AACN COMMENDS THE HOUSE FOR PASSING LEGISLATION THAT BUILDS THE NURSING WORKFORCE

AACN applauds the United States House of Representatives for passing legislation that is indispensable to the health of the nation. The Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2017 (H.R. 959) provides critical support to nursing students, faculty, and programs, which helps ensure access to care across the continuum and in every community.

“Building workforce capacity was placed at the forefront of the national healthcare agenda when the House of Representatives passed this legislation today,” said Dr. Ann Cary, Chair of the AACN Board of Directors. “Without a robust workforce, our country cannot realize the goals of increasing access, reducing cost, and improving quality.”

AACN commends Representative David Joyce (R-OH), the lead sponsor of H.R. 959, along with, Representatives Doris Matsui (D-CA), Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI), Rodney Davis (R-IL), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), and Kathy Castor (D-FL) – the original bill cosponsors – for their steadfast support of the nursing profession. This bipartisan effort includes the backing of 105 U.S. Representatives.

“Our nation will soon face a nursing shortage, so we need to do all we can to make sure those who are interested in this valued career path have access to high-quality education opportunities,” said Congressman Dave Joyce. “As the husband of a nurse and co-chair of the Congressional Nursing Caucus, I know the amount of dedication, care, and support nurses put into their daily task of caring for every patient. I am thankful for the incredible bipartisan support this bill has received on behalf of our nation’s nurses.”

“Our nurses must have the quality training needed to respond to the needs of our community - from an aging population, to an increase in chronic diseases, to a worsening opioid epidemic, and more. But nursing shortages in Hawaii and across the country are putting patient health at risk and increasing healthcare costs,” said Representative Tulsi Gabbard. “Our bipartisan legislation takes a vital step forward in providing our nurses with training, education, and financial support so they can serve the people in our communities.”

“The nursing schools within AACN’s membership are deeply appreciative for this Congressional action,” said Dr. Deborah Trautman, President and Chief Executive Officer. “It provides us great encouragement that federal legislators understand the fundamental position that nurses transform healthcare.”

H.R. 959 would reauthorize the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (authorized under Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et. seq]) through Fiscal Year 2023. AACN and members of the Nursing Community Coalition have made this legislation a priority during the 115th Congress. The Title VIII programs are foundational federal investments for the nursing profession. Countless nurses who have received this funding have launched their careers and leveraged the federal dollars to impact care in America’s most remote areas serving vulnerable populations.

AACN looks forward to working with the U.S. Senate to advance its version of the bill (S. 1109) introduced by Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Richard Burr (R-NC), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI), and Susan Collins (R-ME). For more information, see the House-passed legislation H.R. 959 and AACN’s Advocacy on the Workforce.
AACN ANNOUNCES NEW CDC FUNDING OPPORTUNITY IN POPULATION HEALTH TRAINING MATERIALS

AACN, in cooperation with the CDC, is pleased to announce a new call for proposals for a Workforce Improvement Project (WIP). WIPs are non-research domestic or international projects with a workforce development component that are developed, funded, and managed by the Centers, Institutes, and Offices (CIOs) of the CDC. AACN member schools of nursing are eligible and strongly encouraged to apply for this funding opportunity.

Readily available training content with a major interprofessional emphasis that builds the skills of the current and future population health workforce to work on transdisciplinary issues is scarce. To address this need, this WIP opportunity seeks an applicant to develop population health preparatory materials and case studies for trainings for federal, state, and local population health entities. The project period for this award is approximately 9 months and is being funded for $125,000.

AACN is one of four academic partner organizations supported by the CDC through the Academic Partnerships to Improve Health (APIH) cooperative agreement, which means member schools of the other organizations are also eligible for this competitive interprofessional funding opportunity.

HOW TO APPLY

AACN Member Schools must submit their applications directly to AACN by emailing Allison Jacobs at ajacobs@aacnnursing.org no later than 11:59 pm (ET) on August 6, 2018.

CURRENT CALL FOR AACN AWARD NOMINATIONS

Do you know someone who has made notable contributions to nursing education? Nominate your peers and colleagues for an AACN award!

Outstanding Dissertation and DNP Project Awards
This award recognizes outstanding dissertations and final DNP projects completed by students in research- and practice-focused doctoral programs. Nominations may be made by the dean, doctoral department chair, dissertation committee chair, or capstone project advisor. Nomination Deadline — August 30.

Diversity, Inclusion, and Sustainability in Nursing Education Lectureship Award
Sponsored by Nurse.com by OnCourse Learning, this award recognizes outstanding contributions made by an individual or a group that champion diversity, inclusion, and sustainability in nursing education. Nomination Deadline — September 14.

See AACN’s Award page for more details on award nominations.
UPCOMING CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

AACN invites deans, directors, chairs, faculty, and academic administrators to submit an abstract for an upcoming conference. AACN requests submissions showcasing programs, courses, initiatives, and/or evaluation strategies that characterize the conference theme and address the many changes and challenges faced in undergraduate and graduate nursing education.

Faculty Development Conference
View Call for Abstracts
November 14-15, 2018
New Orleans, LA
Call for Abstracts Opens:
July 2, 2018
Deadline:
August 27, 2018

Doctoral Education Conference
January 17-19, 2019
Coronado, CA
Call for Abstracts Opens:
August 1, 2018
Deadline:
September 19, 2018

Baccalaureate Education Conference
View Call for Abstracts
November 15-17, 2018
New Orleans, LA
Call for Abstracts Opens:
July 2, 2018
Deadline:
August 27, 2018

Master's Education Conference
February 21-23, 2019
Tampa, FL
Call for Abstracts Opens:
September 5, 2018
Deadline:
October 31, 2018

Faculty Practice Pre-Conference
January 16, 2019
Coronado, CA
Call for Abstracts Opens:
August 1, 2018
Deadline:
September 19, 2018

CNL Summit
February 20-22, 2019
Tampa, FL
Call for Abstracts Opens:
September 5, 2018
Deadline:
October 31, 2018

For more information, please visit the Call for Abstracts page on our website. If you have questions, contact Kristin Downs, Conference Manager, kdowns@aacnnursing.org.

NEXT NursingCAS CYCLE OPENS AUGUST 15

Your school conducts important work to shape the future of nursing by selecting the best candidates to enroll in your program. NursingCAS can be a vital asset to help manage your selection process.

NursingCAS, the centralized application service for nursing, is a free, AACN member benefit, and all schools are encouraged to participate in the service. Through NursingCAS, students can research and apply to nursing programs at participating schools nationwide at the doctoral, master’s, bachelor’s, and associate degree level.

NursingCAS provides valuable information to prospective nursing students about participating programs’ admissions requirements, notifications about programs with available space, and upcoming recruitment events at participating schools. Most importantly, NursingCAS enables prospective students to easily apply to nursing program(s) of interest for a nominal fee with one, online application and one set of transcript(s).

New schools can be added to NursingCAS at any time. Schools interested in joining the service should contact Caroline Kane, AACN’s NursingCAS Director, at 202-463-6930 ext. 258 or ckanec@aacnnursing.org.
PATRICIA A. GRADY, PhD, RN, FAAN

Dr. Patricia A. Grady has served as Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) since 1995. An internationally recognized researcher, Dr. Grady has announced that she will be leaving NINR at the end of the summer.

Dr. Grady joined NIH in 1988 as an extramural research program administrator in the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) in the areas of stroke and brain imaging. From 1993 to 1995, Dr. Grady served as NINDS Deputy Director and Acting Director. Before beginning her service at NIH, Dr. Grady held several academic positions and served concurrently on the faculties of the University of Maryland School of Nursing and School of Medicine.

After earning her undergraduate degree in nursing from Georgetown University, Dr. Grady pursued her graduate education at the University of Maryland, receiving a master’s degree from the School of Nursing and a doctorate in physiology from the School of Medicine.

Dr. Grady has been recognized with many prestigious honors and awards — including numerous honorary degrees — for her leadership and scientific accomplishments. She received AACN’s Policy Luminary Award in 2015 and was named a Visionary Pioneer by the University of Maryland School of Nursing. A recipient of the NIH Merit Award and the Public Health Service Superior Service Award for her exceptional leadership, Dr. Grady has been named among the 100 Most Powerful Women in Washington by Washingtonian Magazine.

1) Congratulations on your distinguished career! What prompted your decision to leave NINR and NIH at this time?

I have enjoyed serving as the Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research since 1995. When I became the Director, NINR had been an Institute at NIH for just a little over a year. Many positive changes have occurred since then. I feel that the Institute is strong, and I’m leaving it in a good place to continue its growth under new leadership.

I am confident that the Institute will be well served in the years to come by the collective wisdom of the established scientists, the emerging generation of new researchers, and the leaders in the field.

2) What are two prime examples of nursing research making an impact since NINR’s inception?

One of the exciting aspects of nursing research is that it makes such an important impact. NINR supports the science that enhances health and wellness at every stage of life, including for those with chronic conditions or serious illnesses. Because of the work NINR has supported, adolescents can successfully manage their diabetes and young minority women have reduced their risk for acquiring HIV. Additionally, there is a better understanding of why men and women respond differently to pain medication, and clinicians have improved tools for discussing palliative and end-of-life care with seriously ill patients and their families. The patient-centered, interdisciplinary field of nursing science is vital to advancing health care now and in years to come.

3) What are some of the major changes you have seen in nursing science during your tenure?

There have been many changes in nursing science over the years. One major change has been the use of genomics in our field. The translation of genomics into health care and the importance of the role of nurses in the application of genomics to clinical care is an area that continues to evolve.

Through an emphasis on symptom science, NINR-supported scientists are contributing findings that can predict which people are most at-risk for adverse symptoms and conditions, monitor treatment efficacy, and guide interventions to improve health and symptom outcomes. NINR has established a model to guide research related to symptoms of illnesses, injuries, and conditions.

Another significant change has been the emphasis on precision health. Precision health is an emerging approach for symptom management and prevention that takes into account individual variability in genes, environment, and lifestyle for each person.

4) What impact do cuts to federal nursing research dollars have on improving our nation’s health?

Since taking the role of Director, NINR has tripled its budget, with 2018 being the largest appropriation in NINR’s history. The support from Congress and the President is appreciated as it enables us to support critical nursing science.

5) How does NINR support schools of nursing?

NINR supports schools of nursing in a variety of ways. In addition to providing extramural grants, one major area of support is in training. To help train the next generation of nurse scientists, NINR supports training opportunities including the Graduate Partnership Program (a doctoral fellowship training program that coordinates training and funding for PhD students attending a school of nursing), Summer Genetics Institute (a one-month intensive research training program at NIH), and NINR Methodologies Boot Camp Series (a one-week intensive research training program at NIH).

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Other training opportunities include support through mechanisms like summer internships, research project grants, fellowships, and development awards.

NINR’s website also provides an array of information, such as videos of scientific events and lectures, that may be useful to schools of nursing and their students.

6) In turn, what can schools of nursing do to support the endeavors of NINR?

Schools of nursing can inspire the next generation of nursing science leaders by being ambassadors for careers in nursing science to answer the questions that can change clinical practice. Faculty can encourage their students to explore training opportunities through NINR and to pursue these early in their careers. Schools of nursing can also support NINR by ensuring that the public knows the outcomes of the science we support and disseminating this exciting science that’s happening at schools of nursing around the country.

7) What advice do you have for investigators looking to pursue research funding?

Research is an amazing and rewarding career. I would encourage anyone interested in funding to review NINR's current strategic plan, contact our extramural program staff who specialize in their area of interest, and view our grantsmanship workshop videos on the NINR website.

8) NINR will celebrate its 40th anniversary in 2025. What do you believe will be the state of nursing science at that time?

The state of nursing science continues to increase incrementally in quality and quantity as time goes on. Nursing science will continue to play a critical role in advancing health care, and nursing science can foster the development of novel, culturally sensitive interventions to deliver tailored care and real-time health information to patients, families, clinicians, and communities. The frontier of technology holds great promise for rapid advances in data science, genomic and molecular research, as well as devices and software to improve health across the health sciences. Nursing science will continue to develop innovative approaches to reach diverse and underserved populations and promote health, prevent illness, and improve health-related quality of life across the lifespan.

9) What has been the most rewarding aspect of your time at NINR and NIH?

In public service, everything we do is with an eye toward helping others, just as all those in the field of nursing science strive to improve quality of life for individuals, families, and communities. Knowing that NINR helps to answer the questions that change clinical practice across the nation and around the world is very rewarding. I take great pride in the work that NINR and NIH do to improve the health and quality of life of the American people.

10) Do you have any immediate future plans after you leave NINR?

Yes, I plan to travel and engage in selected special projects. I look forward to watching the continued growth of nursing science and NINR.
For additional information and applications, go to www.su.edu/employment-opportunities. Contact Dr. Roberta McCauley, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, NEA-BC, chair of the search committee for questions. (mccaule87@su.edu)

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE

College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Jane W. and James E. Moore Chair in Nursing Research

The College of Nursing and Health Sciences invites applications for this inaugural named chair position at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. The ideal candidate has an established program of research and ability to lead and engage in collaborative research. Responsibilities include maintaining an ongoing program of nursing research supported by extramural funding, faculty mentorship, and leadership. Requirements: PhD in nursing, current RN license in the U.S. and eligibility for WI licensure, eligibility for tenure at time of hire, established program of research and funding. For a complete position description and to apply go to: http://uwec.ly/jobopenings and enter Job Opening ID: 14416. Submit online: letter of interest, graduate degree transcripts, current vita, copy of RN license, and contact information for 3 references. Priority deadline December 1, 2018. Review of materials will be upon receipt and will continue until the position is filled. A criminal background check will be required.

Application questions: Cathy Wilson at wilsoncm@uwec.edu or 715-836-5837. UW-Eau Claire is an AA/EEO/Veterans/Disability employer dedicated to enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion.