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Your Inside Track to Federal Policy

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AACN Members Engage in Advocacy, Policy During Fall Meeting

On October 27-30, AACN held its 2018 Academic Nursing Leadership Conference in Washington, DC. AACN members had the opportunity to engage in a Virtual Advocacy Day, learn how to elevate their advocacy voice, and participate in policy conversations. Below is a summary of government affairs events:

- **Dr. Julie Sochalski**, Associate Professor of Nursing and Assistant Dean for Academic Programs at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, received the *2018 Lois Capps Policy Luminary Award*.

- **Dr. Thomas Mason**, Chief Medical Officer of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, provided valuable insight into the priorities of the ONC and how they support healthcare professionals in using information technology to improve patient care.

- AACN’s Grassroots Network members *sent nearly 250 messages to Senators to cosponsor the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act (S. 1109)*. As we approach a new year and new Congress, it is critical that we continue to urge our Senators to pass S. 1109. Reauthorization will safeguard the Nursing Workforce Development programs that help recruit and retain highly educated nurses across the nation. [Take action now](#).

- AACN staff helped to educate AACN members on how schools of nursing can be involved in the *All of Us Research Program*, a National Institutes of Health initiative to accelerate health research and develop individualized care by building a national research cohort. To learn more, contact Dr. Colleen Leners, Director of Policy, at cleners@aacnnursing.org.

- As we count down to the midterm elections, nursing faculty and students are engaging in increasing numbers in AACN’s nonpartisan *Nursing Voices, Nursing Votes* initiative. [Sign up](#) to show that you are registered to vote, and join the conversation using the hashtag #NursingVoicesNursingVotes on Twitter.