

2008



Advancing
Higher Education
in *Nursing*

Highlights of the Year

July 2007

AACN conducts its annual survey of faculty vacancies in baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs. Results show a national faculty vacancy rate of 8.8 percent.

August 2007

AACN awards funding to eight new scholars through The California Endowment-AACN Minority Nurse Faculty Scholarship program.

September 2007

Johnson & Johnson's Campaign for Nursing's Future joins with AACN to create the Minority Nurse Faculty Scholars program.

The Task Force on the Revision of the Baccalaureate Essentials hosts its first regional meeting in San Diego.

October 2007

The AACN Board of Directors creates the Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC) to oversee the administration of the CNL certification examination.

AACN recognizes the University HealthSystem Consortium with the 2007 BSN Champion Award.

November 2007

AACN's annual Baccalaureate Education Conference draws hundreds of nurse faculty to New Orleans for a program titled *Striving for Quality in Baccalaureate Nursing Education*.

December 2007

The Archstone Foundation of Long Beach, CA provides \$900,000 in new funding to the ELNEC project to fund Geriatric and Critical Care courses.

January 2008

The CNL Partnership Conference is held in Tucson with hundreds of education and practice partners sharing success stories and positive outcomes associated with CNLs in practice.

February 2008

AACN releases the published reports from its Fall 2007 survey, which show across-the-board enrollment increases, including entry-level BSN programs (+5.4%); RN-to-baccalaureate programs (+11.5%); master's programs (+11.7%); and research-focused doctoral programs (+0.9%).

March 2008

AACN members endorse the position statement on *The Preferred Vision of the Professoriate in Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs*.

The AACN Board of Directors releases the *Statement in Support of Geriatric Nursing Education*, which outlines the association's long-term commitment to this important work.

April 2008

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) joins with AACN to launch the groundbreaking New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program - a \$15 million, three-year initiative.

AACN hosts a Military Nursing Shortage Briefing on Capitol Hill featuring nurse leaders from the Army, Air Force, and Navy Nurse Corps.

May 2008

In honor of National Nurses Week, AACN offers members the chance to post free faculty vacancy announcements on our Web-based Faculty Career Link. More than 200 positions are advertised.

June 2008

In Chicago, the ELNEC project holds its 50th national conference and marks the occasion with a Celebration Gala for all current ELNEC trainers.

AACN serves as a program advisor and facilitator for the National Summit on the Nursing Shortage and Educational Capacity hosted by RWJF, HRSA, and the Department of Labor.

Our Members

In 1969, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing was established to answer the need for an organization dedicated exclusively to furthering nursing education in America's universities and four-year colleges. AACN represents schools of nursing at 630 public and private higher education institutions.

Our Mission

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing is the national voice for baccalaureate and graduate-degree nursing education. A unique asset for the nation, AACN serves the public interest by providing standards and resources, and by fostering innovation to advance professional nursing education, research, and practice.

Our Vision for AACN

By 2020, as a driving force for quality health care, AACN will leverage member schools in meeting the demand for innovation and leadership in nursing education, research, and practice.

Our Vision for the Profession

In 2020, highly educated and diverse nursing professionals will lead the delivery of quality health care and the generation of new knowledge to improve health and the delivery of care services.

This report highlights the association's FY 2008 initiatives to help member schools meet the nation's demand for innovative and expanded nursing care.



Letter from the President and CEO/Executive Director



From Strategy to Synergy

The AACN Board of Directors completed a strategic planning process this past spring, which resulted in the development of goals and objectives that will guide the organization for the next three years. The challenge facing the Board involved distilling the priorities for an organization whose influence and reach extends into many arenas. After much debate and consensus-building, the Board agreed to advance the following strategic goals through FY 2011:

- *Goal 1:* Provide strategic leadership that advances professional nursing education, research, and practice
- *Goal 2:* Develop faculty and other academic leaders to meet the challenges of changing healthcare and higher education environments
- *Goal 3:* Leverage AACN's policy and programmatic leadership on behalf of the profession and discipline

AACN is well positioned to achieve these goals, and if this past year is any indication, we are already on the path to achieving success. For example:

- The Task Force on the Revision of the *Essentials of Baccalaureate Nursing Education* completed its charge to re-envision the end-of-program competencies for all graduates of baccalaureate nursing programs. (Goal 1)
- AACN members endorsed the position statement on *The Preferred Vision of the Professoriate in Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs*, which includes recommendations on the desired education level and role responsibilities for current and future faculty. (Goal 2)
- New scholarship programs launched by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future will help to bring more under-represented groups into nursing and change the face of the profession. (Goal 3)

The key to realizing these accomplishments and our future goals rests with AACN's ability to spark collaboration and incite collective action among stakeholders. Advancing strategy without synergy is a losing proposition. Together, we can effect positive change that will benefit individual institutions and the nursing profession for years to come. We invite all member deans and faculty to take full advantage of membership in AACN, and join with us as we move forward to champion the goals of professional nursing education, research, and practice.

C. Fay Raines, PhD, RN
President

Geraldine "Polly" Bednash, PhD, RN, FAAN
Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director

Annual State of the Schools

Findings published in the 2008 State of the Schools are based on responses from 645 (86.0 percent) of the nation’s nursing schools with baccalaureate and graduate programs that were surveyed in fall 2007. Data reflect actual counts; projections are not used.

Entry-Level Baccalaureate Enrollments Increase by 5.4 Percent

Enrollments in entry-level baccalaureate programs in nursing rose by 5.4 percent in fall 2007 over the previous year, marking the seventh consecutive year of enrollment increases. This upward trend follows six years of steady enrollment declines from 1995 to 2000 (Figure 1).

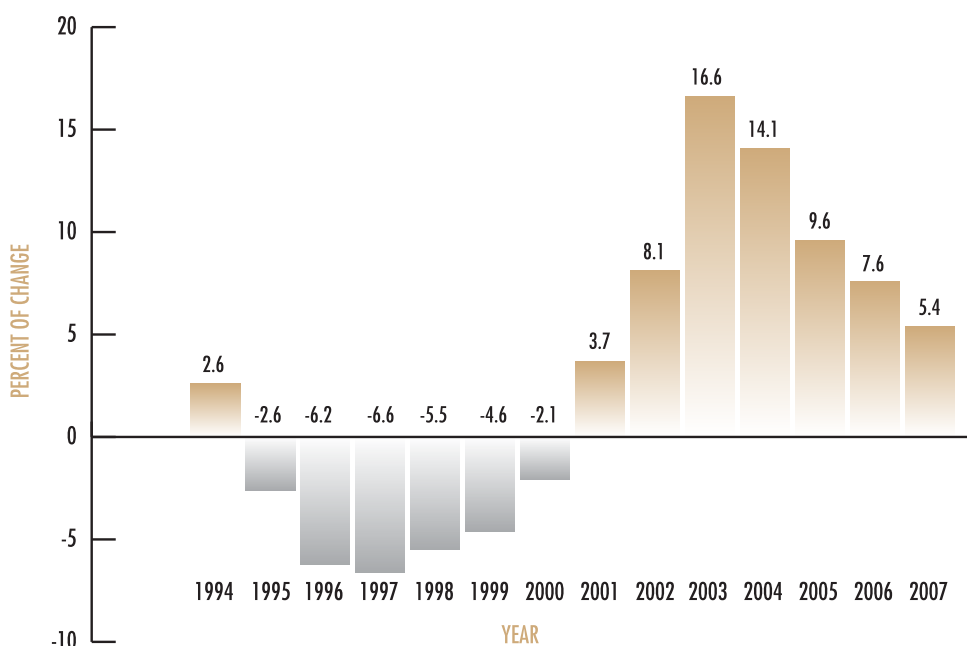
AACN determines enrollment trends by comparing data from the same schools reporting in both 2006 and 2007. Data show that nursing school enrollments are up in all regions of the United States with the greatest increase found in the Western states, where enrollments in entry-level baccalaureate programs rose by 6.3 percent. Increases also were realized in the Midwest, North Atlantic, and South where enrollments rose by 6.2 percent, 5.0 percent, and 4.7 percent, respectively. The survey found that total

enrollment in entry-level baccalaureate programs in nursing was 141,735, up from 133,578 in 2006 (Figure 2). Looking back five years, enrollment in these programs has increased considerably by 40.2 percent.

Enrollments Up in RN-to-Baccalaureate Programs

Given the calls for a better educated nurse workforce, AACN was pleased to see an increase in the number of registered nurses (RNs) pursuing baccalaureate level education. RN-to-Baccalaureate programs are specifically designed to enable nurses prepared with a diploma or associate’s degree to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree and enhance their clinical skills. From 2006 to 2007, enrollments in RN-to-Baccalaureate programs increased by 11.5 percent or 5,188 students, which makes this the fifth year of enrollment increase in these degree completion programs.

FIGURE 1: PERCENT CHANGE IN ENROLLMENTS IN ENTRY-LEVEL BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAMS: 1994-2007



SOURCE: American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Research and Data Center, 1994-2007. AACN is not responsible for reporting errors by respondent institutions.

According to AACN data, there are currently 636 RN-to-Baccalaureate and 153 RN-to-Master's Degree programs offered at nursing schools nationwide. To facilitate movement to the baccalaureate level, hundreds of individual and statewide articulation agreements are already in place between community colleges and BSN programs. AACN data show that more than 200 BSN completion programs are offered completely online or in a hybrid format, with 50 percent of classes offered via distance education.

Interest Runs High in Accelerated Programs

For the fifth year, AACN's annual survey captured data related to accelerated nursing programs, which are designed to transition adults with baccalaureate and graduate degrees in other fields into nursing. Accelerated baccalaureate programs, which may be completed in 12-18 months, provide the fastest route to licensure as an RN for individuals with a prior degree. These intense programs have high admission standards, require continuous study without session breaks, and incorporate the same number of clinical hours as traditional programs.

Last year, 8 new accelerated baccalaureate programs were launched, bringing the total number of programs nationwide to 205. This total represents a 95.2 percent increase since fall 2002 when 105 accelerated BSN programs existed. AACN's latest survey found that 9,938 students were enrolled in accelerated baccalaureate programs while another 5,881 students graduated from these programs last year as entry-level clinicians.

Growth in DNP, CNL, and BSN-to-Doctoral Programs

The national movement to the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree is building momentum based on the number of new programs now opening nationwide. With only 20 DNP programs enrolling students in 2006, the number has jumped considerably to 53 programs in 2007. Survey respondents report that an additional 63 DNP programs are also under development. For the first time this year, AACN collected survey data on Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) programs and found that 1,270 students were enrolled in 70 CNL programs. AACN also noted growth in "fast-track" Baccalaureate-to-Doctoral programs with the number increasing from 58 in 2006 to 63 in 2007. Ten additional "fast-track" programs are taking shape at U.S. nursing schools.

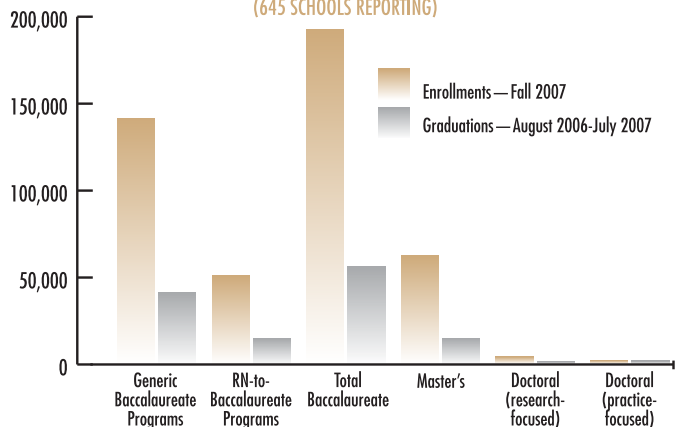
Graduate Program Enrollments

The latest AACN survey found that both enrollments and graduations increased in master's and doctoral degree nursing programs last year. Enrollments in master's degree programs rose 11.7 percent, bringing the total student population to 62,451. In research-focused doctoral programs, enrollments increased by 0.9 percent (34 students) with the total student population at 3,982. The number of graduates from master's degree and doctoral programs increased by 12.3 percent (1,629 students) and 21.5 percent (94 students), respectively. With the emergence of the DNP, AACN has seen significant growth in these programs as well with 1,874 students now enrolled (Figure 2).

Qualified Students Turned Away

Though interest in baccalaureate and graduate nursing education programs is high, not all qualified applications are being accepted at four-year colleges and universities. In fact, AACN's survey found that 40,285 qualified applications were not accepted at schools of nursing last year due primarily to a shortage of faculty and resource constraints. Within this total, applications turned away include 36,400 students from entry-level baccalaureate programs; 524 from RN-to-Baccalaureate programs; 3,048 from master's programs; and 313 from research-focused doctoral programs (Figure 3).

FIGURE 2: YEAR AT A GLANCE: ENROLLMENTS AND GRADUATIONS IN NURSING PROGRAMS (645 SCHOOLS REPORTING)



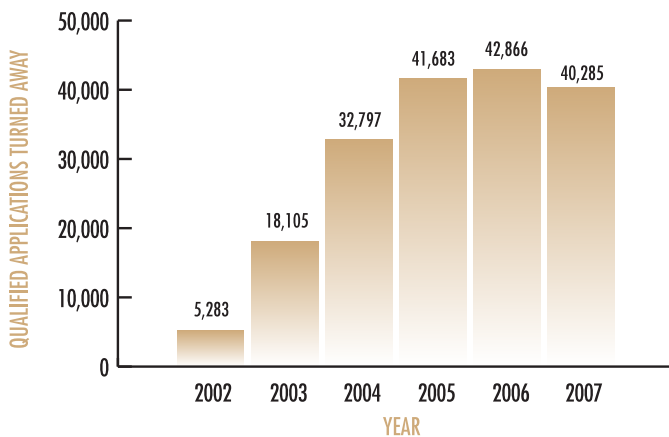
SOURCE: American Association of Colleges of Nursing. 2007-2008 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing.

The top reasons reported by nursing schools for not accepting all qualified students into entry-level baccalaureate programs: insufficient faculty (71.4 percent), insufficient clinical teaching sites (59.3 percent), and not enough classroom space (54.4 percent). In the 2007-2008 academic year, 177,370 completed applications for entry-level baccalaureate programs were received at schools of nursing with 115,991 meeting admission criteria and 78,647 applications accepted. The application acceptance rate was 44.3 percent.

Minority Representation in Nursing Programs Remains Strong

Representation of racial/ethnic minority groups in nursing programs remained strong in fall 2007 with minority group members comprising 25.7 percent of the undergraduate student population (see Figure 4). Nursing's academic leaders recognize the need to diversify the nursing student population and are working to identify student and faculty recruitment strategies, encourage minority leadership development, and advocate for programs that remove barriers to a nursing education and faculty careers.

FIGURE 3: QUALIFIED APPLICANTS TURNED AWAY FROM BACCALAUREATE & GRADUATE NURSING PROGRAMS: 2002-2007



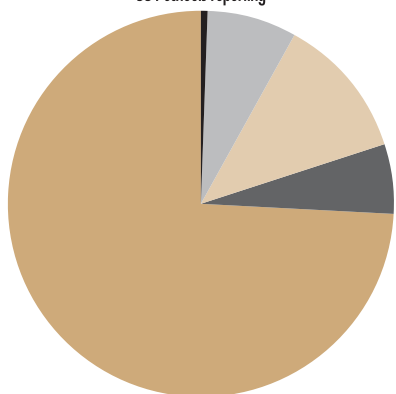
SOURCE: American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Research and Data Center, 2002-2007. AACN is not responsible for reporting errors by respondent institutions.

Men continue to be underrepresented in nursing schools with only 10.1 percent of students in baccalaureate programs being male. In graduate programs, 8.9 percent of master's degree students, 6.9 percent of students enrolled in research-focused doctorates, and 8.9 percent of students enrolled in practice-focused doctorates are male.

FIGURE 4: RACIAL/ETHNIC DIVERSITY IN NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS, FALL 2007

Enrollment in Entry-Level Baccalaureate Programs

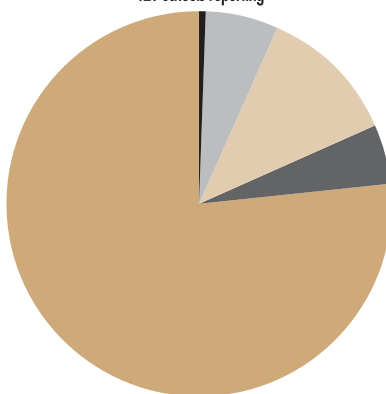
551 schools reporting



American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.7%
Asian/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	7.6%
Black or African-American	11.8%
Hispanic or Latino	5.8%
White	74.0%

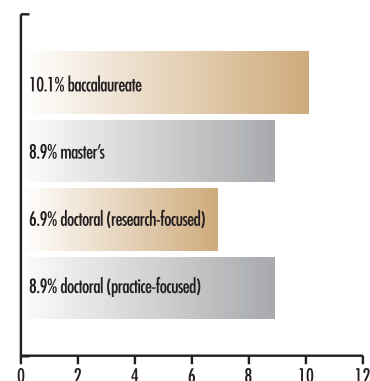
Enrollment in Master's Programs

429 schools reporting



American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.6%
Asian/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	6.2%
Black or African-American	11.8%
Hispanic or Latino	4.8%
White	76.6%

Men Enrolled in Nursing Programs



SOURCE: American Association of Colleges of Nursing. 2007-2008 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing.

Nursing Faculty Population

Nursing schools nationwide are struggling to fill faculty positions in an effort to accommodate all qualified students. In fall 2007, the total full-time faculty population in baccalaureate and higher degree programs reached 13,311 (629 schools reporting). As a group, nursing faculty are rapidly aging. Specifically, the average age of doctorally-prepared faculty by rank was 59.1 years for professors, 56.1 years for associate professors, and 51.7 years for assistant professors.

The survey found that the majority of nursing faculty are white women. Only 11.5 percent of full-time faculty come from racial/ethnic minority groups, and only 5.7 percent are male. In terms of educational preparation, 45.1 percent of nursing school faculty are doctorally prepared with 28.4 percent holding nursing doctorates, and 16.7 percent holding doctorates in related disciplines.

AACN Data Collection

AACN's 27th Annual Survey of Institutions with Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Nursing Programs is conducted each year by the association's Research Center. Information from the survey forms the basis for the nation's premier database on trends in enrollments and graduations, student and faculty demographics, and faculty and deans' salaries. Complete survey results were compiled in three separate reports:

- *2007-2008 Enrollment and Graduations in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing*
- *2007-2008 Salaries of Instructional and Administrative Nursing Faculty in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing*
- *2007-2008 Salaries of Deans in Baccalaureate and Graduate Programs in Nursing*

To order the most current reports, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/IDS/datarep.htm>.



Clinical Nurse Leader

AACN is advancing the Clinical Nurse LeaderSM (CNL[®]) role to improve the quality of patient care and to better prepare nurses to thrive in the healthcare system. The CNL is a master's prepared advanced generalist who provides clinical leadership at the point of care. In practice, the CNL oversees the care coordination for patients, provides risk assessment and quality improvement strategies, and implements evidence-based practice.

Efforts are underway on many fronts to expand the **integration of the CNL role in the U.S. health system**. The CNL Steering Committee hosted a national CNL partnership meeting in January 2008, which brought faculty, practicing CNLs, chief nursing officers (CNOs), and deans of nursing together to discuss the emergence of the CNL role and evaluate its impact. Data generated at clinical sites have provided clear evidence that the CNL role is having a dramatic impact on the quality of care provided and is resulting in significant cost savings. Additionally, a new video has been produced by the Department of Veterans Affairs Nursing Office, which highlights the benefits and value of this innovation. In April 2008, AACN and the CNL Steering Committee convened a group of chief nursing officers and leaders in nursing executive roles to discuss the potential to create a national CNO Network on Innovation to further support the integration of the CNL role. A convening of the CNL Staff RN Advisory Group was planned for August 2008.

In October 2007, the AACN Board of Directors moved to establish the **Commission on Nurse Certification (CNC)**, a new credentialing body to oversee CNL certification. Composed of representatives from practice, academia, and the public, this new authority is leading the effort to certify graduates of master's level nursing programs that prepare advanced generalists for practice across a variety of healthcare settings. Chaired by Dr. Jeri Milstead from the University of Toledo, the CNC oversees all aspects of its certification functions including the establishment of bylaws, policies, operating rules and procedures, and examinations; implementation of its rules and procedures; and allocation of budget and expenditures.

Through June 2008, the **CNL Certification Examination** has been administered in five separate



testing periods, and nearly 450 CNLs are now certified. The purpose of the exam is to create a unique credential for graduates of master's and post-master's CNL programs. The exam was piloted in November 2006-January 2007 at 12 member institutions offering the CNL degree, and the first regular administration of the exam took place April-May 2007 with 20 academic institutions serving as testing sites. For more information on the certification process, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/CNC>.

The CNL role is being implemented currently through **education and practice partnerships** involving more than 190 practice settings and almost 100 nursing schools nationwide. More than 70 advanced generalist CNL programs are now enrolling students, and new programs are under development. AACN is inviting new schools and practice sites to join this national effort and further engage the CNL in healthcare delivery.

To find out more about the latest developments related to the Clinical Nurse Leader and how your institution can engage in this work, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl>.

Quality Initiatives

AACN is moving forward on several fronts with initiatives to improve the quality of nursing care by re-envisioning traditional nursing roles, strengthening nursing education programs, and striving to create a more highly educated nursing workforce. This focus on quality comes in response to calls from the Institute of Medicine, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and other authorities who cite the need to address patient safety issues and transform care delivery.

In March 2008, AACN members voted to endorse a new position statement—*The Preferred Vision of the Professoriate in Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs*—which addresses the desired education level and role responsibilities for faculty teaching in professional nursing programs. In January 2007, the AACN Board developed a set of recommendations for full- and part-time nurse faculty, clinical instructors, and preceptors. The Board moved to create this document in response to the national conversation about the appropriate utilization and educational preparation of nurse educators. After receiving feedback from members, the Board transitioned the document into a position statement, which was approved by a majority of the AACN members present at the 2008 Spring Meeting. This statement may be accessed online at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Publications/positions>.

Chaired by Dr. Patricia Martin from Wright State University, the **Task Force on the Revision of**

the Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice moved forward with its work this year to update the *Essentials* through a national consensus-building process. This work included hosting five regional meetings in San Diego, Savannah, Tucson, Nashville, and Boston from September 2007 through April 2008 to give stakeholders the opportunity to review and provide feedback on the draft document. AACN also worked directly with our colleagues at the American Organization of Nurse Executives to ensure that leaders from the practice arena provided comments on this important work. The final draft went forward to the AACN Board of Directors in July 2008 with a vote by the membership scheduled for October 2008.

In March 2008, AACN and the American Nurses Association co-hosted the final national stakeholder meeting regarding the *Consensus Model for APRN Regulation: Licensure, Accreditation, Certification and Education*. Representatives of approximately 40 organizations discussed the proposed consensus document, which defines advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) practice, describes the APRN regulatory model, identifies the titles to be used, defines specialty, describes the emergence of new roles and population foci, and presents strategies for implementation. This content is discussed in the context of the four APRN roles: certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), certified nurse-midwife (CNM), clinical nurse specialist (CNS), and certified nurse practitioner (CNP). The culmination of a four-year effort, this model for APRN regulation is the product of collaborative work by the Advanced Practice Nursing Consensus Work Group facilitated by AACN and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing APRN Committee.



AACN and the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC) continued its work this year to evaluate and expand the national **Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Program**. Graduates of this one-year program can expect to develop effective decision-making abilities related to clinical judgment and performance; gain clinical autonomy at the point of patient care; be able to incorporate research-based evidence into their practices to advance safe, high-quality nursing; formulate individual development plans for career progression; and strengthen their commitment to nursing as a career choice. To date, more than 7,500 nurses have completed this program, and residency sites have seen positive outcomes, including increased competence and leadership skills among first-year RNs and dramatically lower new nurse turnover rates. In February 2008, the project's research and evaluation consultant, Dr. Mary Lynn, reported that the resident turnover rate had declined for the fourth year to 5.7 percent, which is significantly lower than the national average. Additionally, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is collaborating with AACN and the UHC to develop an accreditation process to ensure that these programs are sophisticated, high quality, and innovative in providing opportunities to develop more skilled clinicians (see page 16).

In recognition of their support for baccalaureate prepared nurses, the AACN Board of Directors presented the **BSN Champion Award** to UHC representatives at the 2007 Fall Semiannual Meeting. This honor was created to recognize organizations and practice settings that place a high value on registered nurses prepared in Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree programs. The UHC, an alliance of 97 academic health centers and 153 affiliated hospitals, was selected for their commitment to supporting BSN-prepared nurses and furthering the professional development of these RNs through the joint UHC-AACN residency program and other means.

In September 2007 and June 2008, AACN joined with the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) to hold invitational meetings to develop a faculty tool kit to help nursing students achieve **competency in genetics and genomics**. In 2005, AACN endorsed the *Essential Nursing Competencies and Curricula Guidelines for Genetics and Genomics*, a monograph prepared by a



Consensus Panel and NHGRI, which emphasizes the importance of integrating genetics content into nursing curricula. AACN has been asked to play a lead role in the national strategic planning process to implement the monograph's recommendations and embed the genetics competencies into the work underway to revise the *Baccalaureate Essentials*. Once the tool kit is finalized, AACN will promote this important resource to all schools of nursing.

AACN continued working to support nursing schools looking to transition their specialty programs from the master's to the **Doctor of Nursing Practice degree**. With the number of DNP programs increasing exponentially, staff consulted with dozens of institutions engaged in navigating the transition process at their academic institutions. In defense of the DNP, AACN sent a letter to the American Medical Association (AMA) in June 2008 in response to two potentially damaging resolutions before the AMA House of Delegates that oppose the DNP and the use of the title "Dr." by nurses. AACN registered its strong concerns that these resolutions would stall the national movement to produce more doctorally prepared nurses and weaken the good working relationships between many physicians and nurses. Though the DNP resolution passed, the resolution on the title of "Dr." was amended and no longer called for restricting the use of that title to one group of health professionals.

Enhancing Diversity in Nursing

Nursing's leaders recognize a strong connection between a diverse nursing workforce and the ability to provide quality, culturally competent patient care. AACN is taking decisive action to address this issue by launching scholarship programs to enhance diversity, developing cultural competency standards, and advocating for programs that remove barriers to faculty careers.

In April 2008, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation joined with AACN to launch the **RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program**. This program is designed to alleviate the nation's nursing shortage by dramatically expanding the pipeline of students from minority backgrounds in accelerated baccalaureate and master's nursing programs. Scholarships in the amount of \$10,000 each will be awarded to 1,500 entry-level nursing students over the next 3 years. Preference will be given to students from groups underrepresented in nursing or from a disadvantaged background. "The size and scope of this scholarship program is truly unprecedented in nursing," said AACN President Fay Raines. "We applaud the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for making this generous commitment to supporting professional nursing education programs and for taking steps toward alleviating this nation's shortage of registered nurses."

Now in its second year, **The California Endowment-AACN Nurse Faculty Scholarship** program awarded funding to a new cohort of graduate nursing students in August 2007, bringing the total number of Scholars to 17. This program provides financial support (\$18,000 scholarships), leadership development, and mentoring opportunities to students who commit to teaching in a California school of nursing after graduation. Eight scholarship winners were selected this year, including students from the University of California-Los Angeles, University of California-San Francisco, and University of San Diego. All Scholars are pursuing PhD in Nursing degrees.

In September 2007, the Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future joined with AACN to launch a new national scholarship program designed to increase the number of nurse faculty from ethnic minority backgrounds. Modeled

after AACN's program funded by The California Endowment, the **Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future-AACN Minority Nurse Faculty Scholarship** provides \$18,000 in financial assistance to underrepresented minority nursing students to facilitate the completion of graduate programs and diversify the nurse faculty population. The first awards were given in January 2008 to four PhD and one DNP student from Touro University (NV), University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, University of Pennsylvania, University of Rochester, and University of Virginia.

AACN's Cultural Competency Advisory Group completed its work this year on The California Endowment-funded project: ***Preparing a Culturally Competent Nursing Workforce***. Through this effort, AACN developed a set of cultural competencies for baccalaureate nursing students and a tool kit for faculty to incorporate this work into lectures and clinical practicums. With endorsement by the AACN Board of Directors, the AACN Task Force on the Revision of the Baccalaureate Essentials integrated these competencies into the new standards for baccalaureate nursing programs. To date, the final ***Cultural Competency in Baccalaureate Nursing Education*** document has been endorsed by many national organizations, including the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, American Nurses Association, American Psychiatric Nurses Association, Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations, and National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

For more details on all of AACN's work to enhance diversity and cultural competency, see the Nursing Diversity Resource Center found at www.aacn.nche.edu/Diversity.

Nurse Faculty Development

AACN is the recognized leader in providing faculty development opportunities and resources for nurse educators teaching in baccalaureate and graduate programs. AACN encourages professional growth and engagement in the organization through an extensive array of services, including conferences and regional courses; leadership development programs; funding announcements; scholarships and award programs; government advocacy resources; networking opportunities; and resources for new and future faculty.

More than 3,000 nurse educators attend AACN conferences each year (see page 15) making these offerings the preferred professional development option for faculty at member institutions. In August 2007, AACN welcomed 54 new Fellows to its competitive **Leadership for Academic Nursing Program**. Now in its sixth year, this program is designed to develop and enhance executive leadership skills of new and emerging administrators in baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs. This competitive, year-long program provides participants with a focused assessment experience, a range of content and case studies related to successful leadership, and the opportunity to establish networks with mentors and peers.

Over 220 nursing faculty attended AACN's second **Faculty Development Conference** in February 2008, which was aimed at helping nurses transition to faculty roles in baccalaureate and graduate programs. Reflecting the theme "Transforming Learning, Transforming People," sessions addressed issues of concern to the new faculty member, learner-centered teaching, creating an active learning environment, clinical teaching and evaluation, and academic career planning. A number of experienced faculty attended the conference as well, a testimony to the value of this content to their careers.

In July 2007, the AACN Board of Directors created the new **Innovations in Professional Nursing Education Award** to showcase creative and successful efforts to advance nursing education. This award recognizes the work of AACN member schools to re-envision traditional models for nursing education and lead programmatic change. In October 2007, the first award was presented to the University of Portland in recognition of the school's

groundbreaking work to develop the Dedicated Education Units and advance the CNL led by the late Terry Misener, former nursing dean at the University of Portland.

For more details on all of AACN's opportunities and services for nurse educators, visit the online Nurse Faculty Resource Center found at www.aacn.nche.edu/Faculty.

AACN Leadership Networks

To better engage all constituents in these quality initiatives, AACN is strengthening ties with nursing school staff and faculty by establishing seven leadership networks. Though AACN has always served the entire academic unit, the networks provide new opportunities for leadership development and serve as forums for participants to discuss issues as they relate to each area. With over 900 individuals now participating, the networks include:

- Business Officers of Nursing Schools
- Graduate Nursing Admissions Professionals
- Instructional Leadership
- Nursing Advancement Professionals
- Organizational Leadership
- Practice Leadership
- Research Leadership

For a listing of Steering Committee officers affiliated with each Leadership Network, see pages 28-29. For more information about the networks, visit the Networks tab on the AACN Web site: <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Networks>.

Government Advocacy

AACN actively works with Congress, federal agencies, and the larger nursing community to shape legislation that supports nursing education and research. This year, the association focused on increasing funding for programs designed to alleviate the nurse faculty shortage, expand enrollments in entry-level nursing programs, increase funding for graduate education, and advance support for nursing research.

AACN's Government Affairs Committee (GAC) and staff are engaged in advocacy efforts to increase funding levels for **Nursing Workforce Development Programs** (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act). Though federal funding for Title VIII programs had been level for the past three years, funding in FY 2008 was increased by more than \$6 million to \$156.5 million. This significant gain included funding increases for two programs that help address the shortage of nurse educators: the Advanced Education Nursing program, which received \$61.88 million, and the Nurse Faculty Loan Program, which received a \$7.68 million increase.

In March 2008, AACN immediate past president Jeanette Lancaster testified before the House Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee on **increasing Title VIII funding for FY 2009**. As the sole representative from nursing education, Dr. Lancaster requested \$200 million for Nursing Workforce Development programs, the funding level agreed upon by the nursing community and our House and

Senate champions. Noting the need to increase the nurse faculty population, she cited evidence collected by AACN regarding the important role Title VIII funding plays in assisting students acquiring graduate degrees. This data was published in a new advocacy brochure prepared by AACN this year, which is available on the web site.

On the legislative front, AACN worked with policymakers to develop **new legislation to enhance nursing education and research**. With more than a dozen AACN-supported bills introduced this year, staff advanced AACN's agenda through a wide variety of legislation, including the Nurse Education, Expansion and Development Act (H.R. 772 and S.446) and the Troops to Nurse Teachers Act of 2008 (S. 2705 and H.R. 5878). Staff also worked successfully with the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee and the House Education and Labor Committee to ensure that specific nursing-focused programs were included in the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

To enhance our advocacy efforts, AACN **hosted three events on Capitol Hill** this year to bring legislators together with member deans and other stakeholders. In October 2007 and March 2008, the GAC hosted a reception during the Spring Annual Meeting attended by six members of Congress, several House and Senate staff, and dozens of AACN member deans. During the October reception, AACN used this forum to recognize two nursing champions – Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) and Representative Lois Capps (D-CA) – with Honorary Associate membership in AACN. In April, AACN was invited to host a Military Nurse Shortage Briefing in the U.S. Capitol Building in collaboration with Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Barbara Mikulski. This event featured a distinguished panel of leaders from the Air Force, Army, and Navy Nurse Corps who presented their unique perspectives on the military nursing shortage and advanced possible solutions.

For the latest details on AACN's advocacy efforts including updated information on the current fiscal year's appropriations process, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Government>.

Representative Lois Capps (D-CA) with Dr. Harriet Feldman, dean of the Lienhard School of Nursing at Pace University



Geriatric Nursing

AACN's geriatric nursing education projects, proudly administered by the AACN and generously funded by The John A. Hartford Foundation, incorporate several complementary programs to improve nursing care for older adults through curriculum enhancement, faculty development, and scholarship opportunities.

"The AACN Board of Directors has made a long-term commitment to advancing geriatric nursing education in collaboration with The John A. Hartford Foundation and as part of the association's core activities. AACN is committed to sustaining this important work which promotes the health and well-being of older adults."

In recognition of AACN's long-standing commitment to enhancing geriatric nursing education, the AACN Board of Directors issued the *AACN Statement of Support for Geriatric Nursing Education* in March 2008, which included the above excerpt. This statement was presented to Dr. Corinne H. Rieder, executive director and treasurer of The John A. Hartford Foundation, who presented the annual Nursing Spectrum/Gannett Foundation Lecture at AACN's Spring Annual Meeting. Read the complete statement online at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/Hartford>.

On the programming front, the **Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium (GNEC)** continued in its second year to offer regional institutes for nurse faculty looking to enhance geriatric content in senior-level baccalaureate courses. This program provides nurse educators with the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to ensure that the "best geriatric nursing care practices" are included in baccalaureate curricula and subsequently in the care provided by new nurses. Using a "train-the-trainer" approach, nurse faculty attending the GNEC institutes are expected to serve as leaders and mentors by sharing their new expertise with colleagues. Both institutes held this year were oversubscribed with 140 attending the Atlanta institute in October 2007 and 137 attending the San Antonio institute in February 2008. Upcoming institutes are planned for San Diego (April 1-3, 2009) and Philadelphia (June 24-26, 2009).

In April 2008, the AACN Web site began showcasing the accomplishments of graduates from the *Creating Careers in Advanced Practice Nursing Program*. This program was launched in 2001 to increase



Dr. Corinne H. Rieder (center), executive director and treasurer of The John A. Hartford Foundation, received the Nursing Spectrum/Gannett Foundation Lectureship Award at AACN's Spring 2008 Meeting.

the number of advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) specializing in gerontology. The online profiles spotlight the outstanding professional achievements of these geriatric APRNs, which hopefully will inspire a new generation of nursing students, practicing nurses, project investigators, and nurse faculty.

In October 2007, AACN and the Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing announced the winners of the **2007 Awards for Baccalaureate and Graduate Education in Geriatric Nursing**. This national awards program was created to recognize individual faculty members and model baccalaureate programs with a strong focus on gerontological nursing. Awards were presented this year to Dr. Laurie Kennedy-Malone from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro who received the Geriatric Nursing Faculty Champion Award and to the University of Portland for Baccalaureate-Level Curricular Innovation.

For more details on AACN's geriatric nursing education projects, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/Hartford>.

End-of-Life Nursing Care

Administered jointly by AACN and The City of Hope National Medical Center, the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) project is a national education initiative to improve end-of-life care in the United States. The project's train-the-trainer program has educated over 5,000 nurse educators over the past seven years, including a wide array of staff nurses, nursing administrators, continuing education providers, and undergraduate and graduate nursing faculty.

From July 2007 to June 2008, the ELNEC project team presented **eleven regional courses** at locations across the country to expand the reach of this program. In addition to Core, SuperCore, and Graduate courses, ELNEC offers a variety of specialty programs tailored to the specific needs of nurses working in the areas of Critical Care, Geriatrics, Oncology, and Pediatric Palliative Care. Nurse educators from all 50 states have attended an ELNEC course and in turn shared this new knowledge with colleagues working in hospitals, clinics, research centers, long-term care facilities, hospices, universities, and other settings. ELNEC is fast gaining an international audience through recent presentations in Vienna, Tanzania, and other locations around the world. The ELNEC curriculum has also been translated into Spanish, Russian and Japanese to further expand the program's global reach.

To sustain operations and continue its programming, the ELNEC project has succeeded in **securing additional funding** from a variety of sources, including the National Cancer Institute, Aetna Foundation, Open Society, Oncology Nursing Foundation, and California HealthCare Foundation. In December 2007, the Archstone Foundation of Long Beach, CA generously awarded \$900,000 in new funding to ELNEC. This funding will be used to offer an ELNEC-Geriatric course and an ELNEC-Critical Care course each year for the next 3 years. These courses will be offered free for eligible nurses in California.

This year marked a significant milestone for the ELNEC project: the program's 50th national course was held in Chicago in June 2008. To mark the occasion, the project team hosted the **ELNEC 50th Celebration Gala**, which served as a reunion for past

participants and provided opportunities for attendees to receive palliative care updates, network with other trainers, and honor those who have made exceptional contributions to this vital work. Six distinguished ELNEC trainers were honored for their success in implementing and disseminating the ELNEC curriculum, and over 20 trainers presented posters detailing their educational efforts.

For more information on the ELNEC project including details on how to register for upcoming training sessions, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ELNEC>.



Member Education & Outreach

AACN strives to meet the professional development needs of nursing school deans and faculty. Our conferences and seminars give attendees personal contact with key decision makers in health care and higher education. AACN meetings offer a stimulating source of continuing education and professional development to build leadership and allow for valuable networking.

Seventeen conferences and network meetings were offered July 2007-June 2008 including the Summer Seminar, Organizational Leadership Network Meeting, Fall Semiannual Meeting, Executive Development Series, Instructional Leadership Network Meeting, Baccalaureate Education Conference, CNL Partnership Conference, Doctoral Education Conference, Research Leadership Network Meeting, Faculty Development Conference, Faculty Practice Conference, Practice Leadership Network Meeting, Master's Education Conference, Nursing Advancement Professional Conference, Spring Annual Meeting, Graduate Nursing Admissions Professionals Meeting, and Business Officers Meeting.

AACN is committed to being the national voice for baccalaureate and higher degree programs in nursing. The organization strives to bring the association's mission and message before the larger nursing community through a variety of **publications and outreach efforts**. The association's primary publications are the *Journal of Professional Nursing*, the bimonthly *Syllabus* newsletter, and the electronic

AACN News Watch. Other publications released this year include:

- AACN position statement on *The Preferred Vision of the Professoriate in Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs*, which was endorsed by the AACN membership following a vote at the 2008 Spring Annual Meeting.
- A fact sheet on *Creating a More Highly Qualified Nursing Workforce*, which includes a snapshot of today's RN workforce, highlights research connecting education to outcomes, and outlines the capacity of four-year colleges to enhance the level of nursing education in the U.S.
- A fact sheet on *Enhancing Diversity in the Nursing Workforce*, which features the latest data on gender and racial diversity in the student population and in practice as well as efforts underway to increase the number of individuals from under-represented groups in nursing.

For more information on AACN publications, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Publications>.

Upcoming Conferences

Executive Development Series

December 3-4, 2008
San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter,
San Antonio, TX

Instructional Leadership Network Meeting

December 4, 2008
San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter,
San Antonio, TX

Baccalaureate Education Conference

December 4-6, 2008
San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter,
San Antonio, TX

Doctoral Education Conference

January 21-24, 2009
Hotel del Coronado, San Diego, CA

Research Leadership Network

January 2009
Hotel del Coronado, San Diego, CA

Faculty Development Conference

February 12-14, 2009
Savannah Marriott Riverfront, Savannah, GA

Master's Education Conference

February 19-21, 2009
Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa, Orlando, FL

Executive Development Series

March 13-14, 2009
The Fairmont Washington, Washington, DC

Nursing Advancement Professionals Conference

March 13-14, 2009
The Fairmont Washington, Washington, DC

Spring Annual Meeting

March 14-17, 2009
The Fairmont Washington, Washington, DC

Graduate Nursing Admissions Professionals Conference

April 14-15, 2009
Gaylord Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN

Business Officers of Nursing Schools Meeting

April 22-24, 2009
The Hyatt at Fisherman's Wharf,
San Francisco, CA

Hot Issues Conference

April 23-25, 2009
Marriott Salt Lake City Center,
Salt Lake City, UT

Summer Seminar

July 2009

Accreditation

An autonomous arm of AACN, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate and graduate degree programs that prepare nurses. Now in its eleventh year of accreditation review activities, CCNE has accredited 490 baccalaureate and 347 master's degree programs in nursing at 511 colleges and universities nationwide and in Puerto Rico. An additional 41 institutions' nursing programs hold new applicant status. Overall, 78% of institutions with baccalaureate and/or master's degree nursing programs are now affiliated with CCNE. In addition, more than 40 Doctor of Nursing Practice programs are scheduled for on-site evaluations for initial accreditation over the next two years.

In April 2008, the CCNE Board of Commissioners amended its *Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Degree Nursing Programs* following a year-long standards revision process with multiple opportunities for public comment. The most substantive change to the standards centers around CCNE's move to accredit Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) programs, in addition to baccalaureate and master's programs. The amended standards also include elaborations, which provide guidance and interpretations at the key element level. The standards that were amended in April 2008 will go into effect on January 1, 2009 for all programs. To access the new standards, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Accreditation/pdf/standards.pdf>.

CCNE moved forward this year to develop a process for the **accreditation of post-baccalaureate nurse residency programs** in acute care settings. Following a three-year standards development period, the CCNE Board of Commissioners voted in April 2008 to approve the final standards document prepared by the CCNE Task Force on Post-Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Program Accreditation. The standards are congruent with the post-baccalaureate nurse residency curriculum that was developed through a partnership between AACN and the University HealthSystem Consortium (UHC). These standards are separate and distinct from the CCNE standards used to evaluate baccalaureate and graduate degree nursing programs.

Last spring, CCNE successfully **completed its 2008 election process**. CCNE distributed ballots to 501 institutions – all with baccalaureate and/or master's degree programs holding accreditation by CCNE – to be cast in the elections for the CCNE Board of Commissioners and the CCNE Nominating Committee. Valid ballots were returned by 274 institutions, resulting in a 55% response rate. Elected to the CCNE Board were Dr. Jeanne Novotny, Fairfield University (CT), as the representative for deans; Dr. Mary Jo Clark, University of San Diego, as the representative for faculty; Dr. Elizabeth Fuselier Ellis, Memorial Hermann Hospital (TX), and Daniel O'Neal, III, James A. Haley Veterans Administration Hospital (FL), as representatives for practicing nurses; Cynthia Richardson, University of Pennsylvania Health System, as the representative for professional consumers; and Rubin King-Shaw, Mansa Equity Partners (MA), and Jane Voglewede, MeritCare Health System (ND), as representatives of public consumers. CCNE Nominating Committee members for 2009 include Dr. Patricia Burns (chair), University of South Florida; Dr. Chandice Covington, University of North Dakota; Dr. Lori Schumacher, Medical College of Georgia; Dr. Joanne Singleton, Pace University (NY); and Dr. Douglas Turner, Touro University Nevada.

For more information on CCNE and nursing program accreditation, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Accreditation>.



Drolet + Associates PLLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Board of Directors
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
Washington, DC

Report of Independent Auditors

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial position of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) as of June 30, 2008, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of AACN's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. The prior year summarized comparative information has been derived from AACN's 2007 financial statements and, in our report dated September 24, 2007, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above, present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of American Association of Colleges of Nursing as of June 30, 2008, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Drolet + Associates, PLLC

Washington, DC
October 14, 2008

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Statement of Financial Position June 30, 2008

(With Summarized Financial Information for June 30, 2007)

	AACN	CCNE	2008 Total	2007 Total
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 715,370	\$ 402,080	\$ 1,117,450	\$ 963,029
Contributions and grants receivable	2,067,477		2,067,477	1,348,915
Accounts receivable	64,125		64,125	50,499
Accrued interest receivable	9,247	1,590	10,837	21,422
Due to/from CCNE	180,819	(180,819)	-0-	-0-
Prepaid expenses	98,696	15,606	114,302	118,491
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	3,135,734	238,457	3,374,191	2,502,356
FIXED ASSETS				
Furniture and equipment	379,220	127,021	506,241	466,945
Leasehold improvements	328,716	120,166	448,882	276,307
	707,936	247,187	955,123	743,252
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(430,923)	(162,472)	(593,395)	(582,173)
NET FIXED ASSETS	277,013	84,715	361,728	161,079
RESTRICTED CASH	327,815	450,419	778,234	-0-
INVESTMENTS	5,505,913	1,628,137	7,134,050	8,664,757
CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS RECEIVABLE, less current portion	246,408		246,408	1,236,331
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 9,492,883	\$ 2,401,728	\$ 11,894,611	\$ 12,564,523
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$ 408,946	\$ 125,864	\$ 534,810	\$ 307,020
Accrued vacation	128,693	19,056	147,749	129,796
Deferred revenue:				
Dues	1,142,019		1,142,019	942,163
Meetings	118,122		118,122	141,111
Accreditation		529,735	529,735	512,350
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,797,780	674,655	2,472,435	2,032,440
NET ASSETS				
Unrestricted	4,862,346	1,727,073	6,589,419	6,819,293
Temporarily restricted	2,744,554		2,744,554	3,624,587
Permanently restricted	88,203		88,203	88,203
TOTAL NET ASSETS	7,695,103	1,727,073	9,422,176	10,532,083
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 9,492,883	\$ 2,401,728	\$ 11,894,611	\$ 12,564,523

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Activities For the Year Ended June 30, 2008

(With Summarized Financial Information for the Year Ended June 30, 2007)

	AACN	Unrestricted CCNE	Total	Temporarily Restricted AACN	Permanently Restricted AACN	2008 Total	2007 Total
REVENUES							
Contributions and grants				\$ 1,021,380		\$ 1,021,380	\$ 211,850
Membership dues	\$ 2,270,326		\$ 2,270,326			2,270,326	2,099,770
Registration fees	1,374,602	\$ 35,325	1,409,927			1,409,927	1,377,984
Publication sales	244,963		244,963			244,963	249,244
Investment (loss) income	(244,294)	(57,348)	(301,642)	21,459		(280,183)	877,066
Annual fees		1,029,413	1,029,413			1,029,413	909,800
Application fees		101,500	101,500			101,500	94,500
Site evaluation fees		324,000	324,000			324,000	315,591
New program fees		6,000	6,000			6,000	11,000
CNL certification exam fees	129,905		129,905			129,905	39,810
Miscellaneous income	91,971		91,971			91,971	51,753
Net assets released from restrictions	1,922,872		1,922,872	(1,922,872)		-0-	-0-
TOTAL REVENUES	5,790,345	1,438,890	7,229,235	(880,033)	-0-	6,349,202	6,238,368
EXPENSES							
Program services:							
California Endowment	388,762		388,762			388,762	251,451
Gerontology/ Geriatric Projects	1,212,928		1,212,928			1,212,928	960,031
New Careers in Nursing	126,371		126,371			126,371	-0-
Other Grants & Contracts	194,670		194,670			194,670	138,506
Research	278,088		278,088			278,088	321,967
Education Policy	243,640		243,640			243,640	224,223
Governmental Affairs/ Lobbying	401,153		401,153			401,153	386,952
Publications	190,213		190,213			190,213	200,043
Public Affairs	206,485		206,485			206,485	170,546
Meetings	979,688		979,688			979,688	1,057,519
Networks	87,463		87,463			87,463	88,637
Special Projects	172,874		172,874			172,874	146,814
Taskforces	521,954		521,954			521,954	178,947
Accreditation		1,356,289	1,356,289			1,356,289	1,075,323
Total program services	5,004,289	1,356,289	6,360,578	-0-	-0-	6,360,578	5,200,959
Supporting services:							
General and administrative	983,303	115,228	1,098,531			1,098,531	1,029,027
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,987,592	1,471,517	7,459,109	-0-	-0-	7,459,109	6,229,986
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(197,247)	(32,627)	(229,874)	(880,033)	-0-	(1,109,907)	8,382
NET ASSETS, BEG. OF YEAR	5,059,593	1,759,700	6,819,293	3,624,587	88,203	10,532,083	10,523,701
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 4,862,346	\$ 1,727,073	\$ 6,589,419	\$ 2,744,554	\$ 88,203	\$ 9,422,176	\$ 10,532,083

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of Functional Expenses For the Year Ended June 30, 2008

(With Summarized Financial Information for the Year Ended June 30, 2007)

	California Endowment	Gerontology/ Geriatric Projects	New Careers In Nursing	Other Grants & Contracts	Research	Education Policy	Governmental Affairs/ Lobbying	Publications
Salaries	\$ 56,046	\$ 287,654	\$ 72,133	\$ 65,599	\$ 171,882	\$ 179,651	\$ 199,406	\$ 119,487
Fringe benefits	14,532	75,689	19,500	11,562	40,378	40,446	49,421	28,048
Telephone	971	3,415	632	-	203	585	1,081	25
Printing & design	19	36,879	196	-	17,579	90	2,844	1,675
Postage & duplication	382	8,075	109	16	3,925	347	868	1,885
Office supplies	10	2,571	783	108	1,821	129	1,135	15
Staff/officer travel	7,760	89,471	803	7,273	2,063	8,127	6,110	5,433
Board & committee	14,106	7,685	5,045	1,522	-	697	2,910	-
Consulting services	9,500	9,703	43	-	24,043	43	87	-
Professional fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent	-	-	-	-	11,940	12,540	13,728	6,900
Office insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation/amortization	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Equip. repairs & maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
JPN subs. cost to members	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,360
Dues & subscriptions	-	450	-	-	92	685	17,466	-
Public relations	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,400	-
Legislative affairs	-	-	-	-	-	-	93,080	-
Staff continuing education	-	151	-	-	-	-	-	-
Catering & audio visual	1,015	109,803	-	1,621	102	-	7,893	-
Special activities	-	6,106	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scholarships/Stipends/Grants	269,220	501,976	-	104,749	-	-	-	-
Honoraria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,500
Miscellaneous	-	5,610	13,587	1,242	4,060	300	2,724	885
Overhead allocation	15,201	67,690	13,540	978	-	-	-	-
Evaluator training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Evaluator travel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loss on disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenses	\$ 388,762	\$ 1,212,928	\$ 126,371	\$ 194,670	\$ 278,088	\$ 243,640	\$ 401,153	\$ 190,213

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES OF NURSING

Public Affairs	Meetings	Networks	Special Projects	Taskforces	Accreditation	G & A	2008 Total Expenses	2007 Total Expenses
\$ 90,864	\$ 224,676	\$ 64,391	\$ 129,957	\$ 102,711	\$ 431,016	\$ 459,036	\$ 2,654,509	\$ 2,385,824
20,926	55,376	16,165	32,956	27,379	120,642	113,189	666,209	609,716
116	614	1,351	99	5,663	2,973	7,734	25,462	27,562
37,226	27,145	-	-	23,775	12,656	2,861	162,945	109,763
7,512	41,362	200	153	9,340	21,819	22,786	118,779	126,210
275	4,446	182	66	2,066	5,749	39,470	58,826	71,318
3,878	116,452	-	1,089	35,496	24,590	63,957	372,502	261,625
65	1,725	-	-	56,762	184,407	113,939	388,863	331,398
17,154	3,572	43	43	60,462	75,375	78,407	278,475	202,976
-	-	-	-	802	3,878	24,822	29,502	22,058
7,572	14,316	3,636	7,836	6,900	31,578	32,566	149,512	140,200
-	-	-	-	2,688	10,907	16,165	29,760	28,810
-	-	-	-	-	10,700	53,120	63,820	62,070
-	-	-	-	881	2,483	9,779	13,143	10,335
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,360	17,720
856	-	-	-	3,120	9,516	44,075	76,260	56,942
6,000	-	-	-	-	-	18,200	26,600	14,707
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	93,080	88,758
-	-	-	-	44	2,135	6,748	9,078	11,920
1,220	452,959	-	57	169,272	-	2,103	746,045	497,876
6,506	2,590	-	-	-	21,495	-	36,697	148,779
-	-	-	-	3,100	-	-	879,045	600,675
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,500	7,500
6,315	34,455	1,495	618	11,493	15,178	81,155	179,117	157,441
-	-	-	-	-	-	(97,409)	-0-	-0-
-	-	-	-	-	103,095	-	103,095	-0-
-	-	-	-	-	266,097	-	266,097	237,803
-	-	-	-	-	-	5,828	5,828	-0-
\$ 206,485	\$ 979,688	\$ 87,463	\$ 172,874	\$ 521,954	\$ 1,356,289	\$ 1,098,531	\$ 7,459,109	\$ 6,229,986

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended June 30, 2008

(With Summarized Financial Information for the Year Ended June 30, 2007)

	2008	2007
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ (1,109,907)	\$ 8,382
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash (used in) provided by operating activities:		
Loss (gain) on investments	747,459	(415,107)
Depreciation and amortization	63,820	62,070
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	5,828	-0-
Decrease in grants receivable	271,361	1,784,695
Increase in accounts receivable	(13,626)	(7,469)
Decrease (increase) in accrued interest receivable	10,585	(4,147)
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	4,189	(4,061)
Increase in restricted cash	(778,234)	-0-
Increase in accounts payable	227,790	101,604
Increase in accrued vacation	17,953	12,504
Increase in deferred revenue - dues	199,856	12,264
(Decrease) increase in deferred revenue - meetings	(22,989)	7,914
Increase in deferred revenue - accreditation	17,385	9,050
NET CASH (USED IN) PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(358,530)	1,567,699
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchases of fixed assets	(270,296)	(30,386)
Purchases of investments	(3,542,466)	(4,623,819)
Proceeds from sales of investments	4,325,713	3,518,808
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	512,951	(1,135,397)
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	154,421	432,302
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	963,029	530,727
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,117,450	\$ 963,029

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2008

NOTE A ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) was formed in 1969 as a nonprofit organization to establish quality standards for bachelor's and graduate degree nursing education, assist deans and directors to implement those standards, influence the nursing profession to improve health care, and promote public support of baccalaureate and graduate education, research, and practice in nursing.

AACN's major programs consist of the following:

1. **California Endowment:** Administering the Nurse Faculty Scholarship Program to increase the number of minority faculty working in schools of nursing and developing a framework of expectations for baccalaureate nursing students to achieve cultural competence.
2. **Gerontology/Geriatric Projects:** Enhancing gerontology content and experiences in baccalaureate and advanced practice registered nursing (APRN) education programs, providing faculty development for baccalaureate faculty using a train-the-trainer approach, and providing scholarship monies to increase the number of APRN gerontology specialists.
3. **New Careers In Nursing:** This program provides scholarships to college graduates without nursing degrees who are enrolled in accelerated baccalaureate and master's nursing programs.
4. **Other Grants & Contracts:** A variety of programs geared to advance nursing education, research and practice.
5. **Research:** AACN's Institutional Data Systems (IDS) and Research Center provides essential resources to assist the nursing community in addressing changes in healthcare systems and nursing education.
6. **Education Policy:** Multiple and diverse initiatives and activities related to nursing education and practice. These include the establishment of curricular standards, quality indicators for nursing education, and nursing education policy.
7. **Governmental Affairs/Lobbying:** Advocacy for nursing education and research throughout the federal legislative and regulatory process. AACN works closely with Congress, the Administration and federal agencies to ensure sufficient funding and focus on nursing programs through Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act, at the National Institute of Nursing Research, and in new initiatives that affect nursing education and research.
8. **Publications:** Publications include the *Journal of Professional Nursing*, the *Syllabus* newsletter, and a variety of other higher education/nursing publications.
9. **Public Affairs:** Programs to establish AACN as the authoritative source for information on baccalaureate and graduate nursing education by generating increased visibility within and outside nursing.
10. **Meetings:** National conferences focused on a variety of constituent groups within the school of nursing to address learning needs in the complex nursing education environment.
11. **Networks:** Information, networking and professional development for nursing school faculty and staff. The Networks bring peer professionals together to share best practices and sharpen leadership skills.
12. **Special Projects:** Provides leadership and support for many different projects related to promoting innovation in baccalaureate and graduate nursing education.
13. **Task Forces:** A variety of activities focused on undergraduate and graduate education initiatives.
14. **Accreditation:** Accrediting baccalaureate and graduate nursing education programs.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Consequently, revenue is recognized when earned and expenses when incurred.

Financial Statement Presentation

AACN classifies information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets.

Income Taxes

AACN is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) and has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service not to be a private foundation within the meaning of section 509(a) of the Code.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

AACN considers all highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less, when purchased, to be cash equivalents.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consists primarily of amounts due for services that were not received by AACN at year-end. An allowance for doubtful accounts has been provided for potentially uncollectible amounts. Management estimates the allowance for doubtful accounts based on agings of receivables. If actual collection experience changes, revisions to the allowance may be necessary. Amounts are charged off against the allowance in the period in which they are deemed uncollectible.

Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are stated at cost, if purchased, or fair market value at date of donation, if contributed. Depreciation of furniture and equipment is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of the estimated useful life of the asset or the remaining lease term. All acquisitions of property and equipment in excess of \$750 are capitalized.

Investments

Investments are stated at fair value. The valuation of investments is based upon quotations obtained from national securities exchanges; where securities are not listed on an exchange, quotations are obtained from other published sources. Investments in limited partnerships are reported at fair value based on information provided by the manager of the partnership. The manager determines the fair value based on quoted market prices, if available, or using other valuation methods, including independent appraisals.

Contributions and Grants

Contributions and grants are recorded as unrestricted, temporarily restricted or permanently restricted net assets, depending on the existence and/or nature of any donor restrictions. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported in the Statement of Activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Dues and Fees

Membership dues are recognized as revenue on a pro rata basis over the term of the membership period. Application fees for accreditation are recognized as revenue in the year the accreditation process starts. Application and annual fees from the accreditation program and membership dues received in advance are included in deferred revenue.

Functional Allocation of Expenses

The costs of providing the various programs and supporting services have been summarized on a functional basis in the Statement of Functional Expenses and the Statement of Activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the programs and supporting services benefited.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Prior Year Information

The accompanying financial statements include certain prior year summarized comparative information in total but not by net asset class. Such information does not include

sufficient detail to constitute a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with AACN's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2007.

Reclassifications

Certain 2007 amounts have been reclassified for comparative purposes.

NOTE B COMMISSION ON COLLEGIATE NURSING EDUCATION

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) was established in 1996 as an autonomous arm of AACN to have the sole purpose of accrediting baccalaureate and graduate nursing education programs. AACN shares its premises and administrative personnel with CCNE. Costs are allocated between the two organizations and are based on actual expenditures or a percentage of salaries. As of June 30, 2008, CCNE owed AACN approximately \$181,000.

NOTE C INVESTMENTS

The quoted market and published unit values of investments as of June 30, 2008 are as follows:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
AACN	
Bonds	\$ 1,732,312
Limited partnership interests	554,694
Equity mutual funds	3,218,907
	<u>5,505,913</u>
CCNE	
Bonds	607,863
Limited partnership interests	177,122
Equity mutual funds	843,152
	<u>1,628,137</u>
Total investments	\$ 7,134,050

AACN invests in professionally managed portfolios that contain cash, mutual funds, U.S. government securities, bonds, and limited partnership interests. The limited partnerships engage in the speculative trading of future contracts, forward contracts, and swap-contracts (collectively derivatives). All of AACN's investments are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit. Due to the level of risk associated with such investments and the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of such investments, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in risks in the near term would materially affect investment balances and the amounts reported in the financial statements.

Investment loss for the year ended June 30, 2008 is summarized as follows:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Interest and dividend income	\$ 467,276
Loss on investments	(747,459)
Total investment loss	\$ (280,183)

NOTE D RETIREMENT PLAN

AACN maintains a defined contribution retirement plan (the Plan) covering all employees who have reached the age of 21, beginning with the month following employment. Contributions to the Plan are applied to individual annuities issued to each participant by the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association (TIAA) and/or the College Retirement Equities Fund (CREF). Participants are required to contribute five percent of covered compensation in order for AACN to contribute ten percent of covered compensation. Contributions to the Plan for the year ended June 30, 2008 totaled approximately \$217,900.

NOTE E CONTRIBUTIONS AND GRANTS RECEIVABLE

All contributions and grants receivable are considered to be collectible within one year unless otherwise stated by the donor. Contributions and grants receivable which will not be collected within one year have been discounted at 5% at June 30, 2008. Uncollectible contributions and grants receivable are expected to be insignificant.

<u>JUNE 30,</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2009	\$ 2,067,477
2010	250,541
Total contributions and grants receivable	2,318,018
Less discount to present value	(4,133)
Net contributions and grants receivable	\$ 2,313,885

NOTE F OPERATING LEASES

AACN leases office space under a noncancelable operating lease which commenced July 1, 1997, and expired on June 30, 2008. Prior to year end, AACN entered into a new lease for the same premises for a 10 year term ending June 30, 2018. The new lease includes terms under which the lease can be terminated by the lessor. The new lease also includes base rent and provisions for operating charges. Future minimum lease payments for base rent required as of June 30, 2008 are as follows:

<u>FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30,</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2009	\$ 208,450
2010	237,633
2011	237,633
2012	266,816
2013	266,816
thereafter	1,534,192
Total future minimum lease payments	\$ 2,751,540

NOTE G PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Permanently restricted net assets represent funds that are to be invested in perpetuity with the investment income used for general support of AACN. Permanently restricted net assets as of June 30, 2008 were approximately \$88,000.

NOTE H TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Temporarily restricted net assets are available for the following purposes as of June 30, 2008:

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
California Endowment Awards	\$ 462,344
Gerontology/Geriatric	1,168,684
Hartford Scholarship	342,902
Hartford Institute Award	6,108
AfterCollege Scholarships	15,000
New Careers In Nursing	648,304
Johnson & Johnson Scholarships	90,251
Bonus Program	10,961
Total	\$ 2,744,554

Net assets were released from donor restrictions by incurring expenses satisfying the purpose restrictions specified by donors for the year ended June 30, 2008 as follows:

<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
California Endowment Awards	\$ 388,763
End of Life Project	81,073
Gerontology/Geriatric	704,756
Hartford Scholarship	499,281
Hartford Institute Award	8,892
New Careers In Nursing	126,371
Johnson & Johnson Scholarships	89,749
NHGRI Genomic Competencies	8,040
Bonus Program	947
AfterCollege Scholarships	15,000
Total	\$ 1,922,872

NOTE I CONCENTRATIONS

AACN maintains cash balances at various financial institutions. The accounts at these institutions are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to certain limits. At times during the year, AACN's cash balances exceeded the FDIC limits.

As of June 30, 2008, one contributor comprised 82% of contributions and grants receivable for AACN. Two contributors comprised 93% of contributions and grants revenue for the year ended June 30, 2008.

NOTE J SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent to June 30, 2008, AACN was notified that its holdings in two money market accounts were frozen pending the eventual liquidation and distribution of the underlying assets. There is no concrete timetable for the complete liquidation and distribution, nor is the amount that AACN will ultimately realize known. The amounts have been recorded as restricted cash in the Statement of Financial Position.

Governance and Organization

AACN is governed by an eleven-member Board of Directors, each of whom represents a member institution. The Board consists of 4 officers and 7 members-at-large, all elected by the membership for two-year terms.

Some members-at-large are designated by the president to serve two-year terms as chairs of standing committees, which include Finance, Government Affairs, Membership, and Program. The elected treasurer chairs the Finance Committee. The Nominating Committee is elected for a one-year term. The Board appoints task forces as issues arise that require study and action.

COMMITTEES

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Eileen Breslin, University of Texas Health Science Center-San Antonio (Chair); **Sarah Barger**, The University of Alabama Capstone College of Nursing; **Marcia Dowell**, University of South Carolina Upstate; **Mary McHugh**, University of Indianapolis; **Rosemary Smith**, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

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TASK FORCE ON THE REVISION OF THE ESSENTIALS OF BACCALAUREATE EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL NURSING PRACTICE

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Journal of Professional Nursing

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Communications Chair: Marilyn Wideman,
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College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
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University of Southern Mississippi
Planning Chair: Dennis J. Cheek,
Texas Christian University
Communications Chair: Linda P. Riley,
University of Alabama Huntsville
Past Chair: Linda Wilson, Drexel University

Affiliations

Deans of member schools, as well as AACN officers and staff, represent the association on a number of advisory councils, panels, agencies, committees, and other high profile initiatives within the nursing and higher education communities including:

Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Funding – Over 300 research, biomedical, patient advocacy, and health care provider groups engage in activities including sending letters to the Hill, hosting briefings for congressional staff, and meeting with key NIH directors.

AfterCollege – In collaboration with AACN, After-College funds a scholarship program and develops free online career centers for member schools.

Alliance for Aging Research – This organization consults AACN staff on a regular basis in its work to improve the human experience in aging and health.

Alliance for APRN Credentialing – Created by AACN in 1997 in conjunction with CCNE, this group of specialty nursing organizations meets twice each year to discuss issues related to nursing education, practice and credentialing.

American Health Care Association – AACN's Executive Director participated on the Nursing Advisory Commission that examines nursing staffing concerns within the long-term care industry.

American Nurses Association – As an affiliate member, AACN has one voting and one non-voting seat at the ANA House of Delegates and also may send a representative to the ANA's Congress on Nursing Practice and Economics.

APRN Consensus Work Group – Facilitated by AACN, this group of APRN stakeholder groups is engaged in the development of a consensus statement regarding APRN education, regulation, specialization, and certification. Participants include AANA, AANP, ANA, ANCC, AONE, NACNS, NCSBN, NLNAC, NONPF, ONCC, and PCNB among other groups.

Association of Academic Health Centers – AACN is an affiliate member of the AAHC and its affiliates council and participates in all AAHC meetings and strategic planning activities.

Association of General and Liberal Studies (AGLS)

– Staff serve on the Executive Committee focused on promoting quality general education within higher education.

The California Endowment – Dedicated to increasing access to health care, this foundation has partnered with AACN to offer a minority nurse faculty scholarship program and provided funding for the *Preparing a Culturally Competent Nursing Workforce* initiative.

Campaign for Public Health – As the only nursing organization on the advisory council, AACN works with other business and healthcare leaders who are dedicated to advocating for legislation that will accelerate the growth of federal appropriations for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

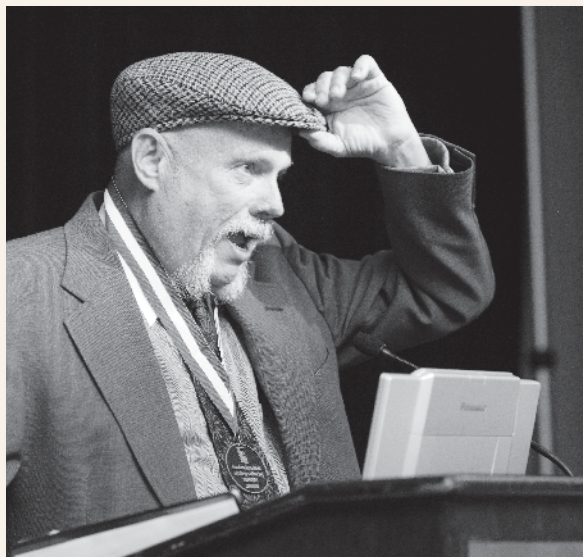
CertifiedBackground.com – Through this partnership, AACN has negotiated discounted criminal background check services for students and faculty at member institutions.

CNL Steering Committee – The American Organization of Nurse Executives and VA Department of Nursing continue to collaborate with AACN on the CNL initiative.

Coalition for Health Funding – Government Affairs staff attend meetings and briefings with key congressional and administration officials to ask questions and offer input on healthcare issues. This coalition leads Hill meetings with OMB and appropriations staff.

Coalition for Patients' Rights – Consists of 35 organizations representing a variety of licensed healthcare professionals who provide a diverse array of safe, effective, and affordable health care services to millions of patients each year.

Consultant Group on Interprofessional Professionalism Measurement – This group is developing a set of behavioral measures as part of a system for assessing interprofessional professionalism.



Education Scholar – AACN is engaged in an ongoing collaboration with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy and Western University of the Health Sciences to administer this interprofessional, Web-based faculty development initiative for health professions educators. AACN represents nursing and is responsible for all nurse educator registrations across the U.S.

Educational Benchmarking, Inc. – AACN formed a partnership with EBI in 2000 to develop student satisfaction surveys to assist college and universities in assessing their nursing programs in support of continuous quality improvement objectives.

Elsevier Science – The publisher of the *Journal of Professional Nursing*, Elsevier is one of the leading publishers in the world with more than 20,000 products and services.

End-of-Life Nursing Education Projects – AACN collaborates with the City of Hope National Medical Center in California to provide a series of training sessions for nursing faculty in teaching end-of-life nursing care. Other program and funding collaborators include the Archstone Foundation, Last Acts, National Cancer Institute, and the Oncology Nursing Society.

Federation of Associations of Schools of the Health Professions – AACN is a member of FASHP and participates in the monthly CEO meetings and twice yearly retreats. Other groups that meet include the FASHP CFOs and information technology representatives. The groups meet to discuss common financial issues, governmental affairs, and joint advocacy efforts.

Friends of AHRQ – The coalition sends support letters, coordinates meetings with key congressional and administration staff, and hosts briefings to support AHRQ funding.

Friends of HRSA – The coalition sends support letters, coordinates meetings with key congressional and administration staff, and hosts briefings regarding HRSA funding.

Friends of Indian Health – The coalition sends support letters, coordinates meetings with key Hill staff, and hosts briefings and receptions regarding funding of the Indian Health Service.

Friends of NCHS – The Friends of National Center for Health Statistics is a voluntary coalition of more than 150 organizations that support the NCHS. Members of this diverse group—including think tanks, professional associations, and universities—rely on the data collected and maintained by NCHS to conduct research, support advocacy efforts, and influence and inform health policy.

Friends of VA Medical Care and Health Research (FOVA) – FOVA is a coalition representing more than 80 national academic, medical, and scientific societies, voluntary health and patient advocacy associations, and industry. The coalition advocates for the funding needs of health care and research at the Department of Veterans (VA), raises awareness of VAs medical care and research programs, and hosts special events that highlight VA research successes.

Genetics and Genomics Steering Committee – AACN staff assist with implementing essential nursing competencies and curricula guidelines for genetics and genomics. Further, AACN is assisting with the development of a tool kit for faculty related to the genetics/genomics competencies.

Gerontology Projects – Collaborating organizations include The John A. Hartford Foundation; Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing at New York University and American Academy of Nursing (Hartford Geriatric Nursing Institute); American Geriatrics Society (distribute *Geriatrics at Your Fingertips* to master's-prepared nurses); Gerontological Society of America (exhibit/present at annual scientific meetings); Institute on Aging (PI faculty attend summer institutes and other training); and Alliance for Aging Research (support geriatric healthcare education and endorse annual report).

Global Alliance for Nursing Education and Scholarship – GANES is the only international body providing strategic level expertise in the education and professional development of nurses worldwide. Members are national associations of nursing deans and schools of nursing. AACN was a founding member.

Health Professions and Nursing Education Coalition – HPNEC holds monthly meetings, sends support letters, hosts an annual Capitol Hill lobbying day, develops talking points and brochures, holds Hill briefings, and coordinates meetings with appropriations staff. AACN is one of five members of the Steering Committee.

Healthy People Task Force – This interprofessional task force addresses Healthy People 2010 implementation within health professions curricula. Hosted by the Association for Prevention Teaching and Research, participants include the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American Dental Education Association, Association of Academic Health Centers, Association of American Medical Colleges, Association of Physician Assistant Programs, Association for Prevention Teaching and Research, and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties.

Higher Education Friday Group – Led by the American Council on Education, this group meets weekly to discuss Higher Education Reauthorization and organizational advocacy efforts.

Interagency Collaboration on Nursing Statistics – ICONS promotes the generation and utilization of data, information, and research to facilitate and influence decision making about nurses, nursing education, and nursing workforce. AACN has been a member since 1984.

International Academy of Nurse Editors – INANE is an informal network of approximately 200 editors of nursing publications worldwide that meets once a year to exchange information about editing and publishing strategies for professional nursing publications. The group also maintains a Web site for the exchange of relevant information.

Johnson & Johnson's Campaign for Nursing's Future – AACN consults with campaign coordinators on the national public awareness campaign launched by J&J to generate interest in nursing careers.

Joint Commission – AACN participates actively on two Joint Commission councils, the Nursing Advisory Council and the Health Professions Council, and on the planning committee for conferences on health professions education.

Learning for Life – AACN staff participated in the National Health Careers Exploring Committee that planned three 2008 Career Fairs and Exploring Luncheons (Philadelphia, Miami, Detroit).

Lydia's Professional Uniforms, Inc. – Working through AACN, Lydia's funds a scholarship program for juniors enrolled in baccalaureate nursing programs.

National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions – Staff attend annual meetings and work with the NAAHP to highlight nursing as a career choice to college program advisors.

National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists – Initiated in 2003, the AACN/NACNS Data Collaboration was established to jointly collect data on CNS educational programs.

National Center for Higher Education – Representing associations in the One Dupont Circle building, AACN participates on several NCHE working committees, including Technology, Meeting Planning, Human Resources, and Building Services.

National Nursing Research Roundtable – NNRR is an informal association of nursing organizations with a mission to serve the public's health through a strong research-based nursing practice. AACN has been a member since 1989.

National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties – The AACN/NONPF Data Collaboration and Data Advisory Committee was initiated in 1997 and has resulted in the creation of the most complete repository of data on NP education in the US and a single data source to support health workforce planning and policy analysis.

National Quality Forum – AACN staff assist with reviewing NQF's National Voluntary Consensus Standards and participate on the Quality, Measurement, Research and Improvement (QMRI) Council.

National Student Nurses Association – AACN coordinates educational sessions at NSNA's annual and mid-year conferences to strengthen ties between both organizations.

Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow Coalition – A member of the Executive Committee, AACN works with this coalition of 45 nursing groups to increase interest in nursing faculty careers.

Nursing Emergency Preparedness Education Coalition – Formed by Vanderbilt University, NEPEC is a coalition of national nursing, accrediting, and healthcare organizations focused on preparing nurses to respond to mass casualty incidents.

Nursing Overseas – AACN supports the nursing division of Health Volunteers Overseas, a private, nonprofit voluntary organization founded in 1986 and headquartered in Washington, DC.

Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease – AACN belongs to this national coalition of patients, providers, community organizations, and health policy experts committed to raising awareness of policies and practices that save lives and reduce health costs through more effective prevention and management of chronic disease.

Peterson's – AACN has collaborated with Peterson's in publishing the *Guide to Nursing Programs Guide* since 1994. Peterson's is part of the Thomson Corporation.

Quality and Safety Education for Nurses – QSEN develops educational strategies that promote quality and safety competencies in nursing. AACN will assist with faculty development related to teaching the quality and safety competencies.

Society of National Association Publications – SNAP is a non-profit professional society that serves association publishers and communications professionals and provides a forum for idea information and exchange.

Sullivan Alliance to Transform America's Health Professions – AACN's Executive Director represents nursing on this interprofessional working group focus on enhancing diversity across the health professions.



Tri-Council for Nursing – Composed of AACN, AONE, NLN and ANA, the Tri-Council meets up to four times yearly to discuss government affairs initiatives and common issues of concern.

University HealthSystem Consortium – AACN's ongoing collaboration with the UHC centers on the expansion and evaluation of one-year, post-baccalaureate nurse residency programs.

Washington Higher Education Secretariat – WHES is composed of 50 national, higher education associations including AACN. The American Council on Education is the coordinating body that provides a forum for discussion on education issues of national and local importance.

Working Group on Nursing Funding – This group holds periodic meetings, sends joint Hill meetings, and sends support letters to Congress on funding for nursing education.

Membership

Institutional membership is open to any institution offering a baccalaureate or higher-degree nursing program that meets the following criteria:

- is legally authorized to grant the credential to which the program leads,
- holds institutional accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, and
- is approved by the state agency that has legal authority for educational programs in nursing (not applicable to nursing programs over which the state board of nursing has no jurisdiction).

Provisional memberships may be held for a total of 3 years and is open to any institution that is in the process of developing a baccalaureate or higher degree program that meets the following criteria:

- is legally authorized to grant the credential to which the program leads; and
- holds institutional accreditation by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.

The dean or other chief administrative nurse in the nursing program serves as institutional representative to AACN. Membership dues are \$3,536 annually; the fiscal year runs from July 1- June 30. Other categories of membership are Emeritus, Honorary, and Honorary Associate, and are conferred to individuals at the discretion of the Board of Directors.



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AACN Online

For the latest news and information on AACN activities and initiatives, visit the association's Web site. Members and colleagues are encouraged to log in and ...

- Discover new grants, fellowships, scholarships, and funding sources under Funding Opportunities
- Monitor new developments and use online Tool Kits related to the Clinical Nurse Leader, Doctor of Nursing Practice, and Cultural Competency initiatives
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- Use the links section to connect with Web sites of all AACN member schools

AACN on the Web: www.aacn.nche.edu

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