

DEANS ANNUAL MEETING

March 29-31, 2025 | Washington DC



- PROGRAM AGENDA -

Program subject to change

Learning Outcomes for the Educational Sessions:

- Explore emerging issues and trends shaping the future of academic nursing.
- Discover powerful implementation strategies to drive transformative improvements in health, healthcare, and higher education.
- Elevate the impact you can have to lead change and strengthen the nursing workforce.
- Engage with federal policymakers to secure vital support for advancing academic nursing.

Nursing Continuing Professional Development:



The American Association of Colleges of Nursing is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

Attendees will be awarded continuing nursing professional development (NCPD) credit for the sessions they attend and evaluate.

Up to 11 NCPD credits available for in-person attendance. NCPD credits are also available for on-demand sessions.

There are no conflicts of interest or relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies to disclose for any individual in a position to control content for this education activity.

**NCPD credit available*

THE VOICE OF ACADEMIC NURSING

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Saturday, March 29

11:00 a.m.-5:15 p.m.

Registration Open

Roosevelt Foyer

12:00-4:00 p.m.

Exhibitor Showcase Open

Kennedy Ballroom

Connect with exhibitors showcasing innovative products, services, and solutions of value to your school of nursing. Take time throughout the day to visit the vendor booths and identify strategic partners to help address challenges and meet your specific institutional needs.

The Exhibitor Showcase is open Saturday and Sunday only.

12:15-12:45 p.m.

First-Time Attendee Meet & Greet

Longworth

Hosted by the AACN Program Committee

1:00-2:00 p.m.

Emerging Solutions/Discussion Forums*

Succession Planning: Sustainability of Academic Nursing Leadership **The Colonnade (Lobby Level)**

Join a panel of experienced deans who are committed to succession planning as a key strategy for sustaining academic nursing leadership. Succession planning opens the opportunity for positive relationships that cultivate, inspire, and assist in the development of leadership skills. This session will address the advantages and challenges of preparing future leaders to guide nursing education, research, and practice.

Speakers: Eileen Fry- Bowers, PhD, JD, RN, Dean, School of Nursing, University of San Francisco, Rhoberta Haley, PhD, RN, Dean, and Professor, School of Nursing, Pacific Lutheran University, and Danny Willis, DNS, APRN, Dean, College of Nursing, University of Rhode Island

Access and Opportunity to Build an Engaged Nursing Workforce

Grand Ballroom II

A workforce that mirrors the demographics of the population it serves - encompassing backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives is crucial for effective problem-solving, innovation, and optimal outcomes. Panelists will discuss current challenges and opportunities for supporting access and engagement to achieve excellence in academic nursing. Come share your perspectives and experiences to help amplify this discussion on shaping the future of nursing.

Speakers: Angela Amar, PhD, RN, College of Nursing, New York University and Michael Williams, PhD, RN, Professor and Director, School of Nursing, California State University Long Beach

Moderator: Brigit Carter, PhD, RN, AACN, Chief Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Officer

From Vision to Actualization: Providing Leadership for a Successful Transition to Competency-Based Education (CBE)

Roosevelt Room

The goal of CBE is to better prepare new nurse graduates to fully meet expectations for practice. Successfully making the transition to CBE requires vision, commitment, and leadership. In this interactive session, presenters will discuss the fundamental principles of CBE and their alignment with the Essentials competencies, as well as the process of backward design used to guide curriculum change. As a special focus, AACN's work to develop Progression Indicators (PIs) or expected learner behaviors will be introduced as a critical component in assessing student learning. Your feedback on the PIs will be invaluable as we collect feedback on these indicators. Come ready to share details about your challenges and successes.

Speakers: Jacquelyn McMillian-Bohler, PhD, APRN, Director, Institute for Educational Excellence, School of Nursing, Duke University and Charla Long, JD, President, Competency-Based Education Network (C-BEN)

Moderator: Bim Akintade, PhD, APRN, Dean, East Carolina University

Saturday, March 29

Preceptorship: Enhancing the Experience

Grand Ballroom I

A significant shortage of expert clinical preceptors and adequate preceptor training are barriers to strengthening the nursing workforce. While clinical nursing and teaching are distinct practices, skilled preceptors in both areas are crucial. Join this panel discussion to explore factors influencing clinical preceptorship, learn about innovative models, and examine legislative initiatives and strategies for policy impact.

Speakers: Shannon Idzik, PhD, APRN, Professor, Associate Dean, School of Nursing, University of Maryland Baltimore, and President, National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, Kristine L'Ecuyer, PhD, RN, Interim Dean and Associate Professor, School of Nursing, St. Louis University, and Lachel Story, PhD, RN, Dean, College of Nursing, University of Southern Mississippi

2:00-2:30 p.m.

Networking with Peers & Exhibitors

Kennedy Ballroom

Enjoy refreshments and light snacks in the Exhibitor Showcase.

2:30-3:30 p.m.

Emerging Solutions/Discussion Forums*

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4:00-5:15 p.m.

Welcome and Rounds with AACN Leadership*

Grand Ballroom

Available on demand

Join AACN leadership for updates on the association's priorities, strategic initiatives, and new developments. AACN Board Chair Jean Giddens and President/CEO Deborah Trautman provide an overview of the association's work to transform academic nursing and serve our members. Ask questions and learn more about how these initiatives can impact and elevate your school of nursing.

*Speakers: **Jean Giddens**, PhD, RN, Chair, AACN Board of Directors, and Dean and Professor, School of Nursing, University of Kansas and **Deborah Trautman**, PhD, RN, President and Chief Executive Officer, American Association of Colleges of Nursing*

5:30-6:15 p.m.

New Member Orientation and Wine&Cheese Social

Roosevelt Room

Hosted by AACN's Board of Directors and Membership Committee

6:30 p.m.

Optional Networking Dinners

A great opportunity for you to connect with other participants and expand your network while enjoying the local cuisine! Simply choose from our pre-selected restaurants posted at the registration desk and sign-up. Participants are responsible for their own tabs and share transportation costs (if any).

The dinners are scheduled for 6:30 p.m. – participants meet at 6:15 p.m. in the hotel lobby.

6:45 p.m.

Capital Walk-and-Talk with AACN President and CEO

Join AACN President/CEO Deb Trautman and get in your daily exercise before the day ends!

The group departs promptly at 6:45 p.m. from the hotel entrance. See you there!

Sunday, March 30

6:30-7:30 a.m.

Running and Walking Groups

Meet with other early risers at the hotel entrance on Pennsylvania Avenue for a 30-minute run or 60-minute morning walk.

7:30 a.m.-6:15 p.m.

Registration Open

Roosevelt Foyer

7:30-9:00 a.m.

Light Continental Breakfast

Ballroom Foyer

8:00-9:00 a.m.

Coffee & Conversations*

- **Deans of Minority Serving Nursing Schools** *Decatur*
This session explores opportunities and challenges of Deans of nursing schools with high enrollment of students of color.
- **Deans Leadership Showcase** *Roosevelt Room*
Join your colleagues for a dynamic session focused on emerging issues and new approaches to executive leadership. Graduates of AACN's Advancing Academic Leadership for New Deans program will present their final projects, which focus on addressing challenges and opportunities of interest to new and experienced deans. Come for the conversation, the inspiration, and a lively exchange of ideas. Speakers: *Hyochol "Brian" Ahn, PhD, APRN, Dean, College of Nursing, University of Arizona, Tera Kirkman, EdD. RN, Dean, College of Nursing and Health Professions, University of North Alabama, Jorge Valdes, PhD, DNP, APRN, Dean, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Florida International University, and Cindy Weston, DNP, APRN, Dean, College of Nursing, University of North Texas Health Science Center*
- **Exploring Volunteer Opportunities and Engagement at AACN** *Latrobe*
Join AACN's Board Chair-Elect and members of the Governance Committee to explore opportunities for member engagement with AACN.

8:00-9:00 a.m.

Solution Circles

Join industry experts to consider strategies for addressing current challenges in academic nursing. In a collaborative and educational format, vendors will engage in interactive discussions to foster peer-to-peer dialogue and share new and innovative solutions.

AACN has not been involved with the planning of the content for the Solution Circles, nor does it endorse presented products or services. Provided content is the sole responsibility of the presenting sponsor.

Empowering Excellence: Socializing Nursing Faculty and Supporting Academic Leaders for Program Success *Grand Ballroom*

Sponsored and presented by Wolters Kluwer

Providing professional development to socialize new and continuing nursing faculty and support academic leaders can be challenging and costly. This session will focus on a combination of strategies to utilize resources that enhance faculty and leadership success and retention from onboarding to retirement.

Sunday, March 30

Resources for Supporting APRN Students and Faculty

The Colonnade (Lobby Level)

Sponsored and presented by the American Nurses Credentialing Center

Preparing Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) students for successful entry into practice requires a comprehensive approach that supports both students and faculty. Nursing leaders and educators play a critical role in equipping students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed to navigate the final steps before licensure and certification. However, test-taking anxiety remains a significant barrier for many students. The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) has developed innovative resources designed to support faculty and students. We include opportunities to alleviate test-related stress and enhance student readiness. Additionally, faculty members are supported through ANCC Faculty Outreach toolkits, personalized lecture series and mentorship opportunities.

Emotional Intelligence: 3 Steps to Effective Student Development

Culpeper

Sponsored and presented by SPIN- Learning

This session will review a 3-step process to enhance emotional intelligence growth among nursing students through baseline measurement and structured integration.

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Leadership Plenary*

Harnessing the Collective Power of We: Building Academic-Practice Partnerships

Grand Ballroom

Join *Dr. Guy David*, Professor at The Wharton School and the Perelman School of Medicine, alongside panelists from academia and practice, for a presentation and discussion on how we can unite as a profession to advance shared goals, lead innovation, and maintain excellence in both healthcare and higher education.

Speakers: Angela Clark, PhD, RN, President, Barnes-Jewish College Goldfarb School of Nursing; Guy David, PhD, Professor of Health Care Management, Professor of Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Perelman School of Medicine, Chair, Health Care Management Department, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; and, Peggy Norton-Rosko, Senior Vice President, System Chief Nurse Executive, University of Maryland Medical System

Moderator: Susan Bakewell Sachs, PhD, RN, Vice President for Nursing Affairs, Professor, and Dean at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) School of Nursing

10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Like-Schools Focused Discussions*

Join colleagues and collaborate on vital topics important to your institution.

- **Small/Liberal Arts Colleges**

Roosevelt Room

Co-Facilitators: Diane Shea, Emmanuel College and Santhiny Rajamohan, University of Northwestern St. Paul

- **Private Colleges/Universities**

Grand Ballroom I

Co-Facilitators: Katherine Gregory, Boston College and Saran Hollier, University of Detroit Mercy

- **Public Colleges/Universities**

Grand Ballroom II

Co-Facilitators: Debra Barksdale, University of North Carolina Greensboro and Joseph Tacy, Lamar University

- **Academic Health Centers**

The Colonnade (Lobby Level)

Co-Facilitators: Linda McCauley, Emory University and Marla De Jong, The University of Utah

Sunday, March 30

12:00-7:00 p.m.

Exhibitor Showcase Open

Kennedy Ballroom

12:15-2:00 p.m.

Lunch (on your own)

12:45-1:45 p.m.

NursingCAS Luncheon

The Colonnade (Lobby Level)

A Demonstration of AACN's Student Application and Admissions Management Portal

Discover NursingCAS, AACN's free student application service that provides member colleges with an online platform to efficiently manage all aspects of the admission process. Using this service, schools are able to streamline their recruitment operations, gain access to powerful enrollment management software, expand their customer service capacity, and reach a national applicant pool. Learn why nearly 300 colleges of nursing used NursingCAS during the last enrollment cycle to process more than 115,000 nursing school applications.

Pre-Registration required. Limited seating.

12:45-1:45 p.m.

Solution Circle

Roosevelt Room

Nursing Courseware for the TikTok Generation

Sponsored and presented by UWorld Nursing

As nursing programs expand to meet the growing demand for qualified nurses, administrators are facing new challenges: ensuring program scalability, aligning with updated accreditation standards, and providing flexible, high-quality resources in a budget-conscious way. Join us for an introduction to UWorld's modular, course-level resources, designed specifically to support nursing program goals in an increasingly dynamic educational landscape. In this session, you'll discover how UWorld's digital-first, topic-based learning modules engage today's students, support active learning, and seamlessly fit into diverse course formats—whether online, hybrid, or in-person.

2:00-3:00 p.m.

Keynote Plenary*

Grand Ballroom

A New Era For Higher Education?

Available on demand

Dr. Ted Mitchell, President of the American Council on Education (ACE), will present a compelling session on the current state of higher education, addressing the most critical and pressing challenges in today's environment. ACE serves as the major coordinating body for the nation's colleges and universities, working closely with Congress, the executive branch, and the private sector to develop policies and innovative practices that support the country's postsecondary learners.

Speaker: Ted Mitchell, PhD, President, American Council on Education

3:00-3:30 p.m.

Networking with Peers & Exhibitors

Kennedy Ballroom & Foyer

Sunday, March 30

3:30-4:30 p.m.

Leadership Plenary*

Grand Ballroom

Shaping the Future: Nursing Leadership in Evidence and Policy

Available on demand

Nursing leaders are uniquely positioned to transform healthcare by bridging evidence, policy, and practice. In this session, *Dr. Aaron E. Carroll*, President and CEO of AcademyHealth, will outline his vision for advancing health services research and highlight the pivotal role nursing can play in driving innovation and real-world impact. Practical insights will be shared on how academic nursing can lead the charge in translating evidence into action, navigating change with creativity, and shaping the future of healthcare.

Speaker: Aaron E. Carroll, MD, MS, President & CEO of AcademyHealth

4:30-5:00 p.m.

Networking with Peers & Exhibitors

Kennedy Ballroom & Foyer

5:00-6:00 p.m.

Geraldine “Polly” Bednash Lectureship Award*

Grand Ballroom

Available on demand

Dr. Kathleen Reeves, President and CEO of The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, is the 2025 recipient of the Geraldine “Polly” Bednash Lectureship Award. An accomplished leader with a passion for optimizing interprofessional alliances, Dr. Reeves will share insights gained while leading a national nonprofit organization dedicated to championing humanism in healthcare and discuss opportunities for incorporating the human connection into nursing education and healthcare.

Speaker: Kathleen Reeves, MD, President and CEO, The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

6:00-7:00 p.m.

Deans Networking Reception

Kennedy Ballroom

Join us for our Networking Reception at the end the day to enjoy light fare and mingling with friends and colleagues.

Monday, March 31

6:30-7:30 a.m.

Running and Walking Groups

Meet with other early risers at the hotel entrance for a 30-minute run or 60-minute morning walk.

6:30-11:30 a.m.

Registration Open

Roosevelt Foyer

6:30-8:30 a.m.

Light Continental Breakfast

Ballroom Foyer

7:00-8:15 a.m.

Tips and Tools for Effective Capitol Hill Visits

Grand Ballroom & Kennedy Ballroom

Effective messaging is the essence of successful advocacy on Capitol Hill! Join State Grassroots Liaisons and AACN’s Government Affairs Committee for practical information, insights and guidance in preparation for your Monday afternoon meeting with Members of Congress. Attendees will be seated with their state delegations.

Facilitated by AACN Government Affairs Staff and Prime Advocacy Staff

Monday, March 31

7:30-8:30 a.m.

Peer-to-Peer Dialogue: Issues of the Day

Culpeper

Join your colleagues to discuss recent hot topics impacting academic nursing. Come share your insights while listening to and learning from your peers.

9:00-10:00 a.m.

Leadership Plenary

Grand Ballroom

Using Technology to Transform Healthcare and Higher Education: Insights from the Experts

Available on demand

Join us for an enlightening and engaging conversation with two thought leaders who will explore how to leverage technology to unlock innovation and advance excellence in nursing education. An accomplished roboticist, NASA scientist, and scholar, Dr. Ayanna Howard will share her visionary insights on achieving results at the intersection of technology, healthcare, and education. Formerly the Chief Nursing Officer at Microsoft, Molly McCarthy will lead an enriching armchair discussion on the power of uniting technology, practice, and patient engagement to improve care delivery, safety, and outcomes. Discover lessons learned that can be applied at your school of nursing and with practice partners.

Speaker: Ayanna Howard, PhD, Monte Ahuja Endowed Dean of the College of Engineering at The Ohio State University and Molly McCarthy, MBA, RN, former Chief Nurse Officer, Microsoft, and upcoming Technology Advisor and Howley Family Visiting Professor of Healthcare at the School of Nursing, Villanova University

10:00-10:30 a.m.

Networking with Peers

Grand Ballroom Foyer

10:30-11:30 a.m.

AACN Business Meeting

Grand Ballroom

Presiding: Jean Giddens, PhD, RN, Chair, AACN Board of Directors, and Dean and Professor, School of Nursing, University of Kansas

The AACN Business Meeting is only open to member deans/directors, emeritus and honorary members, and invited prospective member deans/directors.

1:00-5:00 p.m.

Capitol Hill Visits

Bus service to Capitol Hill begins at Noon from the Fairmont (M St. Entrance) with continuous loops until 4:30 p.m. As a reminder, students attending AACN's Student Policy Summit will be in attendance for Hill Day and are encouraged to travel with their Dean to Capitol Hill. To ensure you are registered for Hill Day and can join your students on these visits, please contact Rachel Minahan at rminiahan@aacnnursing.org.

1:00-4:30 p.m.

Caucus and Connect

Location: 902 Hart Senate Office Building

AACN Deans, Directors, and students are invited to "Caucus and Connect" in-between their Capitol Hill visits to sit and reflect, enjoy light refreshments and snacks, and strategize prior to the next Hill Visit.

5:00-6:30 p.m.

AACN Congressional Reception

Last Bus leaves Hill at 6:45 p.m.

Location: Rayburn Foyer, Rayburn House Office Building

AACN Deans, Directors and Students will be able to celebrate a productive and impactful day on Capitol Hill with members of Congress and their staff. Heavy Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

PROGRAM ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Program Planning Committee

Donna Havens, PhD, Villanova University (*Chair*)

Valerie Howard, EdD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Versie Johnson-Mallard, Kent State University

Cynthia Rubenstein, Randolph-Macon College

Rhoberta Haley, PhD, Pacific Lutheran University (*Board Liaison*)

AACN GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS:

