President’s Message

Dear Fellows,

I do not think any of us anticipated the intense sorrow that the events of 2020 have caused. The pandemic changed everything for us and now, we are experiencing yet again, the immense and persistent pain caused by racism, discrimination, and injustices. It feels like we are at a breaking point, as evidenced by the worldwide protests in solidarity condemning racism here and globally. We are outraged and worn.

Earlier this week, the American Academy of Nursing (Academy) released a statement that condemned racist and violent behavior as well as the policies that allow institutional and systemic racism to occur. I would like to thank Debra Barksdale, PhD, FNP-BC, CNE, FAANP, FAAN, Academy Board member and Board Liaison to the Diversity and Inclusivity (D&I) Committee and Kenya Beard, EdD, AGACNP-BC, NP-C, CNE, ANEF, FAAN, Chair of the D&I Committee for their support in the drafting process. In this statement, I also called on us as a profession to increase our diversity and not succumb to the institutional structures and processes that can block openness and prevent change. We must all be active agents in this endeavor.

We need change. We all know it and feel it deeply. Our voices need to be stronger and carry the conviction that is necessary for true transformation. This is leadership. This is why we are in the Academy. Fellows are not silent, we are not complacent. We are bold and direct. Right now, our organization must break barriers and build bridges. The question is how? To answer this, we must also reflect on our own individual actions. We must ask ourselves, how have I used my voice for those that are not heard? Who did I reach out to and how effectively did I communicate my message?

The Academy wants to strengthen our individual and collective ability to do this and support other nurses to find their voice and to use it to help those that are not heard. As I think about our signature initiative, the Institute for Nursing Leadership (INL), I see great opportunity for the future in which our nursing leaders are actively asking themselves and their colleagues these important questions.
As a profession, nurses reduce suffering and heal through science, evidence, and compassion. This is another incredibly important aspect of our work at the Academy, particularly through the Expert Panels (EPs). I am eager to see the submission of new manuscripts and consensus papers. I know they are strategically working to help us collectively build the evidence to advance sound health policy centered on health equity.

Most importantly, we want the Academy to be a safe space where your voice can be heard and is welcomed. At our association, all Board of Directors, Committee, EP, National Advisory Council, and special taskforce meetings start with a reflection on the Academy’s D&I Statement, and we are committed to bringing that perspective to all discussions and decisions. Over the last few months, the Board has continued our own discussion on how we can make more voices heard in our organization and more purposefully. The D&I Committee have shared with us strong proposals like a town hall, that we are committed to advancing. We do have to face our reality as an organization. The average age of Fellows, who self-report their demographics, is 66 years old and within the Fellowship, 84% identify their race as white and 5% reside outside the U.S. We must be intentional.

It is time to renew our efforts with the link between racism and health, particularly during COVID-19. With the majority of the nursing profession and our own Fellowship being white, we have to be attentive to our nursing practices. As nurses, we must examine our practice and consider methods we can employ to stop contributing to systemic racism. Nurses have so much power in the everyday that we can move mountains by little pushes. As we cope with a pandemic and racial injustice, let us unite and work together to bring about a large change and end these plagues.

Sincerely,

Eileen M. Sullivan-Marx, PhD, RN, FAAN
Academy President
@EileenSullivanM

Support the Academy

Especially as we face the coronavirus pandemic, 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 May. All gifts to the Academy support the organization’s policy work and help make sure we have a seat at the table to influence policymakers on actions that directly impact nurses on the front lines.

Debra Barksdale
Linda Burnes Bolton*
Mary Dee Hacker
Mary Jo Jerde
Michael Neft
Eileen Sporing
*Member of Vision Society and Founders' Circle

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.

Click here to donate to the Rheba de Tornyay Development Fund!

## 2020 Fellowship Notification Timeline

As a result of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the application review timeline was modified, which in turn has delayed the applicant notification timeline. This year, applicants and sponsors will be notified electronically via the email address that was provided with the submitted application. **Notifications will be sent no later than July 6, 2020.** Applicants have already been notified of this update. We appreciate your patience while we navigate this unprecedented time.

## 2020 Policy Conference Abstracts

[American Academy of Nursing](https://www.aan nursing.org)

**2020 Policy Conference in Crisis and Calm: Leading with Purpose**

[Call for Abstracts](https://www.aan nursing.org/2020PolicyConference)

[Learn More](https://www.aan nursing.org/2020PolicyConference)

## 2020 CANS State of the Science Abstracts
Academy staff is evaluating options for conference delivery mediums, to in-person (consistent with necessary public health guidelines), virtual, or a combination of both. We are establishing a platform that will allow presenters (whose work is selected), regardless of ability to attend the meeting, to have the opportunity to present. We will continue to share more details as they become available, and in the meantime, we encourage you to submit your abstract for consideration. For additional questions regarding Academy events, please reach out to conferences@aannet.org and continue to visit the website for updated information about issues related to COVID-19.

Celebrating Nurses Month

The Academy launched Nurses Month with remarks from President Eileen Sullivan-Marx, PhD, RN, FAAN. Each week we celebrated Nurses Month by releasing a series of video interviews featuring Fellows sharing inspiration and insight on the four themes developed by the American Nurses Association: self care, recognition, professional development, and community engagement. Fellows also donated to the Celebrate Nursing development campaign and shared stories of recognition to honor their colleagues and nurses, especially those who are on
the front line of the COVID-19 pandemic. To continue our recognition of the World Health Organization’s designation of 2020 as the International Year of the Nurse & Midwife, the Academy will be launching a Call for Artists and releasing another video featuring Fellows offering their hopes for the future.

Fellow Achievements

**Sandra Brown**, DNS, APRN, FNP-BC, CNE, ANEF, FAANP, FAAN, Dean of the College of Nursing and Allied Health, Southern University and A&M College, was appointed by Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards to serve as Co-Chair of the Louisiana COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force.

The Task Force is charged with providing recommendations related to health inequities affecting communities that are most impacted by the coronavirus. Dr. Brown is nationally recognized for her exemplary work in promoting access to health care for the medically underserved and for her outstanding contributions during statewide disaster recovery efforts. Read more.

Dr. Brown was inducted into the Academy in 2017. She currently serves on the Primary Care Expert Panel.

**Harleah Buck**, PhD, RN, FPCN, FAAN, is joining the faculty of the University of Iowa College of Nursing as the Sally Mathis Hartwig Professor of Nursing and Co-Director of the Csomay Center for Gerontological Excellence.

Dr. Buck is a scholar in palliative care whose national and international contributions include practice and research in older adults with heart failure and their caregivers. She is making the transition from the University of South Florida.

Dr. Buck was inducted into the Academy in 2015. She currently serves as Chair of the Palliative and End-of-Life Care Expert Panel.

**Lilian Ferrer**, PhD, RN, MS, FAAN, has become the Vice President for International Affairs at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

One of the main objectives of the position is to instill a culture of internationalization throughout the entire university. According to Dr. Ferrer, internationalization is not only related to travel abroad but also about promoting a global culture within the community. Read more.

Dr. Ferrer was inducted into the Academy in 2015. She currently serves on the Academy’s Diversity and Inclusion Committee.
Barbara Hatcher, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, Associate Professor, George Mason University and President and CEO, Hatcher-DuBois-Odrick Group, LLC., will be inducted into the DC Hall of Fame in October 2020.

The DC Hall of Fame induction program highlights the initiative and creativity of DC residents who have changed the course of local history. Dr. Hatcher founded the DC Department of Health's multi-million dollar Healthy Start project to reduce infant mortality and barriers to prenatal care. Read more.

Dr. Hatcher was inducted into the Academy in 2008. She currently serves on the Fellow Selection Committee and on the Global Nursing & Health Expert Panel.

Katie Huffling, MS, RN, CNM, FAAN, Executive Director, Alliance of Nurses for Health Environments, and Linda McCauley, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean and Professor, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Emory University, have been appointed to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Children's Health Protection Advisory Committee (CHPAC) for a three-year term.

The committee advises the EPA on regulations, research, and communications related to children's environmental health. CHPAC members have a variety of perspectives, including research, academia, healthcare, legal, state, environmental organizations and local and tribal governments. Ms. Huffling is well-versed in a variety of environmental health issues, including climate change, chemical policy, and environmental health education, and was an editor of the e-textbook, Environmental Health in Nursing. Dr. McCauley is a leader in examining environmental exposures and conducts interdisciplinary research to study pesticide exposure among minority communities. Read more.

Ms. Huffling was inducted into the Academy in 2019. Dr. McCauley was inducted into the Academy in 1995. They both currently serve on the Environmental Health Expert Panel.

Rita Jablonski, PhD, CRNP, FAAN, Professor and Director of Research and Scholarly Development, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing has been recognized by Geriatric Nursing as a visionary leader and innovator in the field of geriatric nursing.

Geriatric Nursing is the official journal of the American Assisted Living Nurses Association, National Gerontological Nursing Association, and Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association. Dr. Jablonski was
Dr. Jablonski was inducted into the Academy in 2013.

**Betty Rambur**, PhD, RN, FAAN, Routhier Endowed Chair for Practice and Professor, University of Rhode Island College of Nursing, has been appointed to the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC).

Congress established MedPAC in 1997 to analyze access to care, cost and quality of care, and other key issues affecting Medicare. The commission advises Congress on payments to providers in Medicare’s traditional fee-for-service programs and to health plans participating in the Medicare Advantage program. Dr. Rambur is a national leader in the area of workforce redesign within alternative payment models. Read more.

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

**In Memoriam**


Mrs. Van Slyck was a successful entrepreneur and expert in staffing methodologies within acute care settings. She is noted for her missionary work in Sri Lanka, culminating in the delivery of medical equipment for the neonatal intensive care units of the hospitals which whom she was working. Mrs. Van Slyck was inducted into the Academy in 1992.

For more information, click here.

**Career Opportunities**

Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
Oregon Health and Science University, School of Nursing

Oregon Health & Science University School of Nursing (OHSU SON) seeks a dynamic, visionary leader to further develop an already strong nursing program. The Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (SADAA) will
incorporate the latest trends, strategies, and bridge current and future best practices to build an even greater, innovative, leading edge nursing school.

Applications will be reviewed as they are received and should include a cover letter and CV. You may apply directly at https://acesrch.applicantstack.com/x/detail/a21esjy0eghr.