American Association of Colleges of Nursing



## Report on the Arnold P. Gold Foundation/AACN Partnership **March 2018**

This report addresses the activities and progress of AACN's collaborative work with The Arnold P. Gold Foundation since March 2017.

## **White Coat Ceremony**

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation (APGF) and AACN renewed their commitment to funding White Coat Ceremonies. On August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017, AACN and APGF announced that 50 schools of nursing were selected to receive funding support to host White Coat Ceremonies. Launched in 2013, this ground-breaking collaboration between APGF and AACN was developed to promote humanistic, patient-centered care among future generations of registered nurses.

To date, 260 nursing schools in 49 states plus the District of Columbia have received support and guidance to offer a White Coat Ceremony, which typically consists of the recitation of an oath, an address by an eminent role model, and a reception for students and invited guests. Students also are given a specially designed pin that serves as a visual reminder of their oath and commitment to providing high quality care.

This year, 50 new nursing schools in 33 states plus the District of Columbia were selected to receive funding to inaugurate their own White Coat Ceremony in Fall 2017.

## **Hope Babette Tang Humanism in Healthcare Essay Contest**

The Arnold P. Gold Foundation announced that the Hope Babette Tang Humanism in Healthcare Essay Contest will expand in 2018 to include nursing students, a collaboration with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

The annual essay contest highlighting humanistic experiences has sought submissions from medical students for nearly 20 years.

The Gold Foundation's annual contest asks medical students, and now nursing students, to engage in a reflective writing exercise that illustrates an experience where they or a team member worked to ensure that humanism was at the core of care. First-, second-, and third-place essays for both nursing and medical students will be chosen by a panel including healthcare professionals, writers/journalists, and educators.

Winners receive an award of up to \$1,000. First-, second-, and third-place nursing and medical student essays will be published in *Academic Medicine*, the journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges, and *The Journal of Professional Nursing*, of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. The winners will be spread out among the 2018 October,

November, and December issues with a winning medical essay and a winning nursing essay together in each issue. This innovative cross-publication is designed to foster interprofessional understanding.

Hope Babette Tang-Goodwin, MD, was an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, whose devotion and generosity to the care of the children and infants with HIV infection in New York City was an inspiration to her colleagues and her students. Her approach to medicine combined a boundless enthusiasm for her work, intellectual rigor and deep compassion for her patients.

The prompt for the 2018 contest will be:

"It's not what you look at that matters, but what you see." — Henry David Thoreau

Tell us about a healthcare experience with a patient or fellow clinician that led you to a new, unexpected understanding or perspective.

Students may submit their 1,000-word essays starting on February 15, 2018 through the Gold Foundation website.