

Advancing Academic Leadership for New Deans

2023-2024 Directory



American Association *of* Colleges *of* Nursing

The Voice of Academic Nursing

Advancing Academic Leadership for New Deans

Led by the Center for Creative Leadership in collaboration with AACN, Advancing Academic Leadership for New Deans is a program that provides participants with an in-depth assessment experience, a range of content and exercises related to successful leadership, and the opportunity to establish a peer network that fosters long-term partnerships and collegial support.

The purpose of the Advancing Academic Leadership for New Deans program is to enhance the executive leadership skills of individuals who seek a high-level skill set to maximize opportunities and meet challenges. This program was developed for deans new to their role or transitioning into a dean role at a new college or university.

This 13-month program features four face-to-face meetings with work done virtually between sessions. Individuals will conduct a Learning Development project at their institution, and the top four projects will be presented at an AACN Conference.



Michelle Brady, EDNP, FNP-BC
Saint Anthony College of Nursing
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Michelle Brady was appointed Dean, Graduate Affairs and Research for Saint Anthony College of Nursing (SACN) in January, 2022 after teaching in graduate education at SACN for three years. As an Associate Professor, she has been actively involved in program development, accreditation, and curriculum design. She has an interest in trauma informed practices in higher education. Michelle received her Master's of Science in Nursing and her Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of Illinois at Chicago and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Iowa. She is a member of the Fellowship Advisory Council at OSF HealthCare and an active member of Sigma Theta Tau, Phi Omicron. As dean, she advises faculty, is responsible for daily operations of the graduate program, and participates in strategic planning and accreditation. Most of her career she worked for the University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Medicine in Rockford, Illinois where she assumed various roles in medical education and clinical practice as a family nurse practitioner. Her leadership experience includes Director of Clinical Services, Medical Director of her clinical practice site, and Lab Director for multiple clinics. This is her first formal leadership role in academics.



Colette Dieujuste, PhD
Wheaton College
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Colette Dieujuste is the Inaugural Dean of Nursing at Wheaton College, and she was most recently a professor at Simmons University School of Nursing. Dieujuste received her B.S. in nursing from Columbia Union College, her MSN from Boston College, and her Ph.D. in nursing from the University of Massachusetts Medical School. Dieujuste has more than 30 years of experience as a Registered Nurse and more than 20 years as a nurse educator. She has taught across the undergraduate curriculum and chairs the curriculum committee. Her clinical expertise is in the area of perinatal and obstetrical nursing. She has practiced as a staff nurse in labor and delivery and as a perinatal/child clinical nurse specialist.



**Wendy Downey, DNP MSEd RN
CNE**

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Wendy Downey is Interim Dean and Associate Professor at Radford University's School of Nursing, with locations in both Radford and Roanoke, Virginia. Dr. Downey earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in Educational Leadership from Case Western University and is a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE). As a second career nurse, she also holds a MS in Exercise Physiology and a BS in each Health Education and Exercise Science from Virginia Tech. Before joining faculty, she was the cardiac service line leader at LewisGale Hospital Montgomery and served in healthcare leadership roles for over 20 years. At Radford University, she has served as chair of the graduate and undergraduate programs at the main campus location and has led the implementation of numerous curricular changes as curriculum committee chair. She was PI on two HRSA grants totaling over \$3.8M and developed the Radford University Center for Nursing Faculty Development and Education, providing CE opportunities to faculty and preceptors. Since becoming interim dean in May 2022, Dr. Downey has led the School of Nursing through organizational change after a merger with Jefferson College of Health Sciences, including organizational restructuring, development of new bylaws, and implementation of student success programming.



**Susan Dyess, PhD, RN, AHN-BC,
NE-BC**

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Susan Dyess has been named to the Thomas M. and Elizabeth D. Holder Endowed Chair, Wellstar School of Nursing, Kennesaw State University. Experienced Academic Leader with a demonstrated history of success in the higher education. Skilled in organizational administration, creating collaborative partnerships, and faculty & board leadership. Committed to servant/ authentic leadership promoting colleagues' and students' success by embracing uniqueness, equity, and inclusion in higher education.



Carole Eatock, DNP, APRN-FPA, NP-c
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Carole Eatock is the Dean of the Graduate Program at Saint Francis Medical Center College of Nursing (SFMC CON), in Peoria, Illinois, effective July 2022. She serves as an assistant professor at SFMC CON, where she also functioned as a clinical faculty and in primary care as a family nurse practitioner for many years. Carole received her Master's of Science in Nursing and Doctor of Nursing practice from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She received her Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University and her diploma from Methodist College of Nursing. She is an active member of Sigma Theta Tau, Phi Omicron. Prior to SFMC CON, Carole worked as an educator in the Advanced Practice Provider Fellowship at OSF Healthcare educating new Advanced Practice Providers in their transition in their first year of practice. In the Fellowship, she helped develop and implement a Preceptor Development Program, worked on curriculum development, and program evaluation. She has experience in Family Practice, School Based Health and Correctional Medicine. Her leadership experiences include Family Practice as a nurse manager. This is her first formal leadership role in academia.



Jennifer Evans, DNP, RN, NC-BC
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Jennifer Evans is chief nurse officer, Assistant Dean of Nursing, Nursing Program, University of Southern Indiana. Dr. Evans earned her BSN and B.S. in Health Services from the University of Southern Indiana (USI) where she continued her education with an MSN in Nursing Education, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice in Organization/Systems Leadership. Dr. Evans' doctoral work in succession planning earned her the AACN Excellence in Advancing Nursing Practice Award in 2013. Her scholarship agenda focuses on succession planning, interprofessional education, and is currently evaluating the resiliency and grit among nursing students to develop strategies focused on improving academic success. Dr. Evans teaches in the baccalaureate, master's, and Doctor of Nursing practice programs. Dr. Evans was a member of the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy through Sigma in 2014-2015. She was promoted and earned tenure as an Associate Professor in 2018. She was named the program chair for the baccalaureate nursing program in 2021 and in January of 2022 was appointed as the Interim Assistant Dean of Nursing.



**Eileen Fry-Bowers, PhD, JD, RN,
CPNP-PC, FAAN**

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Eileen Fry-Bowers is Dean and Professor at the University of San Francisco School of Nursing and Health Professions. Her academic experience includes faculty and leadership appointments in Schools of Nursing, Medicine and Public Health. Her extensive clinical experience spans multiple health care settings, including acute care facilities, specialty and community-based clinics, and military institutions. She is a certified pediatric nurse practitioner (CPNP), a licensed attorney, and a veteran of the U.S. Navy Nurse Corps.

Dr. Fry-Bowers is an elected Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and currently serves as Chair for the Expert Panel on Child, Adolescent and Family. She was selected as a Faculty Policy Fellow for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and served two terms on the Health Policy Advisory Council for the association. Her research falls into three categories: examining the impact of social policies on child and family health, especially among vulnerable and underserved populations; exploring the impact of legislative and regulatory change on the delivery of pediatric health services; and investigating healthcare workforce education, practice, legal and ethics issues. She has authored multiple journal articles and book chapters in seminal nursing and health care texts on advocacy, child health, and health policy.



Jill Guttormson, PhD, MSN, BSN, RN
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Dr. Jill Guttormson is Dean of the Marquette University College of Nursing. A professor of nursing, she previously served as associate dean for academic affairs in the college, has chaired the College of Nursing Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, the University Board of Undergraduate Studies and the University Committee on Teaching. She has been recognized by Marquette University for her commitment to teaching, receiving the Rev. John P. Raynor, S.J., Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence in 2018.

Dr. Guttormson has a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin and a master's in nursing education from the University of Minnesota. She joined the College of Nursing faculty at Marquette in 2011 after earning her Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota. Guttormson's research focuses on supporting best practices in critical care nursing, symptom management, and patient communication during mechanical ventilation with the goal of enhancing patient-centered care and the patient experience.



Colleen Marshall, PhD, FNP-C

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Colleen L Marshall is currently the Founding Chair and Associate Professor of Nursing at Lebanon Valley College. She earned her diploma in nursing from Ann May School of Nursing, her BSN from Monmouth University, MSN in Nursing Education from Millersville University, PhD in Nursing from the Pennsylvania State University and a Post Master's Certificate from Kaplan University as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Dr. Marshall also completed a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania in the New Courtland Center for Transitions and Health. Marshall received several research grants including from the University of Pennsylvania (The Prevalence of Insomnia in Perimenopausal Women Progressing to Menopause) and the Pennsylvania State University (The Insomnia Trajectory in Perimenopausal Women) and participated in the National Institutes of Health's Big Data Methodologies Boot Camp. Her research has led to numerous national presentations, refereed journal publications, refereed poster presentations, and authoring a book chapter (The SAGE Encyclopedia of Abnormal and Clinical Psychology). Marshall is active in the Pennsylvania Higher Education Nursing Schools Association and maintains her clinical practice in an urgent care setting serving a diverse population of pediatrics and adults for UPMC in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.



**Shannon McCrory-Churchill, DHEd,
CPNP-PC, CNE**

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Dr McCrory-Churchill is currently Acting Dean of the Patricia H Garman School of Nursing at D'Youville University. A certified pediatric nurse practitioner and certified nurse educator, she works to unite classroom and clinical practice. In her 16 years at DYU she moved to the Dean's office from a tenured Associate Professor/Department Chair position. Featured as a Buffalo Business first Healthcare Champion, and recognized in their 2016 class of 40 under 40, she hopes to continue to expand the reach of the School of Nursing, and generate new, innovative programming



Stephanie Nicely, EdD, MSN, RN
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Stephanie Nicely is the chief nurse officer, Chair, and Associate Professor in the Department of Nursing at Miami University. She has a strong background in community and public health, serving as a public health nurse and administrator for a public health non-profit for almost 10 years prior to her time at Miami. Dr. Nicely was instrumental in training nursing students and nursing faculty in Covid19 vaccination administration, supporting the university in the delivery of over 1100 administered vaccines to faculty, staff, and students during the peak of the pandemic. Dr. Nicely is extremely active in the community and has established community partnerships that have focused on improving the health of vulnerable populations. She is currently in partnership with both local and national Head Start programs, addressing the high childhood obesity rates among children served by the program. She has also partnered with school districts to provide opioid prevention education to elementary students in the district. Dr. Nicely has received numerous teaching awards and has been acknowledged by the University's Center for Teaching Excellence as a "top 100" faculty since 2014. She co-created one of the first study away programs at the University, a program focusing on the health of Native American communities.



Courtney Nyange, DNP, MSN, RN, CNE
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Dr. Courtney Nyange, Professor, is Executive Director, School of Nursing, Tennessee State University. Dr. Nyange is an academic nurse educator who specializes in nursing leadership and has a clinical background in neonatal nursing. Dr. Nyange is an international nursing scholar, a U.S. Fulbright Scholar Alum (Tanzania, 2020-2021) and a Global Health Service Partnership (GHSP) Alum (Tanzania, 2014-2015). Dr. Nyange's scholarship interests are focused on mentorship of new nursing faculty, student-centered teaching, learning, and assessment practices, and maternal/child health. Dr. Nyange is a champion of study abroad and has devoted time to developing study abroad courses and activities for students in the School of Nursing and at Tennessee State University. Dr. Nyange is currently serving as the Executive Director and Associate Dean of the School of Nursing at Tennessee State University. Dr. Nyange is an experienced leader and welcomes the opportunity to advance the School of Nursing and the nursing profession at the local, state, and national levels.



Sheila Quinn, PhD, RN
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Dr. Quinn is the Associate Dean of Nursing and Chief Nurse Administrator at Stockton University. She serves as the academic leader for nursing in the School of Health Sciences at Stockton University and sets, implements, and evaluates the strategic goals of the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral program and is responsible for leadership in curriculum design, delivery, accreditation, and domestic and international initiatives. She has over 33 years' experience within the healthcare and educational arena. She has published numerous articles and has presented at international, national, regional, state, and local levels over the past 20 years on various topics including transitioning from acute care to home care practice; nurse managers' perspectives on workplace communication in acute and rural settings; academic, clinical and community partnerships to meet rural needs, and generating enthusiasm for policy and political advocacy. Her recent collaborative research centers on vaping and e-cigarette use in the workplace and policy implications.



Carolyn Reilly, PhD, RN, CHFN, CNE, FAHA, FAAN
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Dr. Carolyn Reilly is Professor and Director of the Division of Nursing, Berry College. Dr. Reilly has devoted more than 30 years caring for critically ill and cardiovascular patients, primarily as a Clinical Nurse Specialist. It is from this point of reference that she teaches anything cardiac or vaguely related to hemodynamics. Most of Dr. Reilly's clinical research centers on promoting self-care in persons suffering from or at risk for cardiovascular disease, including several studies managing self-care and symptoms in persons with heart failure and others in preventing heart disease in cancer survivors. Dr. Reilly also has a strong leadership background, serving as a program director in both clinical and academic settings, and holding executive leadership appointments in various professional organizations. She developed and led the Leadership Scholars Program at Emory, has previously conducted nursing workforce retention research, is well-published with a new book on Nursing Leadership During Covid, served on national writing groups, and serves with editorial boards for several cardiovascular and critical care journals. She recently moved to Berry College in Mt. Berry, Georgia to lead the Division of Nursing and grow Health Science Education.



Annie Rohan, PhD, RN, FAANP, FAAN
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Dr. Rohan is Dean, Professor, & Endowed Chair, School of Nursing & Allied Health at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metro and Florham Campuses. Dr. Rohan is a dual-certified Nurse Practitioner with a 25-year clinical career caring for critically and chronically ill infants and children and the highest-risk families. She earned her Ph.D. from Columbia University and began her faculty career at SUNY Stony Brook.

Dr. Rohan was recruited to SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University in 2019 to be Founding Director of its DNP program. While at SUNY Downstate, she served in roles as Associate Dean and Graduate Department Chair. As part of her academic programming, she has been awarded more than \$6 million in federal grant funding to address the shortage of primary care providers in medically underserved regions. Her program achievements were recognized by NONPF (Outstanding Scholar/Researcher Award) and by AACN (Faculty Excellence in Didactic Teaching Award).



Leigh Small, PhD, RN, CPNP-PC
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Dr. Small is Dean, College of Nursing, Michigan State University. She earned her Master's degree in pediatric healthcare and research-focused PhD from the University of Rochester. Her practice and academic positions have focused on providing, studying and/or improving the healthcare of children and families. She has a passion for high quality healthcare and evidence-based practice to address health inequities and challenge learners with thought-provoking educational strategies that cause self-reflection and drive advocacy with the goal of impact healthcare practices. Her dedication to the healthcare of children and families has been recognized by achieving Fellowship in the National Academies of Practice, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, and the American Academy of Nursing. As a nursing leader, she applies these same strategies to working with faculty. Embracing the academic tripartite mission of education, research, and service; Dr. Small has served as a nursing educator and researcher for greater than 20 years, held multiple leadership roles in several professional nursing organizations as well as colleges, universities, and community organizations.



Stacy Wise, DNP, MBA, RN, FNP-C

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Dr. Stacy Wise joined Campbell University in May 2021 as the Chair and Director of the Catherine W. Wood School of Nursing and course director for Vulnerable Populations. Her nursing experience includes medical-surgical, oncology, PACU, same day surgery, family practice, urgent care, and disease management. I have taught in baccalaureate and master's degree nursing programs since 2015. Stacy is a member of the North Carolina Nurses Association, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, the Endocrine Society, and the American Association of Diabetes Educators.

Dr. Wise is a native of California and a proud veteran of the Navy Nurse Corps. She moved across the country to beautiful North Carolina in 2019 after visiting and falling in love with the tree-filled landscape, the laid-back vibe, and the warm, friendly people. When not at work, she enjoys live music, cooking, Duke basketball, and spending time at the beach with her rescue dog, Sailor Mae.