July 7, 2022

President's Message

Dear Fellows,

On these hot and humid days, if you close your eyes and let the amazing voices of Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong light up your memory, you can almost hear the first line of one of their most famous songs: “Summertime, and the livin’ is easy...” While it might not feel as easy in light of the recent tragedies, George Gershwin’s music and DuBose Heyward’s lyrics take us back to what seems like a gentler time, before summer was just another busy season. But I hope all of you can find a way to slow down, enjoy some time with people you love, and take a break—let the “livin’ be easy” for a little while.

Not that there isn’t a lot to do. During the summer, the Academy is active in preparation for all the events of the fall—the Health Policy Conference (HPC), Living Legends Celebration, and Induction Ceremony. In September, we will also host the 2022 State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research conference (SOS), which is offered by the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science (CANS). The Board of Directors met in June and decided that all of these Fall events will be in-person. We are excited to return to a fully in-person Induction Ceremony; each new Fellow will be in attendance to receive their FAAN credential. There is no virtual option this year. The Academy continues to monitor the pandemic, but we are excited to be able to gather together without screens separating us. We have included a list of other key Board actions directly below my President’s message.

During the summer we also notify people who applied for Fellowship. This is no small task; this year, the Fellow Selection Committee reviewed a record 431 applications! That amounts to more than 1,200 notifications (the applicant and their two sponsors). Not only do staff ensure the accurate delivery of the notifications, but they also provide detailed instructions for those who are accepted to ensure a smooth welcome into the Academy. While applicants and sponsors received their personalized notifications on June 29th, everything has to be tracked and verified—receipt of the photo and bio of each newly accepted Fellow and of their acceptance of the offer of Fellowship.
All of that has to happen before any notification goes out to the public about who was selected, which will be announced later this month. I recognize that this time can raise emotions of elation or disappointment. Having served on the Fellow Selection Committee (FSC) for three years and the Board for five years, we have worked very hard to ensure the integrity of the selection process. As many of you know, the Academy has been working with an outside consulting firm to conduct a thorough review and external evaluation of the selection process to continue to uphold the rigor and integrity of Fellowship. More details will be announced at the HPC this year.

The Board met in June, in-person for the first time since October 2021—it was so good to be outside the square boxes on Zoom. We were able to laugh together, tackle tough conversations about the Academy’s future, and feel relaxed and fully present. We learned so much about each other and met with the entire Academy staff team in-person as well. I enjoyed being in the Academy’s offices, learning more about the staff on a personal level, and deepening all our bonds towards achieving the mission and vision of the organization. During June, I also had the special privilege of speaking with Dr. Ernest Grant, President of the American Nurses Association (ANA), at the ANA Membership Assembly; I provided an update to ANA members on behalf of the Academy. Dr. Grant’s leadership inspires many of us, and hearing him speak in-person, with his light-hearted humor and profound respect for the profession, was powerful.

I sincerely hope that you will join us in the fall. Registration is open for SOS and HPC registration opened this morning! Between now and our conferences, we will announce: the 2022 New Fellows, Living Legends, Honorary Fellows, Academy Award Winners, CANS award winners, National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Distinguished Nurse Scholar-in-Residence, the new Academy NAM Fellow, and new Edge Runners models. Thinking of all these reasons to celebrate, I reflect on a poem that Mary Gullatte shared at our Board dinner—one line in particular from “Our Greatest Fear,” by Marianne Williamson: “And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.” Please join us; bring and shine your light, and watch others show their light as well.

Sincerely,

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

Board Approved Actions and Discussion Items

- Approved the 2022 Living Legends (announcement to come in August).
- Approved the 2022 Honorary Fellows (announcement to come in August).
- Adopted a new policy on Strategic Partnerships that guides the organization’s review, evaluation, and process in engaging in partnerships that have a financial commitment, in addition to concluding partnerships that do not align with the Strategic Plan.
- Revised the Board Policy on Sponsorship of Fellows to be more inclusive of all Academy designations and renamed it the Policy on Board Member Engagement in Academy Designations and Nominations.
  - This updated policy clearly notes that during their term, Board members may not sponsor new Fellows’ applications, new Honorary Fellow applications, or Living Legends applications; they cannot nominate candidates during the election cycle; and will not nominate/write letters of recommendations for Academy scholarships, fellowships, or special programs designations, special applications, or nominations. Additionally, Board members will refrain from providing insights on or reviewing and providing feedback on any of the above mentioned of applications from the time they are elected until the conclusion of their Board term.
Received reports from CANS, INL, Edge Runners National Advisory Committees as well as the D&I, Conference Planning, and 50th Anniversary Committees on their activities to date.

Approved drafting a position statement on gun violence (to be released this summer).

Held a strategic planning session to understand the history, present, and future of engaging international Fellows (additional information to come next year).

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**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 June. 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.

- Angela B. McBride
- Paula F. Milone-Nuzzo
- Michael W. Neft
- Joachim G. Voss

*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 Health Policy Conference**

*From Reflection to Impact: Positioning Nursing’s Future*

The American Academy of Nursing (Academy) is pleased to announce the [2022 Health Policy Conference](#), *From Reflection to Impact: Positioning Nursing’s Future*, will be held in-person at the Marriott Marquis in Washington, DC from **October 27-29, 2022**.

The conference will convene thought leadership within nursing and health care to reflect on the profession’s challenges, triumphs, and opportunities to shape policies for future, long-term impact. Participants will engage with leaders who will share how recent events have ignited nursing innovation, research, and practice, and how multi-level policies influence health and health care.

*Registration is now open!* Learn more about the event, including the [Agenda](#), [Speakers](#), and [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
Fellow Achievements

Adejoke Ayoola, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been named the inaugural Dean of the Calvin University School of Health.

Dr. Ayoola was inducted into the Academy in 2020.

Catherine Wilson Cox, PhD, RN, CEN, CNE, FAAN, Associate Professor, George Washington University School of Nursing, has been appointed to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services.

Dr. Cox was inducted into the Academy in 2020. She

Gordon Gillespie, PhD, DNP, RN, FAEN, FAAN, will serve as Interim Dean of University of Cincinnati College of Nursing.

Dr. Gillespie was inducted into the Academy in 2016. He currently serves on the Violence Expert Panel.
Ronda Hughes, PhD, MHS, RN, FAAN, has been named Senior Director of Professional Practice, American Organization for Nursing Leadership.

Dr. Hughes was inducted into the Academy in 2009. She currently serves as Vice Chair of the Quality Health Care Expert Panel.

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Ann Kurth, PhD, MPH, MSN, CNM, FAAN, FACNM, has been named the next President of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Kurth was inducted into the Academy in 2016. She currently serves on the Global Nursing and Health as well as the Maternal and Infant Health Expert Panels.

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Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, PhD, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, has been elected as the next President of the American Nurses Association.

Dr. Mensik was inducted into the Academy in 2014. She currently serves on the Building Health Care System Excellence Expert Panel.

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Monica McLemore, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, has been named the Interim Director of the Center for Anti-Racism in Nursing at the University of Washington.

Dr. McLemore was inducted into the Academy in 2019. She currently serves on the Women's Health Expert Panel.

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Maria W. O'Rourke, PhD, RN, FAAN, assumed the position of Nurse Scientist for Professional Practice and is a member of the Research Strategy Team for the Office of Research, Patient Care Services, at Stanford Healthcare.

Dr. O'Rourke was inducted into the Academy in 1985. She is a member of the Nursing Theory-Guided Practice and Building Healthcare System Excellence Expert Panels.

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María de los Ángeles Ortega Hernández, DNP, APRN, GNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, CDP, FAANP, FAAN, has been named Associate Dean of Clinical Practice, Florida Atlantic University Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing.

Dr. Ortega was inducted into the Academy in 2018. She is the lead for the Edge Runner model, "A Caring Science Model of Specialized Dementia Care for Transforming Practice and Advancing Health Equity."
Karen L. Weis, PhD, RNC-OB, FAAN, has been named the Christine A. Hartley Rural Nursing Endowed Professor, University of Kansas School of Nursing.

Dr. Weis was inducted into the Academy in 2010. She currently serves on the Maternal & Infant Health Expert Panel.

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

**Fellow Highlights**

The Academy celebrates the following Gerontological Society of America 2022 Award Recipients:

- **Barbara Bowers**, PhD, FGSA, FAAN - Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award
- **Susan C. Reinhard**, PhD, RN, FGSA, FAAN - Barbara J. Berkman Award for Outstanding Interdisciplinary Research, Practice, or Policy in Aging and Health Care

**Lisa Cleveland**, PhD, APRN, FAAN will be overseeing a $16 million grant awarded to the School of Nursing at UT Health San Antonio to expand its successful Casa Mia recovery program for pregnant and parenting mothers with opioid use disorder and their children.

**Usha Menon**, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean of the University of South Florida Health College of Nursing, Senior Associate Vice President of USF Health, and Distinguished University Health Professor, will be overseeing a $40 million expansion of the university.

**Catherine Waters**, PhD, RN, FAAN, has published multiple articles in a special supplement, "Public Health Nursing After COVID-19: Strengthening, Rebuilding, and Reimagining the System" for the *American Journal of Public Health*.

**Obituaries**

**Diane Holditch-Davis**, PhD, RN, FAAN, Marcus E. Hobbs Professor Emerita, Duke University, passed away on June 25, 2022.

Dr. Holditch-Davis was a dedicated teacher and mentor, often saying her greatest professional accomplishments were the successes of her students. Before starting at Duke, she taught at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill’s School of Nursing for over 20 years, becoming the Kenan Distinguished Professor and Director of the doctoral and post-doctoral programs. Dr. Holditch-Davis’s research observed parent-child interactions and infant sleep to determine long-term health and developmental outcomes.
Dr. Holditch-Davis was inducted into the Academy in 1996.

Marlene Kramer, PhD, RN, FAAN, former Dean of the University of Connecticut, passed away on May 30, 2022.

Dr. Kramer was a renowned nursing advocate, best known for her 1974 book *Reality Shock: Why Nurses Leave Nursing*, which focused on the prevalence of burnout within the nursing profession. She dedicated her career to assisting students, new graduates, and experienced nurses become more effective and satisfied in their nursing careers.

Dr. Kramer was inducted into the Academy in 1977 and named a Living Legend in 2007.

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