

Board Chair and President/CEO Report January 2020

This report provides an update on the association's leadership activities since the last Board meeting in October 2019. Additional background information on AACN's current priorities is included with the Board materials. ***This information is confidential and for the Board only.***

Future of the Jonas Nurse Scholars Program- *Confidential*

On December 4, AACN sent a letter to Donald Jonas and the Jonas Philanthropies Board Members seeking clarity on the continuation of the Jonas Nurse Scholars program. Around the time of the fall meeting, President/CEO Deb Trautman and staff began hearing from individuals connected with the Jonas initiative that future funding may not be possible. AACN began its partnership with Jonas Philanthropies in 2012 with the goal of expanding the nation's supply of doctorally prepared nurse researchers and faculty. Under AACN's management, the program has grown over the years to accommodate more than 1,000 scholars from 144 schools in 50 states. With our partnership agreement set to end on August 31, 2020, AACN is seeking renewed funding to continue this important pipeline program. At this time, AACN has not received a formal response to our letter requesting continued funding, but Deb has been in touch with the foundation's Executive Director, Wanda Montalvo, who will provide updates as decisions are made so we can determine what our next steps will be.

Transition in NINR Leadership - *Confidential*

On November 13, Deb Trautman received an update on the leadership transition at the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) from Dr. Tara Schwetz, who was serving as NINR Deputy Director. NIH Director Francis Collins asked Dr. Schwetz to serve as NINR's Acting Director, since the current position holder, Lawrence Tabak, DDS, was appointed as Acting Director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research. In addition, Dr. Jessica Gill was asked to serve as the NINR Acting Deputy Director. Dr. Gill, who is a leading nurse scientist in the area of traumatic brain injury, was serving as the NINR Acting Scientific Director in charge of the Division of Intramural Research. AACN will continue to monitor the search underway to appoint a permanent NINR Director.

In a subsequent communication with Dr. Swetz, Deb was invited to present at the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research meeting on January 14, 2020. She was asked to address the current state of the PhD Pipeline and to explore opportunities for NINR and AACN to collaborate on generating strong interest in the PhD among nursing students and on sustaining nursing science.

CNEA Denied Initial Recognition by the US Department of Education

AACN learned in mid-November that the Commission for Nursing Education Accreditation (CNEA), the new accrediting arm of the National League for Nursing (NLN), was denied initial

recognition from the U. S. Department of Education (USDE). Previously, the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) and USDE staff had recommended that CNEA be recognized for five and two years, respectively. However, the Principal Deputy Under Secretary, who is delegated to perform the duties of the Under Secretary, disagreed. Among the concerns cited were the CNEA's "administrative and fiscal capacity to carry out its accreditation activities," as the accrediting agency relies on the NLN for funding, which may compromise its independence. Additional concerns were raised about lack of clarity regarding the agency's "principal purpose" as it applied for recognition as a "non-title IV accreditor," and the requirements that accreditors must meet differ based on the category of the agency. Both the CNEA and the staff from the Department's Accreditation Group have an opportunity to respond to the action. An update is expected in early Spring. If the final decision is to deny recognition, that decision would be appealable to the Secretary of Education. The CNEA is reporting on its website that the decision to deny recognition will not impact the pre-accreditation or accreditation status of programs currently accredited by this agency (since the agency was not USDE-recognized when it reviewed these programs and the agency's status has not changed in this regard). AACN and CCNE will continue to monitor this issue and provide an update on the final outcome.

Future NACNEP Report on the Faculty Shortage

Dr. Di Fang, AACN's Director of Institutional Research and Data Services, has been invited to present on the nursing faculty shortage at the next meeting of the National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice (NACNEP), slated for February 4, 2020. At its November 2019 meeting, the Council selected the following topic for its 17th report to Congress: *Preparing Nurse Faculty and Addressing the Shortage of Nurse Faculty and Clinical Preceptors*. This invitation to present was facilitated by AACN Board Chair Ann Cary, who was appointed by the US Secretary of Health and Human Services to serve on NACNEP. AACN will present its latest data related to nurse faculty vacancies over time as well as data related to faculty attrition, retirement projections, and career expectations for doctoral program graduates.

Collaboration with Johnson & Johnson on New Faculty Toolkit

Lynda Benton, Senior Director for Corporate Equity and Partnerships at Johnson & Johnson, approached AACN last fall about collaborating on the creation of a new toolkit for faculty to facilitate the use of its film titled *5B* into nursing curricula. *5B* is the inspirational story of everyday heroes, nurses, and caregivers who took extraordinary action to comfort, protect, and care for the patients in the first AIDS ward at San Francisco General Hospital in the early 1980s. Johnson & Johnson created this film to inspire the next generation of innovative nurses by showing them how nurses responded to a health crisis and led the implementation of a new standard of care. Working with advisors and AACN's Faculty Leadership Network, AACN will develop a toolkit that features learning objectives, an instructional guide, PowerPoint slides, discussion questions, sample activities, a references list, and resource links. AACN submitted a budget proposal to Johnson & Johnson on December 20, 2019 to support this work and is awaiting a response to guide next steps. AACN hopes to screen the film and share the toolkit at the Transform 2020 conference in December of this year.

Dr. Cary Nominated to CGFNS Board of Trustees - *Confidential*

On November 13, AACN nominated Board Chair Ann Cary to serve as a Trustee-at-Large for the Council of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS), the world's largest credentials evaluation organization for the nursing and the allied health professions. AACN was approached by CGFNS CEO Franklin Shaffer to submit a nomination for an individual whose expertise and background would assist CGFNS in its mission to provide responsible leadership in the delivery of services to the global nursing and healthcare community. AACN identified Ann as a strong candidate for this board given her background in nursing education and advocacy as well as her work with the Global Alliance for Leadership in Nursing Education and Scholarship (GANES). Ann was the principal author of the Alliance's *Global Pillars for High Quality Nursing Education*, which was presented at the International Council of Nurses Congress in Singapore last June. AACN staff are still waiting on a formal response to this nomination.

AACN Panel at the Sigma Nursing Convention

On November 18, AACN hosted a session titled *Insights on Becoming a Nurse Educator* at Sigma Nursing biannual convention, which was held this year at Maryland's National Harbor. The presentation addressed how to transition from a practice to a faculty role, juggling multiple role responsibilities, and contemporary teaching strategies. A special emphasis was placed on AACN resources that promote faculty development. Presenting on behalf of AACN were Dean John McFadden from Barry University, President Joyce Griffin-Sobel from the Helene Fuld College of Nursing, and Larry Slater, the Director of Undergraduate Programs at New York University College of Nursing. Mary Bondmass, the Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs at the University of Nevada Las Vegas School of Nursing, served as moderator. Sixty-five new and prospective faculty members attended this special session.

Tri-Council Engagement Around the Year of the Nurse

At its October 2019 meeting, the Tri-Council for Nursing – whose members include AACN, ANA, AONL, NCSBN, and NLN – agreed to launch a year-long initiative to raise the profile of nursing and increase public awareness about the impact nursing has on advancing health. The focus of this campaign is to ***position nursing as providing solutions for meeting today's – and tomorrow's – health needs***. Through coordinated and co-branded monthly activity, messages to the public will focus on driving people to *seek a nurse* as an expert in advancing health and to *become a nurse* given the roles, characteristics, and opportunities for people of all backgrounds and identities that nursing provides. This 12-month communications campaign will build on the existing focus and resources of the five Tri-Council organizations. AACN has agreed to contribute articles to this initiative in February and July 2020. In addition to the monthly communications, the collaborating groups will also explore the possibility of using the various association's newsletters, annual meetings, and other platforms to augment this messaging.

AACN Board and Nominating Committee Election Underway

AACN's 2020 election to fill seats on the Board of Directors and the Nominating Committee commenced on January 9, 2020. AACN member deans received an online ballot and have been

asked to cast votes for the following open seats: Chair-Elect, Secretary, Board Member-at-Large (3 seats), and Nominating Committee (2 seats). For the first time, members also are voting to elect new practice members to serve on the AACN Board. With the election closing on January 31, AACN will announce the results in early February. Those elected will begin their terms following the Business Meeting on March 23, 2020.

Representation by AACN Leaders at Key Meetings and Events

AACN's Board Chair, Chair-Elect, President/CEO, and staff represented the interests of the association and its membership at a number of high-profile events throughout the year. Below is a sampling of meetings attended by AACN's leaders since October 2019:

- On October 22, President/CEO Deborah Trautman co-lead the AACN/AONL Future Day of Dialogue Meeting in Washington, DC.
- On October 23, Board Chair Ann Cary, Chair-Elect Susan Bakewell-Sachs, and Deb Trautman attended the FNINR's 2019 Nightingala celebration in Washington, DC.
- On October 24-26, Deb Trautman attended the American Academy of Nursing's 2019 Policy Conference in Washington, DC.
- On October 31, Deb Trautman spoke with Senator Jeff Merkley of Oregon in Washington, DC.
- On November 5-6, Ann Cary attended the National Advisory Council on Nursing Education and Practice Meeting in Rockville, MD.
- November 8-11, Deb Trautman and Chief Operating Officer Jennifer Ahearn attended the Association of American Medical Colleges annual Learn, Serve, Lead Conference in Phoenix, AZ.
- On November 18-20, Deb Trautman participated in two nursing panels at the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing Education and Healthcare Policy Forum in Ottawa, Ontario Canada.
- On November 21-22, Deb Trautman participated in the National Nursing LGBTQ Summit in New York, NY.
- On November 21-23, Ann Cary gave remarks at the Baccalaureate Education Conference in Orlando, FL. During the conference, Ann was filmed presenting the introduction to the Essentials' National Faculty Meeting video.
- On December 2-3, Deb Trautman attended the annual retreat of the Federation of Associations of Schools of the Health Professions (FASHP) Retreat in Baltimore, MD.
- On December 4-5, Deb Trautman and Jennifer Ahearn met with George Haddad, CEO of Liaison International, in Boston, MA.
- On December 18, Deb Trautman attended the 2019 Board Meeting of the Interprofessional Education Consortium (IPEC) hosted in AACN's offices in Washington, DC.
- On January 14, Deb Trautman presented at the NIH's National Advisory Council for Nursing Research Meeting in Bethesda, MD.
- On January 17, Ann Cary and Deb Trautman participated in the GANES teleconference.
- On January 21, Deb Trautman attended the 2020 Winter IPEC Member Meeting in Washington, DC.