



Governance Task Force March 2017

Governance Task Force Charge

In 2014, the AACN Board of Directors established the Futures Task Force to develop recommendations regarding potential new efforts that can be implemented to support the mission of the organization and assure support for the development of a nursing workforce for the future. As part of its charge, the task force conducted an organizational assessment to determine if AACN is well positioned to meet the needs of all internal and external stakeholders given the expansion of our mission and reach. In order for AACN to truly serve as the catalyst for innovation in nursing education that will improve health and health care, the task force recommended in its final report that AACN should “explore opportunities for alternative governance structures that will support nimbleness, innovation, timeliness, collaboration, and inclusivity (e.g. advisory councils, different board models, expanded memberships, emphasis on generative role for governance).”

In the Summer of 2016, the Board of Directors established the Governance Task Force.

The Task Force will:

1. Explore governance structures that support nimbleness, innovation, timeliness, collaboration, and inclusivity.
2. Consider advisory councils, different board models, and expanded membership opportunities.
3. Ensure membership constituents are provided opportunities for meaningful engagement and are optimally positioned for success.

The final report of the task force will be presented March 2018.

Governance Task Force Work to Date

The Governance Task Force has met several times via conference call and twice in person at both the Fall Semiannual Meeting and Doctoral Education Conference. During the Fall meeting, the task force reviewed AACN’s current structure and other governance models from similar associations. In addition, the task force identified the questions to be answered and established the design principles for the work. The second in-person meeting was facilitated by Board consultant Josh Mintz and agenda items included an overview of nonprofit board governance including models and structures, benchmarking AACN’s governance structure, affirmation of design principles that were developed in the Fall, a discussion regarding the voice for membership, Board composition and recruitment, and governance structures including

committees and other vehicles for member input. The task force will meet again during the 2017 Spring Annual Meeting and a report will be presented to the full membership on Saturday, March 18.

Task Force Members

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Alabama in Huntsville

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