The purpose of the AANP Fellows Program, in support of the mission and vision of the AANP, is to impact national and global health by engaging recognized nurse practitioner leaders who make outstanding contributions to clinical practice, research, education or policy.

My first few months as FAANP Chair have been both exciting and illuminating! I wish to formally invite you to attend the 2023 Winter Meeting at the beautiful Lowes, Ventana Canyon Resort in Tucson, Arizona. The meeting will be held on February 24th - 25th, 2023 and offers an unique opportunity to hear and interact with some of the most respected national experts on the topics of: healthcare workforce, economics, regulation, policy, leadership, and emerging models of healthcare delivery.

The selected theme for this year’s meeting is: Navigating the Changing Face of Healthcare: Emerging Models, Challenges, and Strategies. Our spectacular speaker lineup features; Jeff Bauer, Barbara Safriet, Peter Buerhaus, Cathy Rick, Christine Engstrom and the 2022 Loretta C. Ford Award recipient, Dr. William Rosa. You will leave the meeting feeling refreshed and energized with strategies as well as a call to action for the relentless pursuit of improved access to healthcare, the future healthcare systems, and the role of the NP in emerging models of healthcare delivery. Continuing education credit will be offered for attending this event.

Relax, Reconnect and Recharge at this amazing event!

See you in Tucson!

A Very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year!

Greetings from FAANP Chair
Penny Kaye Jensen, FAAHP
Sending Condolences, Love and Prayers to Dr. Jan Towers
From all Nurse Practitioners to Jan and her family in the loss of her husband.

“Barry Towers had great impact on AANP’s development and growth. When AANP was “young”, Judith Dempster, Jan Towers, and Zo DeMarchi made up the executive staff—and each of their husbands was VERY instrumental in getting the business of AANP done. But long after AANP’s staff and membership had greatly expanded, Barry Towers continued to support AANP in many ways. He assisted in a range of administrative activities in the early days of the AANP Certification Program and JAANP. He was the official photographer for conferences and meetings for years, including all FAANP inductions and events. He was a major asset in Health Policy Office work. We owe Barry a great debt of gratitude for his dedication and contributions to AANP over the years.” (Mary Jo Goolsby)

Barry died on November 22. Please, remember Jan and Barry in your prayers.

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As I attempt to choose appropriate words, I am experiencing sad and happy thoughts and this column may reflect those emotions. This is my last column as chair of the FAANP Forum committee and am feeling a true loss after twelve years on this committee and eleven as chair. I resigned a year ago with the intention of ending my office in December of 2022 and had hoped a plan for continuation would be in place. I do not know the future plans. As chair of this committee I began my journey and continued it with Patricia Alpert, Mary Jo Goolsby, and Jamie Newland. Mary Jo as the person who initiated this Newsletter has remained on the committee, has published frequently, been loyal to all endeavors, and has been a great supporter. Patricia Alpert and Jamie Newland have also been frequent publishers, loyal, and supportive. Over the years various people joined our team including Rosemary Goodyear and the chairs of FAANP during their terms. Our most recent team members have included Barbara Sheer, Kim Curry, and Deborah Gray all of whom have been dedicated to fulfilling their roles. Over the years, Ric Riccardi has contributed many photographs and his recent column: Art and Creativity. Jeff Bauer, an Honorary Fellow contributed so many valuable columns and we loved his contributions. Thank you to Blanca Gonzales for her courtesies, suggestions, and promptness. All of these Fellows have been fantastic team members, friends, and supporters of the NL. Without them, the FAANP Forum would not have been the Newsletter that it is. My heart is full of gratitude and love for these wonderful people who were so willing to share their time and talents. I am glad we have the Forum online and believe that it does play a part in our history. Mary Jo, thank you for your strengths in forming this committee in 2010 and for the expert guidance over the years. Your awesome personal assistance to me was just what I needed and I am deeply grateful. The rewards and experiences with which I have continued to chair the Forum have been outstanding. The Fellows I have met and with whom I have had many discussions proved over and over the unbelievable value of the Fellows. Thank you to the committee members, the readers, the chairs of FAANP, and my friends who accompanied and supported me on this journey. It was a privilege and an honor to serve as chair of the FAANP Forum committee. The rewards were many and I learned so much about editing, proofing, and publishing. It was an honor to work with so many intelligent, interesting, creative people. Thank you to each of the FAANP chairs who allowed me to continue in this role. I treasure this experience and challenge as one of the best I have ever known and will long remember many stories about the FAANP Forum. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Best wishes for 2023.
HAPPY 102nd BIRTHDAY TO DR. LEE FORD

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO DR. LORETTA FORD,
THE FOUNDER OF THE NURSE PRACTITIONER PROFESSION
WITH GREAT GRATITUDE AND LOVE
From FAANPs all over the world.
In recognition of Nurse Practitioner Week, the Department of Veterans Affairs recognized World War II Veteran and internationally renowned nursing leader who transformed the profession of nursing by co-founding the nurse practitioner profession, Dr. Loretta C. Ford. Ford served her country as a nurse in the United States Army Air Force, working at several stateside military bases before returning to school to attain her college degree at the University of Colorado. Dr. Ford, now approaching her 102nd birthday, is known as the ‘mother of nurse practitioners’ and remains an active member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, serving as a consultant and providing inspiring lectures. Dr. Ford is the author of more than 100 publications and holds many honorary Doctoral degrees. Dr. Ford’s many awards include the Living Legend Award from the American Academy of Nursing, the Gustav O. Lienhard Award from the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies, induction into the National Women’s Hall of Fame and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Today, the Department of Veterans Affairs employees over 7,000 nurse practitioners, each proudly serving America’s heroes. To hear Dr. Ford in her own words, describing her experiences in leading the development of the nurse practitioner profession, click here: Nurse Practitioners - The Legacy of Loretta Ford

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yX2-GPVX3o Penny Jensen

Dr. Lee Ford has been a nurse for eighty years and 57 of those years have been dedicated to starting and building the Nurse Practitioner profession. She is an amazing woman who has witnessed so many changes and improvements in health care. She has earned and received many prestigious awards. In the 21st century alone, she received the following awards:

2000- Honorary Doctor of Science, University of Rochester
2000 NAPNAP-LCF Distinguished Fellow Award established
2000 Fellow, AANP
2001 Honorary Fellow Alpha Omega Alpha, Honor Medical Society
2001 Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Binghamton University
2001 Honorary Fellow American Academy of Nurse Practitioner Trailblazer’s Award, American College of Nurse Practitioners
2003- Elizabeth Blackwell, MD Award, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
2004-National Conference of Nurse Practitioners Life Achievement Award
2005-“Amazing Exemplars” Award, Friends of National Institutes of Nursing Research
2006-Loretta C. Ford Educational Wing dedicated at University of Rochester School of Nursing
2006- “Second Century Excellence in Health Care” award from Columbia University School of Nursing
2007-Honorary Doctor of Science, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN
2008-Lifetime Achievement Award, Convenient Care Clinic Ass’n, Orlando, FL
2010-Lifetime Achievement Award, CANP, LA, CA
2010-Lifetime Achievement AWARD, National Nurse Community Centers
2010-The Princess Srinagarindra Award, Thailand
2011-Induction into the National Women’s Hall of Fame, Seneca Falls, NY
2012-Induction into the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame, Denver, CO
2012 Honorary Doctor of Science, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston
2012 AAGN Gannet Award, Wash, DC
2014 NONPF Lifetime Achievement award
2014 AACCA Pioneering Spirit Award
2014 West Palm Beach NP Ass’n Leadership Award
2016-Honorary Doctor of Nursing Practice, University of South Florida, Tampa
2016. “Growing Bolder”, Central FL. Community Service Award , Winter Park, FL
2018 NONPF Lifetime Achievement Award
2020 FAANP Legacy Award

Dr. Loretta Ford, Congratulations on your many accomplishments and on your 102nd Birthday.
Give It a Try—Leadership Book Club Dinner

I recently had dinner with four local NP leaders as we participated in our first “leadership book club dinner”. When I put out a call to determine interest, I expected to attract a small number of participants, which would allow us to effectively discuss one book over dinner. That is precisely the response I received, and we scheduled our first dinner one month later. As the facilitator, I chose a book that I believed had a meaningful and inspirational message and was an easy enough read to be promising for this purpose. The choice, for me, clear---Seth Godin’s *What to Do When It’s Your Turn (and It’s Always Your Turn)* (2014).

In What to Do, Godin shares his belief that each of us has the freedom to make choices, which bring risks and responsibilities. He talks about seizing our opportunities, rather than waiting to be invited to participate. By making and ACTING on our choice, we learn that having the necessary courage to act enables us to make a difference.

What a lively discussion this book triggered! As we began our discussion, one participant, an NP faculty member, described having already cited Godin’s message twice that day in encouraging a former and a current student. Each of us could recognize the opportunities that came with his message—for ourselves and for those we influence.

Yet, we also acknowledged the potential impediments with which we all are faced daily, constant distractions from our existing commitments which we often allowed to stand in our way. This immediately reminded me of T.S. Eliot’s poem —*Burned Norton*, published in 1936. Eliot describes time past and time future as allowing us little consciousness, describing “*time-ridden faces Distracted from distraction by distraction . . .*” What a perfect description for the hustle-bustle world in which we exist, almost 90 years later!

So, what did I learn from the experience? We didn’t solve all the world’s problems, or even our own. However, having a shared perspective over which we could talk was successful in inspiring us to discuss the book and, more importantly, our gained insight. And our number allowed all to be present and participate—so that we had a somewhat intimate discussion amid a busy restaurant.

As we prepared to leave, all shared interest in planning our next event. I had brought three other books I was currently reading, just in case the conversation had lagged. While they were not needed, I briefly described *Sparked: Discover Your Unique Imprint for Work that Makes You Come Alive* (Fields, 2021) and what I learned by completing Fields’ *Sparketype* test online. They were interested in this content—since they each wanted to complete the *Sparketype* test, we chose that book (and/or his resources) for our next leadership book club dinner. During the second month, another member joined, and our discussion and fellowship was just as lively as before. We’re going to pick it up again in January!

I strongly recommend hosting a book club dinner as a way of encouraging peer mentorship and professional development among a small number of participants, who can use the learnings to then influence others and/or their institutions. I’d love to hear from anyone who is participating in a similar group or has ideas on how this could be extended.

References


Godin, S. (2014). *What to Do When It’s Your Turn (and It’s Always Your Turn)*. The Domino Project.
CLOSING REMARKS

I must share my sadness to learn that this could be the final FAANP Forum. As Mary Neiheisel retires from editing the Forum, there is not yet a replacement plan. The Forum has long served as our primary communication link. While I do not know what percentage of Fellows read new issues of the Forum when they are first published, it has been an online connection to which we could turn to learn about FAANP events, the accomplishments of many Fellows, and timely discussions. I would deeply miss this regular touchpoint and implore the FAANP Executive Committee to ensure that the Forum continues serving our growing Fellowship.

The Forum arose from FAANP’s first facilitated Strategic Planning meeting held during our 2010 Winter Meeting, chaired by Judy Berg. With just over 200 FAANP members, the plan included several recommendations to move FAANP forward, including the creation of a quarterly newsletter to enhance communication and awareness among Fellows. At that time, we had no regular communication vehicle other than periodic email blasts; listservs had been tried and proven unsuccessful. For over a decade, Mary has ensured that the Forum is published regularly, with a growing breadth of content to meet our needs.

So, for now, I will simply say:

THANK YOU TO MARY NEIHEISEL FOR YOUR SELFLESS SERVICE TO THE FAANP FORUM OVER THE YEARS!

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE FAANP FORUM OVER THE YEARS—I HOPE IT WILL CONTINUE!

Note: Thank you Mary Jo. I echo you in your thoughts.
What to Read Now: Reviewing NONPF’s New NP Role Core Competencies

The National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) has long been involved in identifying and articulating competency standards for nurse practitioners (NPs). For over 30 years, NONPF has provided leadership in establishing expected competencies for NP entry into practice. Beginning in 2008, NONPF began writing core competencies at the doctoral level to reinforce NONPF’s endorsement of the DNP as the entry-level practice degree for NPs.

The NONPF board recently identified a need to revise the NP competencies to be congruent with the 2021 American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Essentials. The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) is the accrediting arm of AACN and requires colleges of nursing to show evidence that they have provided the curricular elements described in the Essentials as a condition of accreditation. Note that CCNE is one of three organizations that can accredit nursing clinical doctorate programs.

As a result of the joint effort between NONPF and CCNE, NONPF released the revised Nurse Practitioner Role Core Competencies in July 2022, replacing the prior NP Core Competencies. The new competencies are again written to be evaluated at the clinical doctoral level. They are considered essential for all nurse practitioners and therefore are not specific to the population focus of individual NP program tracks.

Competencies are designed to be demonstrated at the time of graduation and are considered necessary for NPs to meet the complex challenges of translating knowledge into practice and being able to function in a rapidly changing health care environment. Programs preparing NPs are expected to meet all the competencies included in the Essentials as well as NONPF’s NP Role Core Competencies through their curricula.

The NONPF NP Role Core Competencies are an extension of the AACN Level 2 Sub-Competencies in the Essentials and according to NONPF, are designed to complement them. The Core Competencies match the ACCN Essentials in including ten domains with descriptions of competencies under each subhead. The ten domains are:

1. Knowledge of practice
2. Person centered care
3. Population health
4. Practice scholarship and translational science
5. Quality and safety
6. Interprofessional collaboration in practice
7. Health systems
8. Technology and information literacy
9. Professional acumen
10. Personal and professional leadership
Readers can see the crosswalk between the Essentials and the NONPF Core Competencies on the NONPF website. It’s a good idea to go through the crosswalk between AACN and NONPF in detail to compare the content developed by both organizations. As an example, Domain 4 is Practice Scholarship and Translational Science. My eye was naturally drawn to this domain to dig into in detail. Both AACN and NONPF include three competencies in this domain:

- Advance the scholarship of NP nursing practice
- Integrate best evidence into NP practice
- Promote the ethical conduct of scholarly activities

However, the three competencies each contain sub competencies that make the competency somewhat more measurable, and this is where the differences occur. As an example, I will use Competency 3: Promote the ethical conduct of scholarly activities.

The AACN sub competencies for Competency 3 are:

1.3d Integrate foundational and advanced specialty knowledge into clinical reasoning.
1.3e Synthesize current and emerging evidence to Influence practice.

The NONPF sub competencies for Competency 3 are:

1.3f: Demonstrate clinical judgement using a systematic approach to inform, improve, and advance NP practice processes and outcomes.
1.3g: Demonstrate clinical judgement to inform and improve NP practice based on the foundational knowledge of advanced physiology/pathophysiology, advanced health assessment and advanced pharmacology
1.3h: Synthesize current and emerging evidence to influence NP practice.

The focus of the AACN language above is integration of knowledge and clinical reasoning. The focus of the NONPF language is the use of judgment to inform practice, while basing this judgment on NP foundational courses. Both organizations share the sub competency of synthesizing evidence into practice. It is interesting that AACN uses the term “clinical reasoning” while NONPF uses “judgement”.

The leadership at NONPF has pointed out that sometimes, the difference between the NONPF competencies and the AACN competencies is the NP focus. At other times, domains were expanded by NONPF to be specific to the NP scope of practice. Dr. Mary Ellen Roberts is a member of the JAANP editorial board and served on the NONPF Curricular Leadership Committee that produced the new competencies. Dr. Roberts points out that the purpose of creating competencies in addition to the existing AACN Essentials was to enhance NP education by mapping the NONPF Competencies to the AACN Essentials. This will enable faculty to easily adapt the AACN Essentials and the NONPF Core competencies to their curriculum.

As NP educational programs continue to grow and expand quickly, all NPs have a vested interest in understanding and providing feedback on those criteria and standards that aim to ensure high quality programs. The production of high quality, competent nurse practitioners, especially those prepared at the clinical doctorate level, is critical to the health of our population. More than that, their competence reflects on all other NPs and can impact our shared ability to expand our role, realize our scope, and recognize our potential.

Reference:

During my doctoral studies, I worked on several projects with staff at the center where I conducted my research. I remember asking for an appointment with the director. As soon as I walked in the room before I could even sit down, he said, “This is about authorship, right?” I replied yes. He simply stated, “Whoever does the most work is first author.” I felt relieved that I was not going to have to fight for first authorship. In writing, authorship should be the first consideration that is discussed and agreed upon by the team, including the order of authors. An author is someone who writes.

The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (2022) recommends that authorship be based on the following 4 criteria:

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
2. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
3. Final approval of the version to be published; AND
4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved. (p. 2)

Any person or contributor who does not meet all four of these criteria is not an author and should instead be acknowledged in the manuscript. The ICMJE document provides guidance on all aspects of writing a manuscript, from conceptualization to publication. Many journal editors note in the author guidelines that the journal follows the ICMJE recommendations for all phases of the process from submission of a manuscript to final editorial decision that might or might not lead to publication.

The International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (ISMPP) (2022) provides further clarification on what constitutes authorship or a significant contribution to the work, particularly with research:

1. Concept and design: Development or substantial modification of research idea, study design, methodology protocol, statistical analysis plan, or a combination of these activities; or
2. Data acquisition: Significant contribution of data (quality and quantity) to the final analyses; or
3. Data analysis: Performance of the data analysis and assurance of the integrity of the data and statistical analyses; or
4. Data interpretation: Derivation of conclusions, placement of results into context, or identification of knowledge gaps for future exploration. (p. 866)

What does not constitute a significant contribution to the manuscript and is not authorship?

1. Concept and design: Writing the protocol or clinical study report, literature search, obtaining funding
2. Data acquisition: Study site activation, site monitoring, data entry, query management
3. Data analysis: data cleaning, database management, data handling, data storage, software, technology
4. Data interpretation: Programming output tables, data management, managerial responsibility, editorial assistance, compiling submission package/submission (p. 868)
Faculty regularly mentor students to help them be successful in publishing their papers. But is the faculty member an author? Some schools publish guidelines for student-faculty collaborative research/writing/publication. As a general rule, simply providing comments or editing a student’s paper does not constitute authorship for the faculty and the faculty’s name should not appear on the manuscript. Faculty should model ethical behavior for students relative to publishing standards. I encourage all faculty to become familiar with the recommendations of ICMJE and ISMPP. Saver (2022) provides a concise and easy-to-understand summary of the ISMPP recommendations.

On a lighter note, I want to provide a few quotes about writing in general. When students ask how many pages to complete an assignment requiring a paper, I reply, “Use only as many words as you need to say what you need to say.” This response, of course, drives them crazy. Mark Twain is noted with saying, “Writing is easy. All you have to do is cross out the wrong words.” And finally, Dr. Seuss wrote,

“It has often been said
there’s so much to be read,
you never can cram
all those words in your head.

So the writer who breeds
more words than he needs
is making a chore
for the reader who reads.

That’s why my belief is
the briefer the brief is,
the greater the sigh
of the reader’s relief is.

And that’s why your books
have such power and strength.
You publish with shorth!
(Shorth is better than length.)”

Happy writing and publishing!

References

Celebrating Five Years of the AANP International Ambassador Program!

It’s hard to believe the AANP International Ambassador Program has been active five years! So, maybe it’s time for a five year historical review and a discussion of the cohorts who have been selected and continue to serve as International Ambassadors.

Many years ago, serving as the AANP International Liaison, Madrean Schober did much of the formal international communicating and collaborating AANP did at that time. Most of that involved work with the International Council of Nurses Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nurse Network (formerly the International Council of Nurses Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nursing Network), commonly referred to as the ICN NP/APN Network or the Network. Other work done at that time included assisting with the website the ICN NP/APN Network maintained at that time (previously hosted by AANP, but since taken over by the Network) and answering questions posed to AANP that pertained to NP/APN development outside the US. As most of you know, the Network developed out of the work of multiple AANP members. When the Network was fully formed and functioning well, and the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and the American College of Nurse Practitioners merged in 2013 to form the American Association of Nurse Practitioner Dr. Schober’s position was not retained in the merger. At that time the International Committee was formed to address some of the work Dr. Schober had been doing to that time. The committee also reviewed the work of the Network and, not wanting to duplicate the work of the Network and with AANP BOD support, chose to create the International Ambassador Program. The goal of the program was to select a few individuals each year who would not only serve as International Ambassadors but who would also work to build and improve NP/APN practice in their countries and around the globe. It was thought attending the AANP Annual Conference would stimulate their thinking about what NPs/APNs could do and allow networking to assist in that effort. Those goals have been well met by the Ambassadors. So, each year at this time, AANP takes applications from around the globe, and chooses among them for the best candidates, announcing their Ambassadorship the following year and bringing them to that year’s conference, whenever possible. If circumstances arise, such as the recent pandemic, that attendance is honored whenever the Ambassador is able. While there have been five cohorts there have only been three times when the Ambassadors could attend the conference due to cancellation of the in-person conference because of Covid 19. The pictures depict the years the ambassadors have been able to attend.

2018 International Ambassadors

Left to right: Bongi Sibanda, Scholastica Chibehe, Kathy Wheeler (then International Committee Chair and BOD Liaison), Mabedi Kgositau, Heather McGrath
2019 International Ambassadors
Left to right: Fathi Al Abri
Bonisile Nsibandze

2020, 2021, 2022 International Ambassadors
Left to right: Patricija Luneznik (2022), Wentao Zhou (2022), AANP President April Kapu, Maria Auxiliadora Rodrigues (2020), AANP CEO Jon Fanning, Evelyn Amoako (2922), Sriyani Padmalatha (2021), Joseph Kilasara (2021), Nanako Tsukui (2020). Rachel Kimani (2021) attended the conference but did not join the group for the dinner where this shot was taken.
Blast From the Past

Barbara Sheer, FAANP

There have been so many changes in the past few months and so many memories. In September we remember those who died in the September 11th attack it’s been 21 years and we are still dealing with health issues associated with the first responders. The life of Queen Elizabeth is being celebrated. There are so many stories surfacing from her reign over the past 70 years. These stories have been preserved and will be available for future generations.

Nurse Practitioners have many stories and so little of the stories are preserved. We think about the pioneers that have gone before us. In writing a memorial for Joan Gregory one of our founding members, we found there was little written about her. Her biography was no longer on the FAANP website since she was no longer a member. We needed to rely on memories of those who knew and worked with her. This is a sad commentary of our early leaders.

The AANP History committee has embarked on the Oral History Project in conjunction with the UVA Bjoring Center for Nursing Historical Inquiry. We are preserving the 57 FAANP interviews that have been published in the FAANP Forum. They will eventually be placed in a researchable format and available at center’s website and linked to the AANP history website. The interviews have been done over the past 12 years utilizing standardized questions. We hope this is a first step in preserving our history we would like all fellows to interview their mentors and be interviewed. We have developed a protocol for the interviews and questions, and this can be sent to you upon request, and we hope to put this on our website in the future.

The regional meetings, zoom meetings and online conferences make sharing information quick and efficient. Social media presents the opportunity for real time communication throughout the world. We have come a long way. In the early interview with Susan Wysocki, we reminisced the early days of communication. Imagine no fax, no internet, no email, or social media. We had telephones, FedEx and overnight mail. Nurse practitioners were undeterred. We developed telephone trees on a local, state, and national level. These telephone trees were so effective that a contentious meeting at the Pennsylvania Medical Society with the director speaking adamantly about the threat of nurse practitioners and that any physician married to a nurse practitioners should be banned by the society resulted with many physicians resigning from the society the next morning.

We viewed the fax machine as a wonder. Then voicemail, email, and the internet assisted our communication. Today we are bombarded with messages 24/7 some positive and some negative. We are stressed and spend more time with the innovations designed to improve quality of life. Maybe we should begin to get back to the basics and spend more time breathing.

The upcoming elections will challenge our resolve. I remember in the 80s when we hired Hurdis Griffith to introduce us to lobbying in the capital. This resulted in our hiring Carole Jennings who opened many doors and spent many years on the hill lobbying for AANP and teaching us how to make a difference. How many of us remember these leaders? I am sure they are lost to the history of AANP and superseded by those who were more visible. This is the part our history must play. What is happening today is history tomorrow. I hope that we can continue to preserve and protect our history.
In this issue of the Art and Creativity column, I am pleased to interview Dr. Mimi Secor. Mimi is a Family Nurse Practitioner, who has been specializing in Women’s Health for over 40 years. Recently, Mimi has focused on transforming and improving population health and well-being through fitness. Mimi is a popular National Speaker, Educator, Entrepreneur and Health Coach.

During the pandemic, Mimi has found more time for her creative side, specifically watercolor painting. Mimi mentioned that she needed to do something to reduce my stress (from the pandemic and perpetual bad news) so she decided to take online watercolor painting lessons.

The effects of this new hobby on Mimi’s psyche/mood were immediate and have been long lasting. Right away she became happier and less stressed. Each session transformed her mood and awakened a creative spark had buried many years earlier. Mimi loved art in high school but was advised against pursuing it as a career since it was unlikely she would be able to earn a living. So, thankfully for all of us, she became a nurse. Mimi fell in love with nursing especially being an NP (at age 22). Soon Mimi became a workaholic taking on challenge after challenge and wound up in a continuous state of near burn out because she wasn’t taking time to destress.

Taking up painting at age 66 has provided Mimi with a new passion bringing much joy to her life. For example, she loves sharing paintings with friends, family and on social media. Quite frequently people message her - asking if she sells her paintings? So, a bit of additional income has been nice too. Mimi is working on creating an Esty Store so she can sell prints of her original work.

Mimi is inspired by nature and enjoys painting birds, seashells, and flowers. She is particularly fascinated by hummingbirds, cardinals, and shore birds. One of her favorite flower paintings was inspired by Georgia O’Keeffe’s “White Iris”. Mimi has also created a rendition of van Gogh’s “Starry Night”.

Mimi encourages all NPs to create time in our busy schedules to devote to hobbies, interests, or pursue a new hobby/interest/activity. It might just spark your passion and give you a reason to take time from work and your other life obligations to slow down and do something creative and restorative. Mimi shares her perspective: “I am pretty sure you will experience, like I did, the many benefits of creative, mindfulness activities.”

On the following page are examples of Art work by Mimi Secor.
Art & Creativity

Art by Mimi Secor

Richard Riccardi, FAANP
FAANP Business Meeting
June 2022

Thank you to our esteemed and talented photographer:
Ric Ricciardi
Membership Feature Column

Angie Golden, FAANP

Michaelene P Jansen, FAANP

2008  Education: Doctor of Nursing Practice, Arizona State University,
1998  MS (FNP) Northern Arizona University,
1996  MNED University of Phoenix,
1977  BSN Ball State University

Certifications; FNP-C

Short Bio:

Dr. Angela Golden is a current Fellow and past President of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Her tenure as the President of AANP gives her a unique and overarching perspective of the multifunctional role of the nurse practitioner. For the past 24 years, Angie has had her own practice—NP from Home, LLC—where she provides clinical services in a family practice setting and for the past seven years a subspecialty obesity practice, NP Obesity Treatment Clinic.

Dr. Golden has a great deal of experience in leadership positions and clinical practice. She has authored peer-reviewed articles and book chapters covering a range of health topics including health policy. She has presented nationally and internationally with an emphasis on health policy, leadership, and various clinical topics.

When did you become an NP? What was the motivation?

I became a nurse practitioner in 1998. My motivation centered around what my next professional steps were going to be as my family moved to a rural community. Prior to that I was a flight nurse, and that role is one of a great deal of independence. I would be leaving that position to move and trying to decide what my next steps would be. Throughout my own healthcare journey many times or taking my children to a pediatric NP, I could see the value of that role especially moving to a rural community. I began to explore further education, as I already had a master’s in nursing education. I was fortunate to find Northern Arizona University’s program as it had a focus on rural health.

What experiences did you bring into the role?

Most of my nursing experience revolved around acute and critical care. I worked in level two and level one emergency rooms, many different critical care units including neonatal intensive care, open-heart units, adult, and pediatric critical care. For 10 years prior to becoming a nurse practitioner, I was a flight nurse, eventually serving as the Chief Flight Nurse for one of the first non-hospital-based program in the country. I also had some other unique opportunities in nursing; for three years I was a school nurse. I also did home health including during the early years of the AIDS epidemic, specializing in care for this population, and pediatric hospice pain management care.

Did you experience any challenges? How were they resolved?

I was fortunate to become a nurse practitioner in Arizona just as full practice was passed. I only had one year of any type of restricted practice where we had to have 1000 hours of practice before we could prescribe without oversight. Because I was fairly new in the role, I was not involved in the advocacy for full practice.

There have been other challenges of course, one was opening my own practice without having any real education on how to run a business. That challenge required a lot of my own education outside of advance practice nursing, as at that time there weren’t many NPs who were teaching other NPs about running a business.
Are there any experiences that you would like to talk about?

One of the greatest experiences I have had as a nurse practitioner is in leadership. Just before graduating from my NP program, I joined AANP and then was provided the opportunity to step in as the Arizona state representative to complete someone else’s term. I then ran for that state position and served for two more terms, during this time I learned the value of advocating for my profession and the importance of leadership within the profession. AANP offered me the opportunity to further my leadership opportunities by serving on the Board of Directors and eventually as the President. Serving as the President of AANP allowed me an opportunity to travel through the United States, learn about all the unique things that NPs were doing for their communities, and help move the profession forward by serving with a phenomenal Board of Directors.

What was most challenging in your career/ most important?

Most challenging for me in my profession was moving from the acute care, critical care areas into outpatient patient care. It also became the most important patient care position in my career. We had moved to a very rural community and the opportunity to serve my neighbors as their healthcare provider of choice was remarkable.

Is there anything you would want to change?

Two things I would change. The first would be for all nurse practitioners to understand the value of belonging to their national organization. To allow that organization to have their voice as part of advocacy, education, research, and leadership. The second thing I would change is for full practice authority to become the national norm for all 50 states and the territories. As an additional item I hope yet to see all barriers removed that prevent NPs from providing care to their patients.

What do you see as pivotal moments in the past years?

Most pivotal moments in the past 23 years of being a nurse practitioner include seeing so many more states earn full practice authority through the advocacy of those living in that state as well as seeing NPs become the provider of choice for so many patients. Many of these patients would not have had access to primary care if not for the NPs offering healthcare in their communities.

What advice would you give to new nurse practitioners?

The best advice I have for a new nurse practitioner is to recognize the horizon is bright. Fewer and fewer barriers are preventing patients from receiving care from us. I would encourage each new NP to look for new opportunities and new ways to provide that care to patients. Always looking for ways to collaborate with other professionals on an equal standing. Find a mentor who will support you, who will help you find your path to the professional that you want to be.

What do you see as the role of Nurse Practitioners in the next 25 years?

The role of the nurse practitioner in the next 25 years, if I had a crystal ball, would include full practice authority for every NP. I also think that there are roles that are going to come available for NPs that we don’t even see possible at this time. The reason I believe that is it as I look over the past 25 years, I see how many areas where NPs have created new roles, new experiences, and new ways to care for patients and communities that were simply unheard of or not thought of in the past.
Mary B. Neiheisel, FAANP

Education:
Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing G.N., Diploma. in Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, 1960
Incarnate Word College B.S. in Nursing, San Antonio, Texas, 1962
University of Colorado M.S. in Nursing Education, Boulder, Colorado, 1965
Louisiana State University Ed.D. University of Louisiana, Lafayette, Louisiana, 1981
Midwestern State University, Post Graduate Certificate, Family Nurse Practitioner, Wichita Falls, Texas, 1995
Other Coursework:
University of Colorado Health Science Center, Advanced Nursing 1997
Northern Kentucky University Gerontology NP 2005
Northern Kentucky University Adult NP 2006
Certifications:
Registered Nurse Licenses in Texas and Louisiana, Advanced Practice Nurse License in Louisiana, Certification as CNS-BC in Adult Health, Certification as APRN-FNP-

Short Bio:
Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel joined the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL) now the University of Louisiana at Lafayette (ULL) faculty in 1966. She held the Pfizer/Ardoin Endowed Professor in the College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, until 2000. In 2000 and continuing she holds the Lafayette General Medical Center/BORSF Professorship in Nursing II.

A native of Texas, Dr. Neiheisel began her studies at Baptist Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in San Antonio, Texas in 1957 graduating in 1960. Her B.S. in Nursing is from Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, TX. She received an M.S. in Nursing from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 1965. Her Ed.D. completed in 1981, is from Midwestern State University, Baton Rouge. She then completed a Family Nurse Practitioners curriculum in 1995 from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas. In 2005, she completed additional course work in Adult Nurse Practitioner from Northern Kentucky University.

During her career, she has been recognized with many honors both for her professional accomplishments as well as her civic and philanthropic involvements. In 2009, she was recognized as a Friend of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties. In 2008, she was nominated for Outstanding Nurse Educator for NONPF. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (2006), the first in Louisiana to be recognized. The University of Louisiana Lafayette Foundation recognized her as a Distinguished Professor, the first in the College of Nursing and the first and only one in the 20th century. She won the Women of Achievement Award for Zonta Club of Lafayette in 2008; the Women of Excellence Award from the Lafayette Commission of the Needs of Women in 2003. Rotary club has recognized her on many occasions for many accomplishments.

She provided services to many boards in the community, including the Acadiana Center for the Arts, Camp Bon Cœur, PASA, Family Violence Intervention Program, the Junior League Advisory Board, the Lafayette Public Library Foundation, the League of Women Voters, Performing Arts Society of Acadiana, Rotary, United Way, March of Dimes, American Heart Association to name a few, but not all. She is especially proud of the FAANP chair award-the first-in 2015. (Thank you Mary Ellen Roberts). In 2017 she received the Lafayette Civic Cup, the highest honor in her city. In 2022, a former student and her husband named and endowed the Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel Graduate NP Student Award and presented from 2022 in perpetuity. In 2022 she received the first Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel Patron of Hope Award from Faith House of Acadiana. In 2022 she was named Member Emeritus of the Acadiana Center of the Arts (ACA) Board of Directors and was celebrated and honored at a reception and at the Pelican Ball at Acadiana Center for the Arts.

Her tireless dedication to the community and profession includes Editor of Fellow of American Association of Nurse Practitioners Quarterly Publication, FAANP Forum. Dr. Neiheisel has been a valued and energetic force teaching for 57 years at the College of Nursing at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. In addition to teaching, Dr. Neiheisel is a family nurse practitioner at Faith House of Acadiana, a shelter for survivors of domestic violence.
Membership Feature Column

Mary B. Neiheisel, FAANP

Honors:

In 2022, a former student, Mrs. Tracy Frentz and her husband, Dr. Bryan Frentz established the Dr. Mary B. Neiheisel Graduate NP Student Scholarship which is presented twice a year and has been presented twice and will continue in perpetuity.

Sponsored the Richard and Mary Neiheisel endowed Dissertation Award for Doctoral students in the College of Liberal Arts-2018-2023;

Sponsored the Richard G. Neiheisel Endowed Professor of History. (Professor named for Fall 2017. 2017- in perpetuity. Established the Richard and Mary Neiheisel Dissertation Award for doctoral students. This is an endowed fund and is enduring. Presented once a year and for the first time in 2011 and in perpetuity. Established the Richard Neiheisel/Phi Beta Kappa Graduate Student Award for a graduating Graduate student. This is an endowed fund and is enduring. Presented twice a year since 1990 and in perpetuity.

Sponsored the NONPF Leadership Mentee Program 2018-2020

Established with Dr. Amelie Hollier, the APEA Poster award for NONPF. Presented once a year to four recipients attending and presenting at the annual NONPF meeting.

Zonta Club of Lafayette: Contribute to and raise funds for four different annual educational awards

When did you become an NP? What was the motivation?

I was appointed Graduate Nursing Coordinator at the College of Nursing at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in 1989. At that time, we did not have a nurse practitioner track but received numerous inquiries regarding NP programs. I was certified as an Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist but felt that if we were to offer a nurse practitioner track, I needed to be certified. I had met Dr. Lee Ford in Colorado in the mid-sixties and was intrigued with the role. However, I was not able to obtain my nurse practitioner certification at that time as I was focused on nursing education and finances were limited. Midwestern State University offered a post master’s summer program for certification as an FNP; so I spent two summers in Wichita Falls, Texas earning the NP certification and became nationally certified.

What experiences did you bring into the role?

I have been in education for a long time, initially in a diploma program. After obtaining my master’s degree in nursing education, I taught medical surgical nursing courses at Texas Woman’s University. When I started teaching at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, it was a small undergraduate program with few faculty. My husband Richard was teaching in the History department when I started teaching at USL. In addition to teaching, I took on part time administrative duties. I became the graduate coordinator in 1989. Amelie Hollier was in our first NP class. She greatly inspired me. I consulted with the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) frequently. Dr. Lee Ford also came and provided invaluable information and resources. She graciously stayed overnight to participate in a breakfast with state legislators. Although 60 legislators were invited, only nine attended but they were instrumental in providing future legislative support for NPs in Louisiana.

Did you experience any challenges? How were they resolved?

Nurse practitioners had great opposition in the early days from a variety of negative groups and this was a challenge to us all. As a state university funds were and are limited. There was little money for graduate nursing education. Money for graduate nursing education was provided for a consortium in the state rather than individual universities. Nurse practitioner tracks met great resistance. Money, provider and faculty shortage also contributed to the slow progression of graduate nursing programs. There was only one other nurse practitioner at our university and we operated on a shoe string. Student enthusiasm and enrollment increased with time. We were soon able to enroll students in our NP track. There were many physicians who valued NPs and employed them. NPs now have prescriptive authority, are accepted, and are exceptional. They are well respected health care providers in our community. They are now employed in a wide variety of settings, some setting up their own practices.
Are there any experiences that you would like to talk about?

I have always felt that I needed to continue clinical practice. Initially I worked part time in summers in medical surgical units. I now practice as an NP in a Survivors of Domestic Violence Shelter and have a passion for providing care for that population. I have been active in fund raising and hope within the next few years to help fund and open a new shelter. Louisiana is currently 600 beds short for survivors of domestic violence.

I also have been very active in the community including the American Heart Association, coordinating walks as well the American Cancer Society. I have learned so much from many people working in the non-profit community. It has been so rewarding helping others. I have also been active on the Board of Directors and committees for the Acadiana Center for the Arts. I have been awarded the second Member Emeritus award for the commitment to the Center.

What was most challenging in your career/ most important?

Completing the first level-the RN was the most challenging. Graduating from a very small high school with a limited science curriculum did not contribute greatly to the college level. I spent more hours in study hall than most of my classmates and soon developed a steady pace. Completing this level and passing state boards was, of course, the first and very important step to all future success. It was important to me to not disappoint my parents, but most importantly not disappoint myself. I try to stay positive and look for positive solutions to any situation.

Is there anything you would want to change?

I wish we could have started the graduate nursing program earlier in our University. However, the community assistance, money and acceptance was not there. I feel there is so much more to accomplish. I have been lucky to have good health and feel that I have even more to contribute to the profession.

If finances had not been an issue when I finished the MSN degree, I might have pursued the post graduate NP certificate. As it was I had $200.00 when I graduated and needed to work and earn that first pay check.

What do you see as pivotal moments in the past years?

Dr. Lee Ford impressed me greatly. Although she was in pediatrics and I was in the adult program, I was intrigued with the NP role. She was very instrumental in helping us develop our NP program at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She was so full of ideas and was instrumental in persuading the state legislators to understand and support nurse practitioners. Our graduates were outstanding and able to demonstrate the various dimensions of the NP role.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention my mother and my husband and all their support. Although they have been gone for 30 years, they always encouraged me to try new areas. They were so proud of me for obtaining my doctorate. My husband, Richard was also supportive and encouraged me to continue my education. He truly believed in nursing education.

I believe that much of my success is due to balance in life. I work hard but also like to relax and have a good time. I love the theater and have season tickets for Broadway performances in Lafayette and New Orleans. I have been very supportive of promoting the fine arts in Lafayette. Being involved and immersed in community activities are both very rewarding. As I said, it keeps me balanced. I truly believe in living the good life.

I have been engrossed with publishing the FAANP Forum for many years. It is also so rewarding. I must thank Mary Jo Goolsby for her vision of The Forum and her continual service as a committee member. It has been such an honor to work with Mary Jo and two of the original committee members: Jamie Newland and Patricia Alpert, With the addition of Kathy Wheeler, Rosemary Goodyear, Deborah Gray, Barbara Sheer, and Kim Curry over the years I have had outstanding support. Richard Riccardi has provided many photographs and recently has authored the Art and Creativity column. I was blessed with an awesome supportive team.
Pivotal moments for Nurse Practitioners, of course, started with the vision of Lee Ford and Henry Silver and continued with their tireless efforts in promoting and building the NP role. The first six NP graduates who immediately started working in the new role inspired others and several universities rapidly began their programs. The development of NP organizations and the establishment of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) now known as the American Association of Nurse Practitioners played major roles in the advancement and acceptance of the NP profession.

What advice would you give to new nurse practitioners?

Don’t give up. Recognize the importance of NPs in prevention of disease and health maintenance and promote both of these at the highest levels.

Stay up to date.

Participate in local, regional and national activities.

Know trends in health care and what NPs can do.

Don’t be afraid to give yourself credit when credit is due.

What do you see as the role of Nurse Practitioners in the next 25 years?

NPs will function in key roles in their communities, state and national efforts. NPs will increase participation in legislation and ensure that NPs are included in all aspects of health care. There will be more research in documenting the value of the NP role. NPs will be a monumental core of health care providers and will be a major factor in first line health care.

Interviewer’s note: Dr. Neiheisel is one of the most gracious and appreciative women I have met. She continuously thanks others for their efforts and minimizes her numerous accomplishments.

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May your Christmas season be healthy and bright and may all your future years be the same.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!
Membership Feature Column

Daniel O’Neill, FAANP

Barbara Sheer, FAANP

Education:
Master of Advanced Practice: Griffith University Queensland Australia 2008
Master Nurse Practitioner: University of Queensland 2011
Doctor of Nursing Practice 2019 Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University.
Post Masters ACNPC-AG 2021
Certifications: FNP-C, ACNPC-AG, CEN, CCRN

Brief Bio:

Dr. O’Neill is a leading Nurse Practitioner and a Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Fellow of the College of Emergency Nursing Australasia, and Fellow of the Australian College of Nurse Practitioners.

Dr. O’Neill has 20 years of experience in emergency, critical care, retrieval, and military medicine. This experience includes operational military experience in the Middle East and on humanitarian assistance in southeast Asia and the Pacific islands. During his career he has worked in many remote, rural, and metropolitan emergency departments, including expeditionary health units and combat support hospitals.

As a true nurse practitioner, Dr. O’Neill has had the opportunity to set up many NP services, including being the first NP in several emergency departments in Australia, United States, and the United Arab Emirates. Dr. O’Neill has many journal publications and has presented at advanced practice conferences nationally and internationally. These unique opportunities led him to help the development of mentoring and training of acute care NPs, including developing NP policy, scope of practice, peer review, and advancing the role in many rural and metropolitan areas.

Dr. O’Neill was awarded the prestigious Meritus Award Citation for Services to Humanity in 2011 and a citation from the U.S. Navy as subject matter expert in trauma care in 2010. Dr. O’Neill was recently awarded the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal for his service with the military during hurricane Pam in the Pacific Island of Vanuatu. He was also awarded the Texas State District 9 Nurse Practitioner Award 2022.

Dr. O’Neill served in one of the busiest emergency departments in the US; prior to this service he was the first lead Nurse Practitioner in Emergency Medicine at Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi and the first NP at Gympie Hospital Emergency Department. He is an outstanding doctoral graduate from the prestigious Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University. His research focused on comparing prescriptive practices of NPs and physicians in the emergency department setting, the first study to directly compare the two providers within this specialty setting.

In June 2021 Dr. O’Neill became the first NP from Australia to be granted a U.S. national interest waiver for exceptional ability to become a permanent resident in the United States. Dr. O’Neill was evaluated on key national interest requirements. His contributions, academic performance, and commitment to health care and the NP role proved to be exceptional and thus contributed to the granting of this waiver so he can continue his work in the US.
When did you become an NP? What was the motivation?
The NP was new in Australia when I started, and I was reading about the great successes in the US and the great work that NPs across the nation were doing. Reading about Dr. Loretta Ford and her vision and challenges implementing the role inspired me to become a nurse practitioner. The role was evolving in Australia with only a few master’s-level programs, and the regulation was on a state by state and territory basis. The educational and certification process in Australia differs from that in the US. I was funded by the Department of Health as I entered an advanced practice pathway. Master’s programs are typically two to three years. Our post graduate experiences are in a specialty area, and we present a portfolio of experiences as part of the process. Bedside nurse consultants did not have prescribing privileges. My training in New South Wales was with an emergency room physician.

What experiences did you bring into the role?
I had experiences with my first degree in biomedical science, and my roles as CNS and charge in the emergency department, and as a military nurse. The Australian air force reserve pool did not initially have NPs until later when the role was formalized in the Navy.

Did you experience any challenges? How were they resolved?
I had lots of challenges in the early days in particular starting as the first nurse practitioner in a rural emergency department in Australia. I had no other NP to benchmark with or learn from, so I learned from the physicians and had to prove my position and knowledge to gain recognition and acceptance. The Australian Medical Society (AMA) as a group did not embrace the role so it was up to the individual to prove competence. One of the continuing issues was the length of the educational process which actually is similar to medical education in length.

Are there any experiences that you would like to talk about?
My experiences of having to prove myself and being treated by colleagues as novel and suboptimal really shaped me as an NP. I had lots of push back and comments made about how bad NPs were and we were dangerous. I learned early to embrace the negative comments and work alongside the physicians who had concerns about the role. I learned how to present data and metrics to support my role and positively engage the negativity and refocus that energy into supporting good patient care.

What was most challenging in your career/ most important?
Supporting and defining the role of the NP in the rural emergency department when not supported by physicians.

Is there anything you would want to change?
The control of health care to be evenly distributed to all providers and for NPs to be included and to sit on the major boards where policy decisions are made. Texas to become a full practice state.

What do you see as pivotal moments in the past years?
Earning my doctoral degree and seeing many of the students graduate to become NPs. Receiving the Award for nursing excellence was a highlight.

Service with the military
There has been significant growth in the number of nurse practitioners. The Australian College of Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) has developed expertise in developing and reviewing education specifically targeted at meeting the needs of the nursing profession.

What advice would you give to new nurse practitioners?
Push every boundary, do not give up, always show metrics, and believe in yourself.

What do you see as the role of Nurse Practitioners in the next 25 years?
I see increased growth and more patients and families choosing NPs to provide care.
Membership Feature Column

Barbara A. Todd, FAANP

Michaelene P. Jansen, FAANP

Education:

BSN: Howard University, Washington DC, 1978

MS: Medical College of Virginia (now Virginia Commonwealth University), Richmond, Virginia, 1984, Family Nurse Practitioner Program

DNP: Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2010

Post Masters Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (ACNP): Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 2010

Certifications: American Nurses Certification Corporation, FNP

Short Bio:

Dr. Todd is currently the Director of Education and Practice for Advanced Practice at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She has been instrumental in developing advanced practice models of care and transition to practice programs. She has practiced as a family and acute care nurse practitioner in the Philadelphia region for over 30 years, primarily in cardiac care and cardiovascular surgery. For most of her career, she has balanced working in administration and clinical practice. She was the Director of the Greater Philadelphia Consortium for CMS Graduate Education Demonstration Project from 2012 to 2018. The project was funded as part of the Affordable Care Act. She is also a Senior Fellow for the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research as well as Adjunct Assistant Professor of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

When did you become an NP? What was the motivation?

I graduated from the NP program in 1984. I knew the day I graduated from my undergraduate nursing program that I wanted to become a nurse practitioner. I was always fascinated by their autonomy within the sphere of nursing. I thought that becoming a NP was the perfect way to exemplify nursing and affect patient care outcomes. When I first became a registered nurse, I worked in a general care unit at University Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio. I also worked a year in 1985 American Nurses Certification Corporation, ACNP, 1998 pediatric ICU and learned quickly that pediatrics was not my calling. I worked in a small non-teaching hospital in West Virginia and got into management as a night supervisor. I chose to go back to school after four years of clinical practice. Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond was the closest master’s NP program to where I was living and had an excellent reputation, so I went there. My first job as a NP was at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in cardiac surgery in January 1985. I continued to practice even as my administrative responsibilities increased over the years.

What experiences did you bring into the role?

I really liked the family nurse practitioner program at Virginia. I initially thought that I would return to Appalachia and practice in primary care. However, I loved the continuum of care in cardiology. I fell in love with the NP role in cardiac care and even though there was high tech intervention, there was also a significant role in preventive care and health maintenance. In the mid 1980s, the NP role was still relatively new and rare in hospital settings. Initially, I did a lot of history and physicals prior to cardiac surgery. Those were the days where patients would come in the day before surgery. I admitted patients, wrote orders, facilitated plans of care, collaborated with the health care team, and helped to drive patient care outcomes. At that time, acute care practitioners were not doing much in terms of invasive procedures.
I also saw patients in the cardiac clinic. I worked closely with interns and residents. I provided a lot of care coordination and transition of care. It was a busy service and I worked very long hours. There were only about five NPs practicing in the hospital at that time, most in cardiac surgery and one in urology. The educational background of the nurse practitioners was diverse as well. Now in my current setting, there are nurse practitioners in all clinical practice specialties. It is so gratifying to see the growth of NP providing care across the continuum.

I left the University of Pennsylvania to work at Temple and developed an advanced practice model in their cardiac surgery service line. I was the director of clinical services for Cardiac Surgery. I was there 14 years and developed and led many initiatives. I returned to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania in 2003 as the director for advanced practice providers and nurses in the Department of Surgery. I was a preceptor for many years and have been connected with the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing since the early 1990s. I am currently an Adjunct Assistant Professor within the School of Nursing. I have always enjoyed watching the evolution of the NP role and mentoring current and prospective NPs. Mentorship is key to retention and growth within the profession. Now as an administrator, I focus on mentorship and transition to practice for advanced practice providers, as well as the clinical learning environment.

Did you experience any challenges? How were they resolved?

Early on, one of the main challenges was role identification and clarity. There was a lot of confusion on the part of colleagues, patients and the public as to the allegiance and role of nurse practitioners, i.e., nursing versus medicine. We were able to demonstrate expertise within a nursing framework. I think that building relationships and trust was critical. Once you have trust, you gain respect. In the 1980s, credibility and trust was a tough bridge to cross. When we demonstrated that we were able to provide safe, competent care to patients, many doors open. It is also important to find a champion. I had a wonderful physician collaborator, nursing director, and many clinical nurses who became my most supportive colleagues. Working as a minority provider may be viewed by some as a challenge. I guess I’ve always had to deal with being the “first.” For example, I was the only black NP student in my program, the first black NP hired in cardiac services at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. It was often a lonely journey and at times I felt isolated. However, I like to look at tough situations as opportunities and create those “teachable moments”. My collaborating physician was probably my biggest champion. I found strength in knowing that I was doing the right thing for the right reason and affecting the lives of so many patients. I focused on the positives and suppressed the bad days. I always try to take the high road when others try to derail or marginalize your efforts. Sometimes you sacrifice a part of yourself so make sure you have sturdy guard rails around you.

Are there any experiences that you would like to talk about?

I loved working with patients who have cardiovascular disease. There are highs and lows and the appreciation you receive in return is difficult to describe. I felt connected with so many patients and families. I feel that I contributed to many positive patient outcomes, and it was indeed a privilege and honor to be entrusted to provide that care. I also had opportunities to work with many wonderful NP and physician colleagues, as well as students along the way.

I became certified as an acute care nurse practitioner in 1998 when there was a small window of opportunity for adult or family NPs who practiced in acute care settings to sit for the ACNP certification exam. I took that opportunity but always felt that I should obtain the formal education for acute care. I received my post master’s certification as an ACNP in 2010.
Also, in 2010 my employer, Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, was named as one of the five sites to receive CMS funding for the Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration Project. I had the opportunity to lead programs that prepared APRN graduates. The funding was part of the Affordable Care Act and in response to increase the number of APRNs to provide primary care, transitional care, chronic disease management, preventive care, and other services to Medicare beneficiaries. It was a greater opportunity and privilege to be part of this landmark project that impacted nursing education.

What was most challenging in your career/ most important?

I think one of the most important things in my career is to see how far nurse practitioners have come. Granted, we have further to go, but the validation of quality outcomes for patients in acute care provided by NPs is noteworthy. We still need to continue to demonstrate positive outcomes in care. We need full practice authority in all states.

Sometimes being the only minority provider was difficult. Some patients would not see a black provider. However, I am a faith based person and that has provided strength throughout my career.

Is there anything you would want to change?

In terms of my career path, I would not change anything. I always wanted to go into nursing and become a nurse practitioner. I think that perhaps I could have written more about my experiences, especially early on in my NP career.

What do you see as pivotal moments in the past years?

I believe that as more states adopt full practice authority for nurse practitioners, it makes a huge difference for the profession. Unfortunately, Pennsylvania is not yet a full practice authority state. The creation of the DNP is also pivotal. It was controversial but pivotal. Payment for NP services was also important. Initially NPs were not paid for services, but rather covered under global charges. Becoming recognized as a provider group by various state and federal entities is very important.

What advice would you give to new nurse practitioners?

First of all, I would encourage new nurse practitioners to come into the profession and make sure they are visible to the patient and public. One needs to articulate their value and demonstrate positive patient outcomes. Nowadays, structures are such that we can demonstrate our value. For example, electronic health records help with transparency so that one can follow the metrics. I would also encourage NPs to commit to life-long learning.

What do you see as the role of Nurse Practitioners in the next 25 years?

The future of nurse practitioner practice is very bright. We will become the provider of choice. Given the projected shortages of health care providers, NPs will be in all aspects of care. NPs will lead primary care and become the main support system for care. We have tremendous opportunity for health care innovation and exploring alternative models to drive outcomes.
Member News Column

What's Happening Now?

Every quarter we receive self-reported accomplishments by Fellows. In this issue we are proud to recognize distinguished Fellows who contributed significantly to advance the field of healthcare and or the professional role of nurse practitioners. The following have made contributions in the areas of practice, research, policy and/or education.

We highlight self-reported accomplishments of our Fellows in our newsletter published quarterly. If you would like to share newsworthy accomplishments please go to https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FAANPAchievements

You can gain access to this website 24/7 to submit your achievements for the newsletter.

Congratulations!

Amelie Hollier, FAANP

Honor: Dr. Amelie Hollier was named the 2022-2023 Outstanding Graduate of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. She was recognized with various lunches, dinners, and receptions. She was presented at half time at the Homecoming Football game on October 1, 2022.

Mary B. Neiheisel, FAANP

Honor: The Mary B. Neiheisel Graduate NP Scholarship was established by a former student, Tracy Frentz, and her husband Dr. Bryan Fritz. The Scholarship began in 2022 and continues in perpetuity.

Award: Dr. Neiheisel received the first Dr. Mary Neiheisel Patron of Hope Award. The award was established by Faith House of Acadiana to recognize and honor a person who has worked diligently and consistently to assist survivors of domestic violence, in addition to serving as the NP for the shelter and as a faithful and loyal volunteer.

Honor: Dr. Mary Neiheisel was selected to be a Member Emeritus of the Acadiana Center for the Arts Board of Directors for long time service and patron of the Arts. She was recognized at a reception and the Pelican Ball in December, 2022.
Navigating the Changing Face of Healthcare:  
Emerging Models, Challenges, and Strategies

Fellows Winter Meeting
Loews Ventana Resort, Tucson AZ

Saturday, February 25, 2023
Continental Breakfast
Networking
Welcome
Penny Kaye Jensen, DNP, FNP-C, FAAN, FAANP, FNAP
Patricia Pearce, MPH, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, FNAP
MaryJo Goolsby, EdD, MSN, NP-C, FAANP

Nurse Practitioner Advocacy: The Port in the Storm
Loretta Ford Keynote
William Rosa, PhD, MBE, NP-BC, FAANP, FAAN
2022 LFA Award winner

Microeconomics of Health Care: Efficiency, Effectiveness, and Market Performance Jeff Bauer, PhD, FAANP(H)
Workforce – Now & Future
Peter Buerhaus, PhD, RN, FAAN, FAANP(H)

Lunch & AANP Update
Legal issues – Changing Landscape
Barbara Safriet, JD, LLM, FAANP(H)

Leading the Nation’s Largest Nursing Workforce
Cathy Rick, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN, FAANP(H)

Healthcare Transformation – The Next Generation of Telehealth Christine Engstrom, PhD, CRNP, AOCN, FAANP
Break
Speaker Panel Q&A
Call to action/Discussion
Wrap up & Adjourn

Thank you to our Leaders and our Honorary fellows for this awesome meeting.
Call for Papers: JAANP Fellows Column

“The Fellows Speak” is a recurring special feature of JAANP. Each column, written by an AANP Fellow, informs readers of: issues, trends, and factors impacting the NP role, professional responsibilities and related strategies to promote stewardship of the NP role.

This broad purpose provides opportunities for Fellows to share their reflections on current issues, informed by their experiences, knowledge and expertise. Manuscripts should provide thoughtful, scholarly discussions of topics with informed and/or opinion of their topic.

Manuscripts are limited to approximately 1500 words and nine references. They are submitted through the JAANP Authors Submission Site. In order for a manuscript to be considered as a Fellows Column, authors must select “The Fellows Speak” as the manuscript type during submission.

Questions can be referred to the column co-editors:

Elayne DeSimone, co-editor
Patricia Pearce, co-editor

Reminders

FAANP would like to acknowledge Fellows who are ill or who need a word or words from FAANP. Please, notify Diane Padden (dpadden@aanp.org) or Jennifer Murray (jmurray@aanp.org)
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We welcome contributions from our members for the Forum. Please, send your topics to Mary B. Neiheisel at C00254687@louisiana.edu

**Do you have an achievement you would like to share with us?**

We highlight self-reported accomplishments of our fellows in our newsletter published quarterly. If you would like to share newsworthy accomplishments please go to URL: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FAANPAchievements Your accomplishments will appear in the Forum, our fellow’s newsletter. (Note: we reserve the right to edit your entry to conform to allotted space).