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Dear Colleagues,

In recent years, residency and fellowship programs for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) have been developed and implemented in healthcare settings across the country. Interest in APRN residency/fellowship programs has been heightened by *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health* (Institute of Medicine, 2010), which recommends:

State boards of nursing, accrediting bodies, the federal government, and health care organizations should take actions to support nurses' completion of a transition-to-practice (nurse residency) after they have completed a prelicensure or advanced practice degree program or when they are transitioning into new clinical practice areas. (p. 280)

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Board of Commissioners has formed a task force to study APRN residency/fellowship programs. The purpose of the task force is to examine the development and operation of APRN residency/fellowship programs nationally and whether there is a need for the accreditation of such programs. The task force has begun its work by identifying APRN residency/fellowship programs throughout the country. The task force is surveying these programs in order for CCNE to build a repository of information on program types, structure, and content. Using this information, the task force will review commonalities among programs and consider whether there is a regulatory and/or non-regulatory need for accreditation.

The CCNE APRN Residency/Fellowship Task Force is chaired by Dr. Laurie Lauzon Clabo, Dean and Professor, College of Nursing, Wayne State University. Members of the CCNE APRN Residency/Fellowship Task Force are:

**Margaret Faut Callahan, PhD, RN, FAAN, FNAP**  
Provost, Health Sciences Division  
Professor, Niehoff School of Nursing  
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**Kristine Anne Scordo, PhD, RN, ACNP-BC, FAANP**  
Schuster Cardiology  
TriHealth Infectious Diseases  
Professor and Director, Adult-Gero ACNP Program  
College of Nursing and Health  
Wright State University

CCNE requests your assistance in two ways:

- First, we invite you to participate in CCNE's exploratory work by identifying APRN residency/fellowship programs. The task force has indicated a strong desire to survey as many programs as possible in order to build a robust repository to serve as the foundation for its work. Please email Renée Ricci, CCNE Accreditation Assistant, at [ricci@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:ricci@aacn.nche.edu) to recommend programs to be surveyed and to be informed about CCNE's activities with respect to APRN residency/fellowship programs.
- Second, if you administer an APRN residency/fellowship program, please visit <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation/aprn-residency-survey> to find out more about the survey. Please complete the survey by April 30, 2016, in order for your program's responses to be considered in this important work.

Lastly, please forward this announcement to your colleagues working in the area of transition to practice for APRNs, as many individuals across the nation have asked to be informed of updates and developments with respect to APRN residency/fellowship programs.

Please remember to complete the task force survey available at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation/aprn-residency-survey> if you administer an APRN residency/fellowship program.

For more information about the work of the CCNE APRN Residency/Fellowship Task Force, contact Benjamin Murray, Director of Accreditation Services, at 202-887-6791 x275 or [bmurray@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:bmurray@aacn.nche.edu).

Sincerely,



Susan D. Ruppert, PhD, FNP-C, ANP-BC, FCCM, FNAP, FAANP, FAAN  
Chair, CCNE Board of Commissioners