clinical chief of oncology nursing at Strong Memorial Hospital, passed away on January 23, 2022.

A renowned researcher, Dr. Johnson devoted her nearly 50-year career to nursing practice, education, research, and advocacy for research and professional practice. She was also the first nurse to join various panels, such as the National Institutes of Health’s Behavioral Medicine Study Section, the U.S. Army Medical Research and Material Command’s Review Committee for the Breast Cancer Research Program, and the American Cancer Society’s Advisory Committee on Psychological and Behavioral Research. She was inducted into the Academy in 1994 and named a Living Legend in 2005.