From the Academy President

We are excited about the Academy's annual conference on Transforming Health, Driving Policy in Washington, DC, from October 16 to 18. This year's conference will be at the Washington Grand Hyatt, a much larger hotel that will provide the space that we clearly are needing with over 1,200 people attending the induction ceremony last year, I don't think we could have squeezed one more person into the room!

This year's conference will focus on issues related to the Academy's new strategic plan and the website will keep you posted on speakers and events as they are confirmed. I think you will find the agenda to be a most interesting one with exciting speakers and formats.

One of the most popular events at the conference is the Living Legends evening, which will be on Thursday, October 16. We have had a number of fellows question why we limit the number of Living Legends we honor each year. Certainly, we receive a number of exceptional nominations, but the board has decided to limit the number selected each year to four. There are significant costs associated with the event and we are trying to be mindful of the implications that this limitation poses. I'd welcome your ideas on funding sources to expand the number of Living Legends that we can select in a given year.

And this ties into another important issue. After an analysis of the costs and revenues for the conference, the board has approved an increase in the conference fees to $700 for early bird fellows, $825 for fellows after the early bird deadline, and $925 for on-site registrations. Registration includes the Living Legend Ceremony and reception, the Induction Ceremony and soirée, the "healthy breaks" (yes, healthy food costs more, but you asked for it, so we changed what we offer on breaks), the increasingly popular policy dialogues, expert panel meetings, and so on—three jam-packed days with exceptional networking opportunities as well. We are still quite competitive with—and often less than—other national policy or nursing conferences in Washington. We greatly appreciate fellows' efforts to bring in new sponsors of the conference and exhibitors, as these sources of revenue significantly reduce what we must charge fellows and others to attend the conference.

Registration opens today on our website. And make sure you reserve your hotel room early. There will be two options to accommodate our growing numbers of attendees.

We look forward to seeing you in October and hope that you will invite your colleagues and students who are "future fellows" or simply interested in attending the conference. They won't be disappointed—and neither will you.
Policy Update

The Academy and numerous organizations co-signed a letter to Secretary Sebelius encouraging DHHS to release disaggregated ACA enrollment data by race, ethnicity, primary language, and disability status to ensure compliance with Section 4302 of the ACA and ensure collective efforts to enroll eligible individuals in future open enrollment periods are successful.

The Academy submitted comments to the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology for DHHS on proposed rule making on the electronic health record urging the inclusion of military service criteria in electronic health records and asking the question whether an individual has ever served in the military to focus on the unique need and strengths of Americans who have served in the armed forces and their families.

Admit to Observation Patients: Access, Cost, and Quality Concerns

The Academy's Acute & Critical Care and Aging Expert Panels will co-host a webinar, "Admit to Observation Patients," to address the implications "observation status" has on access, cost and quality of care for Medicare recipients.

The speaker, Toby Edelman, Esq., is the senior policy attorney at the Center for Medicare Advocacy, Inc. Ms. Edelman works extensively advocating on behalf of Medicare patients negatively affected by the “observation status” classification.

Join us from 11:00 to noon (Eastern) this Friday, May 2. RSVP »

Conference Registration is Now Open
Hotel Rooms are Available.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contact us for more info »
Applications

Living Legend and Honorary Fellow applications are both due May 12.

Nurse Leader in Aging Applications

Nominate a leader in gerontological nursing. Applications are now due May 15.

Career Opportunities

Wayne State University
Dean, College of Nursing

Wayne State University (WSU) invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the College of Nursing. Please direct all inquiries, expressions of interest, and nominations in confidence to Stephanie Fidel or Amy Segal at Isaacson, Miller via www.imsearch.com/5035. Wayne State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity employer.

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute
Program Officer, Science Improving Healthcare Systems

The Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute is conducting a national search for scientific program officers to support the Improving Healthcare Systems program. The program’s mission is to develop, fund, and manage comparative effectiveness research studies of strategies employed by healthcare systems and organizations to improve the quality, and efficiency of care for the patients they serve. Apply »

See new opportunities on the Academy site » Have an opportunity to share with fellows?

INSTITUTE FOR NURSING LEADERSHIP
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSING

Positioning nurses to lead change to improve health and drive policy

Follow the Academy