

January 2020

To: Board of Directors

From: Deborah Trautman, President and CEO

Re: AACN's Foundation for Academic Nursing

In October 2019, AACN announced plans to launch a new philanthropic initiative in 2020, the Foundation for Academic Nursing. Though the association has been a reliable source for grant-funding to schools of nursing over the years, AACN is formalizing this work and leveraging its influence to raise funds to benefit its members and advance the organization's mission.

The purpose of this foundation will be to:

- Increase the impact of AACN's vision and mission
- Implement AACN's strategic plan goals and objectives
- Expand the number and scope of stakeholders
- Strengthen and diversify the financial support model
- Support the goals of members that align with AACN's priorities
- Raise the profile and influence of academic nursing and member schools in the philanthropic community

One of the first initiatives under the new foundation will be the research grant program for nurse faculty. Funding for this program was raised through proceeds collected from sponsorships in AACN's 50th Anniversary guide that was prepared for its fall conference. In addition, a new scholarship, funded by Liaison International, will be launched. To promote the foundation, a website has been created: www.aacnnursing.org/foundation.

Since the October meeting AACN has worked with philanthropic consultant Darlene Curley to advance this initiative, including the plan and goals for the new Foundation Advisory Committee, which will be appointed in January 2020. The inaugural AACN Foundation Advisory Committee will include 5-7 members and will be responsible for the following in 2020:

- Developing the foundation's mission and goals
- Determining fundraising strategy
- Identifying 2020 fundraising goals
- Deciding on focus of faculty research grants

Recommendation for the Foundation Advisory Committee members are:

- Member Dean (1-2 year term)
- 3-4 External Members (1-2 year term, practice, other foundation board, nursing advancement professional, other)
- Chair or Chair-elect of the AACN Board of Directors will serve as an ex-officio member and Board liaison to the Advisory Committee
- President/CEO - ex-officio
- Director of Development - staff liaison

The Foundation Advisory Committee will provide regular quarterly reports to the Board of Directors. As this is an advisory group, they will have no governance responsibility, and the foundation will function as an internal division within AACN.