AACN Board Chair Dr. Ann Cary and President and CEO Dr. Deborah Trautman celebrated the commencement of the 116th Congress and met with more than 35 Members of Congress, on both sides of the aisle, to share the importance of advancing health care and higher education through an academic nursing lens. These meetings included House and Senate Nursing Caucus Co-Chairs and Vice Co-Chairs, Congressional Leadership, and the newest nurse in Congress, Representative Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14).

Clockwise from top left: newly-elected Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14), Nursing Caucus Co-Chair Rep. Dave Joyce (R-OH-14), and newly-elected Rep. and former Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala (D-FL-27)

Clockwise from top left: Senate Majority Whip John Thune (R-SD), Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Senate Nursing Caucus member Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), and Senate Nursing Caucus Co-Chair Roger Wicker (R-MS)

Representatives pictured clockwise from left: House Nursing Caucus Vice Co-Chair Rodney Davis (R-IL-13), House Nursing Caucus member Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO-06), Republican Conference Vice-Chair Mark Walker (R-NC-06), and Representative Paul Tonko (D-NY-20), champion of APNs to be able to prescribe MATs

AACN Leadership met celebrity Richard Schiff who was cast as Toby Ziegler on the TV drama The West Wing