



AACN-Wharton Executive Leadership Program 2013 Fellows





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Jeannette Andrews Ph.D., RN, FNP, FAAN is the Dean of the University of South Carolina College of Nursing in Columbia, SC. Immediately preceding her Deanship, she served as the Associate Dean for Research and Director of the SCTR Center for Community Health Partnerships at the Medical University of South Carolina. She is a National Institutes of Health-funded investigator for multiple community trials targeting cardiovascular risk reduction and tobacco control. With her expertise on community based participatory research (CBPR), she is leading efforts to build capacity for CBPR among academic and community partners in the Southeastern U.S. region. She has authored over 200 publications and abstracts, including models on CBPR Partnership Readiness, academic-community CBPR frameworks, and implementation of tobacco cessation guidelines into marginalized community settings. She is a national consultant on CBPR and serves as a reviewer for the National Institutes of Health and the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, Robert Wood Johnson Nurse Executive Fellow (2007 cohort) and a member of the American Nurses Association, American Public Health Association, Sigma Theta Tau International, Council for Advancement of Nursing Science and Southern Nursing Research Society.



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Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN is Dean and *Professor* of the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene at the University of Hawai'i where she is committed to shaping the future of nursing education and scholarship for Hawaii and the Pacific region. Today, the school is addressing the shortage of professional nurses and develop leaders in nursing; conducting research to identify and address significant chronic health programs; and deepening our relationships with our local and global communities. We are leading the way in use of technology to remove geographic distance as a barrier to graduate education. Master and doctoral programs are designed using technology to address the needs of rural students living in underserved communities throughout Hawaii and the United states. Under her leadership, the school is a partner in campus efforts to foster interprofessional education and team science. Prior to joining the University of Hawai'i, Dr. Boland served as associate dean and the François-Xavier Bagnoud Professor of Nursing at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. She has extensive academic research and administrative experience, and was the co-founder and director of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center, an innovative interdisciplinary endeavor within the School of Nursing and New Jersey Medical School. Dr. Boland is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and a member of Sigma Theta Tau, the nursing honor society. Active in global health issues, she has worked extensively with the World Health Organization and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She received a doctoral degree in public health from the Mailman School at Columbia University, a master's degree in nursing from Seton Hall University and a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania.



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Shelley Conroy Ed.D., M.S., R.N. is currently the Dean and a tenured Professor of Nursing for the Louise Herrington School of Nursing at Baylor University. She was previously the Dean and a tenured Professor of Nursing, with full graduate faculty status in the College of Health Professions at Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Georgia. Dr. Conroy also served 5 years as Dean and Tenured Professor of Nursing for Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke College of Health Professions at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah, where she provided the leadership to establish their first graduate programs in nursing and health administration. Dr. Conroy served two four-year terms as a member of the Virginia Board of Nursing, holding positions of Board Vice-President and Board President. She chaired the Committee of the Joint Boards of Medicine and Nursing, with responsibility for advanced practice nursing regulation. During this time, she also served on several key committees with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing that were responsible for developing practice and education studies and guideline papers disseminated nationally. Dr. Conroy has a significant background in research, grants and sponsored projects. Some of these specialty areas have included simulation training; child abuse prevention; critical incident stress; rural health outreach; nursing and health professions workforce preparation, recruitment and retention of minority and disadvantaged student populations; LPN to RN and RN to BSN transition; curriculum development, and nursing externships and residencies. During her career, Dr. Conroy has been awarded over \$8 million in grants and sponsored projects.



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Kathleen Czekanski, Ph.D., R.N., CNE, was appointed to the Associate Dean position for Nursing Programs in the School of Nursing and Health Sciences on Aug. 1, 2012. In this role, she serves as the Chief Nurse Administrator for the nursing programs and oversees the continued development, implementation, promotion, and daily operation of the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs. Previously, she served as the Director of the Graduate and R.N.-BSN programs at La Salle University. As Director, she facilitated the launch of a fully online R.N. to BSN program, a dual MSN/MPH degree program as well as a newly approved Adult-Gerontology Primary Care NP Program. Dr. Czekanski teaches in the areas of nursing research, professional practice, ethics, and public health nursing and her research interests are in the area of end-of-life care and dementia caregiving.



Susan Dean-Baar, PhD, RN, FAAN
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Susan Dean-Baar, PhD, RN, FAAN joined the University of Missouri-St. Louis as the dean of the College of Nursing on July 1, 2012. She previously served as the interim dean of the Zilber School of Public Health and the associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Nursing at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Dr. Dean-Baar has provided leadership for the development of innovative academic partnerships and distance programs for both undergraduate and graduate nursing education. In addition to her work in the development of academic partnerships and programs she has been involved in the development of professional standards and guidelines to support nursing practice and has played a major role in analyzing nursing workforce issues in Wisconsin. She serves as an appraiser for the American Nurses Credentialing Center Magnet Recognition Program and has served as the project director for the Wisconsin Center for Nursing 2010 RN Survey Analysis and the 2010 and 2011 Nursing Education Surveys that have laid the groundwork for nursing workforce policy development and planning for the future. She has been actively involved in the field of rehabilitation nursing for more than thirty years and is a past president of the Association of Rehabilitation Nurses and has served as Chairperson of the Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation Board of Trustees and editor of *Rehabilitation Nursing*. She served on a number of interdisciplinary expert panels involved with the development of the Medicare prospective payment system for rehabilitation services. Dr. Dean-Baar earned a BSN and PhD from Loyola University Chicago and her MS with an emphasis in rehabilitation nursing from Rush University in Chicago. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.



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Lisa Eichelberger DNSc, MS, RN is the Dean of the College of Health and Professor of Nursing at Clayton State University. She holds a doctorate of nursing science and a masters of science degree in maternal child nursing from the University of Alabama School of Nursing, University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Eichelberger has been a nurse for over thirty years holding positions of staff nurse, director of nursing, staff educator and instructor of nursing. Dr. Eichelberger served as the Assistant Dean of the School of Nursing at Auburn University, and the Dean of the School of Nursing at Mississippi College for eight years prior to coming to Clayton State in 1996. She has over 30 years teaching and administrative experience in nursing programs residing in many types of universities from private, religious, single purpose to large public research institutions, Dr. Eichelberger has over fifteen years as dean of accredited baccalaureate/masters nursing programs and over twenty years' experience as Program Evaluator for Collegiate Commission on Nursing Education and National League for Nursing. Dean Eichelberger is the founding Chair of the Georgia Association of Nursing Deans and Directors and has served as a consultant for several Robert Wood Johnson Foundation initiatives including American Association of Colleges of Nursing's (AACN) Colleagues in Caring and Partnering in Nursing projects. Dr. Eichelberger is past founding chair of the Southern Crescent Chapter of the Georgia Nurses' Association and ex-officio member of the Clayton County Board of Health. Dr. Eichelberger served as Co-Chair of Team Georgia, Center to Champion Nursing in America, AARP Public Policy Institute, Washington DC from 2009 to 2011 when she transitioned to the Co-Lead of the Georgia Action Coalition, Center to Champion Nursing in America, AARP/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in 2011. In 2010, Dr. Eichelberger was selected from over 11,000 graduates as one of the 60 Visionary Leaders by her alma mater, the University of Alabama School of Nursing. Dr. Eichelberger volunteers at the Healing Bridge Free Clinic that she help found in 2009 in Peachtree City, GA. She served as founding President of the Healing Bridge Board of Directors from its inception until 2012.



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Michael Evans, PhD, RN, FAAN is Dean, Professor and holds the UMC Endowed Chair for Excellence in Nursing at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing. Dr. Evans began at Texas Tech at the beginning of January 2012. Prior to coming to Texas Tech, he was the Dean of the Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College in St. Louis. He was in hospital nursing administration for 25 years before his career bridged to academic nursing administration. Prior to moving to St. Louis, Dr. Evans was with Texas Health Resources for 11 years, first as Chief Nurse Executive of Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas and then as the system's first Chief Learning Officer. Prior to joining THR in 1995, Dr. Evans was Chief Nursing Officer at St. David's Health Care System in Austin, Texas for seven years and Chief Nursing Officer at Northwest Texas Health Care System in Amarillo, Texas for six years. He has served as adjunct faculty in a variety of colleges and universities throughout his career. Dr. Evans holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Texas Tech University, a Diploma in Nursing from Northwest Texas Hospital School of Nursing, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from West Texas State University, a Master of Science in Nursing majoring in Nursing Administration and Nursing Education from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing Administration from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Evans served as President of the Texas Nurses Association and was on the board of directors of the American Nurses Association for 8 years, first as Chair of the Constituent Assembly, then as Secretary and then Treasurer. Dr. Evans currently serves as President of the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the largest nurse credentialing organization in the world, providing individual credentialing in 27 different nursing specialty certifications and organizational credentialing through the Magnet Hospital Recognition Program and the Pathway to Excellence Program. He is board certified as Nurse Executive, Advanced by the American Nurses Credentialing Center and is board certified in healthcare management and a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Dr. Evans is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.



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Penelope (Penny) M. Glynn, PhD, ANP, RN. I am a master's prepared nurse with a PhD in Sociology, 11 years of experience as a nurse, and 28 years of experience in higher education as a faculty member, administrator, researcher, grant writer, and now Regis College Dean for the School of Nursing, Science and Health Professions for the past 22 months (May 2011). I am a positive, energetic, optimistic leader, while grounded in realism. I excel at collaborative relationships and have great capacity to bring out the best in others. I am seen as a leader who invests in the success of others with a commitment to holding people accountable. A leadership strength is my ability to balance the needs of individuals with the needs of the broader community and college, although this is becoming increasingly difficult. I have a track record of having the courage of my convictions and a strong sense of justice. I believe leading in uncertain times requires honesty and courage, and an unwavering commitment to a business mindset. Weston, MA, is approximately 12 miles outside of Boston.



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Cindy Greenberg, DNSc, RN, CPNP, FAAN has been Director of the California State University (CSUF) School of Nursing since 2008. She previously held the position of Coordinator Undergraduate Program at CSUF and faculty positions at California State University, Long Beach, California State University, Dominguez Hills, and Rush University. A national leader in pediatric nursing education through her authorship of comprehensive pediatric nursing textbooks, Dr. Greenberg has co-authored *Children and their families: The continuum of care* currently in its third revision, and *Pediatric procedures* (2003, 2008); she was sole author of *Nursing care planning guides for children* (1988). She serves as the Associate Editor, Education for the *Journal of Professional Nursing*, and on the Editorial Boards and peer review panels for several pediatric nursing journals and has been Vice-President of the Society of Pediatric Nursing. In 2012, Dr. Greenberg began a two-year term as the President of the California Association of Colleges of Nursing. Dr. Greenberg received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Rush University, College of Nursing in Chicago, Illinois, her Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Colorado, and her doctorate in Nursing Science from the University of San Diego. She is also a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and was inducted as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2010.



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Mary Hoke PhD, PHCNS-BC, RN-BC, ANEF joined the University of the Incarnate Word (San Antonio TX) family as Dean of the Ila Faye Miller School of Nursing and Health Professions in June 2012. After completion of a 20 plus year military career as an Army Nurse Corps, Dr. Hoke retired in the rank of Lieutenant Colonel following tours in Texas, Massachusetts, New York, Germany and Panama. Her academic career has included positions at El Paso Community College, the University of Texas at El Paso, New Mexico State University and positions ranging from undergraduate faculty to nursing academic administrator. She has received over \$4 million dollars in federal funding from Health Resources Services Administration and the National Institutes of Health. Her education projects have focused on increasing access to nursing education, increasing diversity within the nursing profession, and addressing mental health. Her funded research focus is on health disparities with a specific interest in weight management for Hispanic women. An accomplished author, Dr. Hoke has written extensively on nursing education and health disparities. Her accomplishments in nursing education were recognized in 2011 when she was inducted as a Fellow in the Academy of Nursing Education.



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Jane Kirschling, PhD, RN, FAAN, is the Dean of the University of Maryland School of Nursing and University director of inter-professional education at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. She is an alumna of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Executive Fellows Program (2000-2003) and is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. At the national level, Dean Kirschling has served on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Board of Directors since 2004 and began a two-year term as president in 2012. She founded the Kentucky Nursing Capacity Consortium and co-convoked Kentucky's Action Coalition which is working to implement the Institute of Medicine's 2010 recommendations on the "Future of Nursing." She has assumed a role in the Maryland Action Coalition as one of the Executive Committee members.

Dean Kirschling received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Viterbo College in LaCrosse, Wis., and her Master of Science in Nursing and PhD degrees from the Indiana University School of Nursing.



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Denise Korniewicz, Ph.D., RN, FAAN is a professor and Dean at the University of North Dakota College of Nursing & Professional Disciplines in Grand Forks, North Dakota. As the Dean for the past two years, she provides leadership to three major departments: Nursing, Nutrition & Dietetics and Social Work. She is responsible for the oversight of 1500 students and over 250 faculty members. Her major responsibilities include recruitment and retention of faculty, development of a strategic plan, building collaborative relationships, teambuilding, enhancement of innovative student endeavors, facilitation of development efforts and maintenance of all fiscal responsibilities. Prior to her appointment at UND, she was the senior associate dean for research at the University of Miami School of Nursing (Miami), where she also served as director of the nursing school's research center. Her chief areas of expertise include research in infectious diseases, grant development and leadership. After earning nursing degrees at Madonna University (BS), Texas Woman's University (MS), and the Catholic University of America (PhD), Korniewicz did postdoctoral work in infection prevention at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. She gained experience in the management of critical patients as an emergency room charge nurse before undertaking an academic career that has included professorships at the Georgetown University schools of nursing and medicine and the University of Maryland. Her clinical nursing experience began in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, which she left with the rank of captain. An author and coauthor of several books and articles, Korniewicz has received numerous honors related to research and leadership.



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Patricia A Kraft, EdD, APRN, MSN, RN, BC_FNP CNE is the Southeast Georgia Health System Distinguished Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences at the College of Coastal Georgia; she has had this appointment since February 2011. Prior to this Dr. Kraft served as the Dean for the School of Nursing and Behavioral Health and Associate Provost for Graduate and Professional Programs at Carson-Newman College, a Christian Liberal Arts College, in Jefferson City, Tennessee from August 2002 through January 2011. Dr. Kraft is interested in serving the profession of nursing on a national level and making an impact in shaping nursing education. She is newly elected as the Vice Chairperson to the Executive Committee of the Georgia Association of Nursing Deans and Directors. Recently, Dr. Kraft served as a member a commission charged with writing a policy paper for the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association (TICUA) addressing the role of higher education in the supply and demand of nursing faculty and students. Dr. Kraft maintains NLN certification as Certified Nurse Educator. Dr. Kraft received her undergraduate degree from West Liberty State College, WV and her MSN and EdD from West Virginia University. In the areas of scholarship, she has presented at local, regional, national, and international conferences. Dr. Kraft received the Lucas-Hathaway Excellence in Teaching award at Waynesburg College in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania (2000). Research areas of interest include perimenopause and spirituality. She received a research award from Sigma Theta Tau International, Nu Sigma Chapter for dissertation research on the topic of perimenopause. Dr. Kraft completed the AACN Leadership for Academic Nursing Program in 2003 (LANP). Dr. Kraft was selected to participate on the Sigma Theta Tau Omada Board Mentor Program from 2004-2006. Dr. Kraft is a 2005 recipient of an Appalachian College Association Scholarship to attend the Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. She served on the Nominating Committee of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in 2004-2006 and served as Chair from 2005-2006. She served as the AACN Grass Roots Liaison for Tennessee Schools of Nursing and serves as a mentor AACN New Dean Mentoring Program since 2004. Dr. Kraft is an accreditation visitor for the CCNE and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Dr. Kraft served as the President of the Tennessee Association of the Deans and Directors of Schools and Colleges of Nursing and served on the Tennessee Center for Nursing and the Tennessee Nurses Foundation Boards of Directors



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Beth Elizabeth Roberta Strickland Markham, PhD, MSN, RN is the Dean for Nursing, Herzing University And Nursing Program Director Herzing Brookfield-Kenosha Dr. Markham joined the Herzing University team in January 2012 after serving as nursing program director at Bryant & Stratton College, Milwaukee market and interim nursing program director at Fayetteville State University in Fayetteville, NC. Her previous experiences include faculty positions at Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE); Fayetteville State University, and North Carolina Central University. She worked clinically and as a nurse manager at Duke University Medical Center and has held other clinical positions. She has a background in nursing program planning and curriculum and program accreditation. She is active in the Wisconsin Nurses Association having served from fall 2009-October 2012 as KRNA District 1 President. She is an active member of the National Black Nurses Association, Racine-Kenosha Chapter. Dr. Markham was selected for membership in Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society and is a member of the Pi Sigma Chapter. She was honored in 2002 with her selection for Who's Who Among American Teachers and received numerous awards for her scouting activities with Boy Scout Troop and Pack 137 while living in North Carolina. She enjoys working with young people, activities in her church and community. As a nurse-educator she believes that learning is the act of gaining knowledge and skills that allow the person to effect social change and understand the impact of the actions of societal members on culture as a whole. Her role as a teacher is to facilitate and serve as a resource to promote the intrinsic search for knowledge inherent in all persons. She finds immense joy in seeing the accomplishments of her students and seeing the many "lumps of coal" transformed into valuable "diamonds" who will contribute to the improvement of global healthcare and the enhancement of self and society.

DEGREES HELD: BA: Erskine College, Natural Sciences BSN: Emory University, Nursing MSN: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Maternal, Neonatal, GYN Nursing with a focus in High Risk Perinatal, Neonatal Intensive Care, Gyn-Oncology, Nursing Education Ph.D.: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Adult and Higher Education Leadership.



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Mary Nies PhD, RN, FAAN, FAAHB is the Associate Dean Division of Health Sciences and Director and Professor at Idaho State University School of Nursing in Pocatello, Idaho. Dr. Nies is a behavioral nurse scientist with a research focus on community interventions promoting health in vulnerable populations. Her scientific expertise lies in health promotion and intervention research. In addition to being an invited speaker, she has presented her research at regional, national, and international conferences. She has received extensive federal and foundation funding to support her research. Dr. Nies has numerous publications in well-recognized peer review journals. She is the co-author of the textbook *Community/Public Health Nursing: Promoting the Health of Populations* now in its 5th edition. Dr. Nies has experience working with interdisciplinary research teams and has served on several NIH and CDC grant review study sections. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and a Fellow in the American Academy of Health Behavior. Dr. Nies was inducted into the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society in 2011 in Mexico. She received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Wisconsin, Madison School of Nursing and the Loyola University Chicago School of Nursing. Her BSN is from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, her MSN from Loyola University Chicago, and her PhD in Nursing Science is from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She completed post doctoral study at the University of Michigan.



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Patricia Ravert, PhD, RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN has been on the faculty at Brigham Young University since 1999 and was appointed as Dean in the College of Nursing in 2012. Prior to employment at BYU, she worked as a registered nurse in various roles with Intermountain Healthcare from 1974 to 1999. She received her associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing at BYU after which she received her doctorate from the University of Utah. Dr. Ravert has served on the board of the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL), most recently as the research advisor. She is a pioneer in simulation learning in nursing education, particularly high fidelity simulation. She was selected as one of nine national experts for the NLN/Laerdal Medical Simulation Innovation Resource Center (SIRC) project. The SIRC project provides resources for nursing faculty to learn how to use simulation through creative on-line courses that support faculty development.



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Denise Robinson, Ph.D., R.N., F.N.P. has been affiliated with Northern Kentucky University (NKU) since 1984. The founding Dean of the College of Health Professions since July 2009, she also served as Chair of the School of Nursing and Health Professions, Program Director for the MSN program, and RN-BSN programs. As Dean, Dr. Robinson oversees all programs in nursing, including a BSN, accelerated BSN, RN-BSN, MSN with multiple tracks and DNP. In addition, she oversees radiologic technology, respiratory care and health science programs supervising 68 faculty and staff; there are currently 1500 students enrolled in the College. Dr. Robinson also currently serves as a family nurse practitioner for a federally qualified health primary care center on a part time basis. She received her diploma in nursing from Christ Hospital School of Nursing, a BSN and masters in nursing from University of South Carolina and her doctorate in adult nursing from University of Texas at Austin. She earned her Post MSN FNP at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Robinson currently serves as a SACS evaluator. She has been recognized for excellence in nursing as the recipient of Leadership in Nursing Award in Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky and the NKU Regents Professor award. She is a current member of several national nursing organizations including AACN, AANP and Sigma Theta Tau International. She is the editor/co-editor of 8 advanced practice texts.



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Jan Strom, PhD, MS, RN serves currently as Chair of the School of Nursing and Health Studies at Northern Illinois University. In this role, she is chief academic officer for undergraduate and graduate nursing programs, the undergraduate and graduate public programs, and the undergraduate and graduate health education programs. Previously she served as Professor and Director of the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs at Elmhurst College. In this capacity, she worked with faculty to develop a number of strategic initiatives and developed a partnership with nurse executives at Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare. Previously, Dr. Strom served as an Associate Professor of Nursing at Saint Catherine University. There she served as Director of the Graduate Nursing Programs. At the same time, she served as Project Director of the Healthy Workers Project at the Minnesota Nurses Association. The purpose of the project was to promote smoking cessation and reduce second-hand smoke exposure among union members. Dr. Strom served as an Assistant and Associate Professor of Nursing at Saint Xavier University. She additionally served as Director and co-founder of the Family Nursing Center at Gladstone School, a nurse-managed clinic in Chicago. The Center's purpose was to increase the percentage of community-based clinical experiences among nursing students, while demonstrating a model of primary health care in an inner-city community. Dr. Strom received a bachelor of science in nursing from Michigan State University, a master of science in nursing from DePaul University, a doctor of philosophy in nursing science from the [PhD from University of Illinois at Chicago](#), and a master's of public health from the University of Minnesota. Her scholarship includes leadership and issues in nursing education. She was a Commonwealth Fund Nurse Executive Fellow and an American Association of Colleges of Nursing Leadership for Academic Nursing Fellow. Dr. Strom serves as an Accreditation Site Visitor for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and is a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's Membership Committee.



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Alexa Stuijbergen PhD, RN, FAAN received her PhD in Nursing from The University of Texas at Austin, her MSN from the University of Texas at El Paso, and her BSN from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska. Dr. Stuijbergen has had a highly successful academic career at the University of Texas at Austin including service as Division Chair, Associate Dean for Research (1999-2009) and her current appointment as Dean of the School of Nursing (2010-present). Dr. Stuijbergen is the James R. Dougherty, Jr. Centennial Professor in Nursing and holds the Laura Lee Blanton Chair in Nursing. Dr. Stuijbergen is internationally known for her innovative research projects studying various aspects of health promotion for persons with chronic and disabling conditions. Her center grants and research projects with persons with multiple sclerosis, post-polio syndrome, and fibromyalgia have been funded for over \$9.6 million by the National Institute of Nursing Research, the Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and the Office of Research on Women's Health at the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Stuijbergen also served as the Director of the NIH-funded Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research in Underserved Populations (2000-2011). In addition to her teaching and research, she has served on numerous national committees for the Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation, the National MS Society and the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Stuijbergen chaired the Adult Work Group for the DHHS Advisory Subcommittee to generate health promotion objectives for persons with disabilities for inclusion in Healthy People 2010 and she presently serves as Chair (2011-2013) of the Nursing and Related Clinical Sciences Scientific Review Group for the National Institutes of Health.



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I received my BSN from William Paterson College; my masters from NYU, and my doctorate from Rutgers University. I have been involved with political issues within my community starting with running for the Board of Education. I realized that meeting people and connecting with them was more powerful than spending money on a campaign. There were 3 seats open for the board and 29 candidates. Even though I did not spend a dime for the election, I came in #4 and lost the election. BUT I was asked to serve on an advisory committee for individuals with disabilities by the mayor and became known as the "nurse" who spoke about what the kids needed in schools, or the nurse who got the parking spaces in front of city hall for the handicapped instead of the councilmen. I used the personal approach when I made my first presentation to the academic subcommittee of the Board of Trustees at the school where I am dean. I spoke of the heavy financial burden of the nursing students and how many work 2 jobs to pay for college. A few weeks after the presentation I received a call from one of the trustees that he was pledging \$300,000 for scholarships for nursing majors. These two events: losing the election but gaining recognition and serving on the advisory committee and the gift from the trustee after the presentation confirmed for me the importance of getting your message beyond your immediate circle to those who can really help to make things happen.



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Dr. Paula Dunn Tropello holds a BSN from the University of Virginia, a Masters in Nursing from the University of Florida, and her EdD from Rutgers University. Her Post-Masters is in Family Nurse Practitioner studies from Wagner College. Having taught at the associates/diploma level in NJ, she has been tenure track Nursing faculty at Wagner College for 16 years, having chaired all of its nursing programs for over 9 of those years. A practicing FNP, she is nationally boarded through ANCC and also is a pediatric CNS. Her research interests include advanced practice role history, on which her dissertation is based, as well as experiential and service learning communities and global health, having led many disaster relief efforts with faculty and students. She believes strongly in the full implementation of the Future of Nursing Report and the use of technology such as simulation to improve critical thinking and patient safety in all practice arenas.