

Task Force on Defining Scholarship for Academic Nursing March 2017

The AACN Board of Directors appointed the Task Force on Defining Scholarship for Academic Nursing in July 2016. The task force was charged to:

1. Evaluate AACN's 1999 *Position Statement on Defining Scholarship for the Discipline of Nursing* in light of the new definition for Academic Nursing, as outlined in the AACN-Manatt report *Advancing Healthcare Transformation: A New Era for Academic Nursing*.
2. Propose a definition of scholarship as related to education, research, and practice that accounts for trends in new research methods, concerns for improving health, and multiple ways of knowing.
3. Differentiate how scholarship might be operationalized by nurses prepared in research-focused and practice-focused doctorates.
4. Consider contemporary issues around tenure and how they are related to production of nursing scholarship.
5. Describe the integration of scholarship across institutional missions and how scholarship is promoted via improvement science, participatory action research, team science, and big data and how it is translated to practice.

The task force began its work in September 2016 and has met via teleconference several times to review the charge and work on defining scholarship for academic nursing. A review of the literature and a review of existing definitions of scholarship for academic nursing were completed via a survey of task force members. The task force was divided into subgroups to address the components of the charge. The task force held a face-to-face meeting in San Diego, CA in January 2017 to continue work on developing a draft position statement. An initial draft of the position statement is being presented to the AACN Board of Directors at their March meeting. The timeline to complete the work of the Defining Scholarship Task Force is:

April 2017

- Revisions of draft statement based on the Board's feedback

May 2017

- Conduct a peer review to collect additional feedback

June 2017

- Revisions of the draft statement completed

July 2017

- Final report sent to the Board for review and endorsement

October 2017

- Presented to the AACN membership for a vote at the Fall Meeting

Task Force Members:

- Robin Newhouse, *Chair*, Indiana University
- Donna Berry, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Rosanne Burson, University of Detroit Mercy
- Carol Dorough, Mount Vernon Nazarene
- Barbara Johnson, Belhaven University
- Jean McSweeney, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
- Katherine Pereira, Duke University
- Patricia Thompson, Sigma Theta Tau International
- Joan Vitello, University of Massachusetts Medical School
- *AACN Board Liaison*: Kristen Swanson, Seattle University
- *AACN Staff Liaisons*: Kathy McGuinn, and Rick García

Information about the task force is posted online at <https://www.aacn.nche.edu/about-aacn/committees-task-force/defining-scholarship>.