

GIVING VOICE

TO THE SOUL OF MIDWIFERY



American College of Nurse-Midwives

63rd Annual Meeting & Exhibition

May 20-24, 2018 | Savannah, GA



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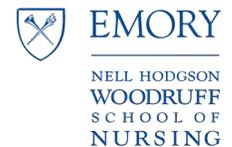
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WELCOME!



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

THE WEEK OF THE MIDWIFE

- WHEREAS: Throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, midwives served as primary birth attendants; and
- WHEREAS: Today, midwives across Georgia provide women's health care services during pregnancy, labor, birth, and the postpartum period; and
- WHEREAS: Midwives emphasize the physical, psychological, and social well-being of the mother and seek to eliminate or minimize unnecessary technological intervention throughout the childbearing process; and
- WHEREAS: Established in 1955, the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) works to improve the overall health and well-being of women and infants through the practice of midwifery; and
- WHEREAS: ACNM will hold the 63rd Annual Meeting and Exhibition in Savannah on May 20-24 to celebrate the contributions of midwives to women's health care and to share best practices to advance the field of midwifery; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 20-24, 2018, as THE WEEK OF THE MIDWIFE in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 15th day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Pety
CHIEF OF STAFF



From the Mayor



Office of the Mayor Savannah, Georgia

Eddie W. DeLoach
Mayor

March 15, 2018

American College of Nurse-Midwives
63rd Annual Meeting

Dear Conference Attendees:

As Mayor of Savannah and on behalf of our many fine citizens, I am pleased to welcome the attendees of the American College of Nurse-Midwives 63rd Annual Meeting. We are delighted you chose Savannah as the site to hold your 2018 assembly.

Midwifery has been integral to the history and development of Savannah and the surrounding areas since the 18th century. Whether it be traditional midwives who served the Gullah community, African American midwives serving women until the mid-20th century, or modern CNM's who serve the area today, midwives have long embodied the culture and traditions of Georgia.

Currently there are over 500 midwives attending nearly 15% of all births in the state of Georgia. The nurse-midwifery program at Emory University in the Atlanta area has been educating midwives for more than 40 years. The Midwife Group and Birth Center here in Savannah has been caring for women from Eastern Georgia since 1987. The Atlanta Birth Center recently opened its doors in 2016 in order to offer out of hospital births to women in the Atlanta area as well.

While in Savannah, we hope you are able to experience the traditional Southern culture where historical and modern Midwifery has thrived. Today the city serves as a quaint escape where art, architecture, bohemian boutiques, and spooky ghost stories all come together under a veil of Spanish moss. Be sure not to leave Savannah without trying some of the local flavors. Much of the cities cuisine comes straight from the coast and sweet tea is available at every meal. Come and discover the enchanting soul of this rich Southern oasis.

Sincerely,

Eddie W. DeLoach
Mayor

From the Program Committee Chair



Welcome to the 63rd ACNM 2018 Annual Meeting & Exhibition in Savannah!

This year's Annual Meeting & Exhibition is geared to inspire, challenge, and raise the bar on caring for women and advancing our profession. This year demonstrates the reality of midwives facing accelerated processes of change triggered by the extremes of science and politics. We are called upon to decipher these events and find our next steps, a difficult process requiring three traits: The first is *clarity*, understanding both the why of hard science and the caring that is embodied in the humanities. The second is *passion*, which keeps midwifery shining in each of us. The third and most important is *perseverance*, the ability to show up every day as the Midwife amid the fast pace of health care today. We must learn to be comfortable with the uncomfortable.

A number of this year's sessions may cause that jolt of discomfort for some midwives. For others, the sessions may lead to nods of acknowledgement. The Program Committee has worked diligently to capture the full range of important issues that our hot topics raise, to provide the cutting edge of changing paradigms, and to offer deeper explorations of aspects of care that are known. This year's new track on racism and disparities is focused on health inequities and bias and on the challenge of addressing the mortality and morbidity rate of African American women (think Serena Williams and all non-famous women). All of us are called upon to be aware that bias is not just a gender or racial issue. It also involves diversity of thought and the willingness to speak up. Speaking up includes direction-giving and the use of empathetic language, which focuses on the why and often provides the background or, more precisely, the backstories that add critical clarity.

Our backstory this year embraces the previously unacknowledged wealth of caring that the grand midwives—the real **soul of midwifery**—provided. They were the builders of a foundation that Mary Breckinridge developed into the infrastructure of the profession of midwifery, which continues to evolve today.

The goal of this year's Annual Meeting is to showcase the scientific information leading to evidence-based care and to get to the humanity of “can you see me now?” conversations. Our hope is that such conversations will propel us to take steps to better see events of bias, racism, and disparity, which are too often left unacknowledged not only in personal discussions, but also in the media and our history books. We invite all of us to listen without our answer running—to truly listen as the session conversations unfold—so that each of us can bring the information we gain back to our practices and communities. Each of us are called to use what we learn to unlock the ways midwives and our organization can make better decisions and set a new course to meet the challenging demands of science and politics.

Let's all adopt the precepts of Southern hospitality during our time together: Be the first to step out of our individual comfort zones; welcome the person next to us, behind us, or in front of us, whether that person is a familiar face or a stranger, a student, or an oldie but goodie; and pay it forward to gain the gems of see me now connections.



Letitia Sullivan, CNM, MS, FACNM
Program Committee Chair



From the Local Committee Co-chairs

Welcome to Savannah!

On behalf of the midwives of Georgia, we would like to welcome you to historic Savannah. With a recorded history dating to 1733, Savannah is Georgia's oldest city, designed by General James Oglethorpe as a series of grids with open streets and more than 20 shady public squares. The city offers moss-laden oak canopies, quaint cobblestone streets, and majestic architecture perfect for wandering. Historic River Street, directly across the Savannah River from the International Trade & Convention Center, provides a lovely oasis of shopping, dining, and culture, and is home to the Waving Girl memorial. Additionally, as the birthplace of Juliette Gordon Low, founder of the Girl Scouts, Savannah offers a wealth of stories and collections reflecting the organization's history and the potential of every girl.

Our squares are lined with lavish homes and churches built from the wealth of the cotton industry, which developed after slavery was legalized in the state. Antebellum Savannah served as Georgia's largest slave-trading center. The enslaved Africans who stayed in the area formed the unique Gullah culture of the coastal communities in Georgia and South Carolina. Among these enslaved people were midwives who had brought their profession to America. They were the primary maternity and reproductive care providers for other enslaved women and many white women in Georgia. Some of these midwives were trained at Penn School, one of the first schools for freed slaves, located on nearby St. Helena Island, South Carolina.

The term *granny* was previously used to refer to these midwives. However, we prefer the term *grand* midwives to better express the value of these revered women and the services they offered their communities. The grand midwives' practices were eliminated through a racial and gendered campaign health care leaders waged beginning in the early 20th century. The Local Program Committee has dedicated our efforts for this meeting to honoring the grand midwives and their legacy, and this week, we will highlight their work through photographs of the grand midwives and a timeline of midwifery in Georgia on display at the hospitality booth.

The legacy of the grand midwives continues in Georgia as CNMs and CPMs now attend more than 20% of vaginal births in the state. Nurse-midwives are on staff at every hospital in the metropolitan area of Atlanta and hospitals throughout the state. Midwifery care is offered at the Atlanta Birth Center and at the Midwife Group and Birth Center here in Savannah. Home births are attended by CNMs and CPMs around the state. The Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University in Atlanta has been a leader in nurse-midwifery education for more than 40 years.

We are excited to share our city with you and trust that you will enjoy our Southern hospitality! "Come Sit Awhile" overlooking the Savannah River, enjoy a glass of sweet tea, and help us **give voice to the soul of midwifery**.

Cordially,
Local Program Committee Co-chairs,



Eileen Thrower
CNM, PhD



Rita Chesney
CNM



Desiree Clement
CNM, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

About Our Theme



Onnie Lee Logan



Mary Coley



Margaret Charles Smith

Each year, ACNM solicits ideas for the theme of the year's Annual Meeting & Exhibition. This year, we had a clear front-runner: **Giving Voice to the Soul of Midwifery.**

Giving Voice to the Soul of Midwifery, our inspiring and timely theme, celebrates the grand midwives of the South, women who were healers and care providers trained in their communities, who attended legions of

pregnant women. Grand midwives were central, honored figures who rose from a legacy of slavery and who were critical to women's health care during segregation. They passed down not only their knowledge, but also important cultural traditions and values. Their contributions as pioneers in the care of women cement the legacy of our profession.

The theme's logo, set in Georgia peach hues, pays tribute to three of these grand midwives (clockwise from left in the logo image above) Onnie Lee Logan, Mary Coley, and Margaret Charles Smith. Onnie Lee Logan of southern Alabama, the daughter and granddaughter of midwives, gained such renown as a midwife that she was permitted to continue practicing after Alabama outlawed lay midwifery in the '70s. Mary Coley of Baker County, Georgia, subject of the 1952 documentary *All My Babies*, trained under Onnie Lee Logan and became not only a highly accomplished midwife, but also a strong advocate for the health of all African American women in her state. Margaret Charles Smith of Green County, Alabama, found her calling at age five when she caught her first baby because the attending midwife arrived late. Her life is featured in the 2008 documentary *Miss Margaret: The Story of an Alabama Granny Midwife* and in the memoir, *Listen to Me Good: The Life Story of an Alabama Midwife*.

We hope this year's theme inspires you as it inspires us!

PROGRAM COMMITTEE 2018

ACNM BOD LIAISON:

Jessica Anderson, CNM, DNP, WHNP-BC

ACNM BOD STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE:

Lillian Medhus, CNM, MSN, WHNP-BC

NATIONAL PROGRAM:

Letitia Sullivan, CNM, APRN, MS, FACNM

Chair, ACNM Program Committee

Pamela Reis, CNM, PhD, NNP-BC, FACNM

Chair-Elect, ACNM Program Committee

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Gillian Brautigam, CNM, MSN, RC

Kathy Brown, CNM, MSN

Sheila Dell, CNM, MSN

Jane Dyer, CNM, MBA, PhD, FACNM

Kathy Herron, CNM, MS

Mandesa Smith, CNM, MSN, DNP

Nichole Wardlaw, CNM, MSN

Andrew Youmans, CPEN, FAWM, CNM

LOCAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS:

Eileen Thrower, CNM, PhD, APRN

Desiree Clement, CNM, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Rita Chesney, CNM, MS, APRN

Lieutenant Colonel, Army (Retired)

CE REVIEWER:

Mary "Kate" Fouquier, CNM, PhD, FACNM



Welcome, Students!

As a student midwife, you'll find so much to do at the 63rd Annual Meeting & Exhibition. You can fill your time with as much or as little as you want. Just remember to give yourself downtime and time to network with other students and midwives. This is your chance to meet some incredible people from across the country! Have your resume in hand if you are graduating or looking for a job and be bold when talking to others. You never know if they might become future colleagues of yours! Be kind too; everyone loves to meet a new friend!

Here are some of the many offerings geared toward you:

ACNM Exam Prep Workshop

This two-day session is designed to help you prepare for boards and provides content-based and case-based approaches. Get to know other students as you get a head start on becoming certified.

ACNM Future Midwives Gathering with ACNM Leadership

One of the Annual Meeting's most popular student events, this gathering is led by the Students and New Midwives Section (SANMS) of the Division of Education. Relax and socialize with other students, enjoy some refreshments, and learn more about ACNM. Mingle with the ACNM Board, staff, and other leaders in an intimate setting. Join us for this opportunity to figure out ways to apply your passions and talents within your professional organization as a student and future midwife.

Morning Yoga

Start your mornings strong with breathing techniques and focused stretching to bring self-awareness, mindfulness, and a surge of endorphins that will keep you relaxed and energized. Who knows, maybe you'll meet some new friends.

Education Sessions

Sit back and enjoy learning from midwives and other professionals about new evidence-based findings and ways to teach, learn, and be with women. Take notes, ask questions, and meet other midwives who have similar interests. Bring a sweater or jacket if you get cold easily. Some rooms can be chilly with the AC! (Session descriptions begin on page 65.)

Opening and Closing Business Meetings

Far from being boring, ACNM business meetings are a great way to get your voice heard as a student. The room includes a special student section so students can sit together, and you even have your own microphone! See what issues other members of the College are raising and offer your own perspective as the conversation unfolds. The motions at these two meetings are brought to the board for review and discussion. Be sure to submit a motion and attend if you want your voice heard! For directions on submitting a motion, see page 16.

ACNM Member Resource Center

At Membership Services, learn more about ACNM membership (join or renew on the spot and receive 15% off your national membership dues). Enter a drawing to win a \$100 gift card. Learn more about ACNM by also visiting these areas of the Resource Center: Midwives of Color Committee (MOCC); Midwifery Practice, Education & Global Outreach (MPEGO); National & State Government Affairs; Midwives Political Action Committee; and more ACNM (ACNM Healthy Birth Initiative, Preceptor Development, and others).

Exhibit Hall

Explore the tools, gadgets, and other products you might want to use as a student or new midwife. Don't forget to stop by the Midwifery

Welcome, Students!



Market to support businesses that support midwifery, the ACNM Affiliates, and The A.C.N.M. Foundation booth, where you can pick up your Savannah pin—free with a donation of any amount. Helpful tip: Hard-wall booths are for companies and health systems that offer professional engagement opportunities; smaller booths are for nonprofits and government agencies that may support issues you're interested in; and table-top displays feature small companies that may appeal to students interested in smaller operations.

ACNM Store

Show the world your midwifery spirit with ACNM T-shirts and other gear. While you're at it, peruse the book offerings and start to build your lifetime library.

Midwives PAC Rally

Support the Political Action Committee at this silent auction. You'll find high spirits, fun, and lots of goodies to bid on! The camaraderie can't be beat, and your donations directly build change at the state and federal level.

Awards Dinner and Celebration Party

Hang with your friends for a glamorous night filled with good food, fellowship, and fun. Get inspired by the amazing award winners and then dance the night away with your midwife friends and our awesome DJ. Hint, hint: if you have never been to the celebration party before, you'll be surprised at how many midwives know how to boogie. Wear comfortable shoes because you won't want to miss out on the after-party!

Foundation Fundraiser

Students save with reduced admission (\$30) to this fun event. Music provided by American Idol finalist George Lovett and his band. By supporting the Foundation's scholarships and initiatives, you're helping future students and the mission you love.

Heart of Midwifery

The perfect way to get that touchy-feely-this-is-why-I-am-becoming-a-midwife-feeling at the Annual Meeting. Stories are shared, hands are blessed, and hearts are full after this session. A must-do for any student! Maybe bring tissues too.

Students and New Midwives Section: Student Report-Writing Sessions

A chance for the SANMS liaisons from each educational program to meet and continue writing the 2018 Student Report. Refreshments will be provided by DeliverED and the SANMS co-chairs will be there to assist with the compilation of the report. If you are a SANMS student liaison for your school, these are your sessions to meet, write, collaborate, and edit before reading your priorities at the closing business meeting!

"Come Sit Awhile"

Who doesn't love a rocker? Relax in front of the amazing view, chat with your neighbors, and enjoy a glass of sweet tea. This year's Unity Tent has taken on a new form, but at its heart, it's still the same: a special space to foster connection, conversation, and unity.

Wellness Space

Keep your energy flowing! Stop by the Wellness Space and make an appointment for energy work, chair massage, reflexology, or any of the other services offered. It's even more fun when you go with a friend.



ACNM Leadership



Lisa Kane Low
 CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN
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 Ann Arbor, MI



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 SNM
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Kathleen Moriarty
 CNM, PhD, CAFCI, RN
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 CNM, MSN
 REGION II REPRESENTATIVE
 Takoma Park, MD

Jessica Anderson
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 REGION VI REPRESENTATIVE
 Aurora, CO

Jenny Foster
 CNM, MPH, PhD, FACNM
 REGION III REPRESENTATIVE
 Decatur, GA

REPRESENTATIVES

The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.



The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc., the philanthropic arm of ACNM, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2017. Now we embark on our next 50 years, building on the remarkable legacy of our founders. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization with a mission to support excellence in health care for women, infants, and families through the support of midwifery worldwide. We accomplish this incredibly important mission by supporting a wide range of scholarships, awards, grants, and special projects, many of which will be announced at this meeting. Over the years, generous donors have enabled the Foundation to establish funds that support leadership development, educational grants, research, community projects, policy development, and global health experiences. In 2017 we awarded \$75,000 in scholarships, awards, and grants to individuals and \$150,000 in grants to support ACNM's strategic initiatives. We sincerely thank our many donors who will celebrate with us at this Annual Meeting. Your enduring support ensures that our mission is met year after year and that a growing number of midwives, women, and families benefit from the funding we can provide. To learn more, visit: www.acnmf.org.

The Foundation's Exhibit Hall Booth (#211)

Visit our exhibit booth to learn more about ACNM's philanthropic arm, including the many scholarships, awards, and grant opportunities available to ACNM members, including students. While there, make your tax-deductible donation to advance the Foundation's mission. Get your special Savannah City pin when you donate any amount or walk away with other premium gifts when you make a donation or pledge of \$1,000 or more. Students can also learn about a specially designed donor program. A special VIP ribbon will be available for Foundation scholarship, award, and grant recipients, former board members, and volunteers.

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The Sparacio Foundation, Inc.
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BUSINESS OFFICE ADDRESS

The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 380272, Cambridge, MA 02238-0272
fdn@acnm.org
240-485-1850
www.acnmf.org



ACNM Business Meetings

The ACNM business meetings are an excellent opportunity to see how ACNM works, learn about current issues affecting midwifery, and help shape the future initiatives and the priorities of your professional organization. Business meetings are open to all members, although voting privileges are not extended to associate members or students. All members are permitted to voice their opinions in accordance with the business meeting procedures. Your opinions are highly valued, and we strongly encourage your participation!

Business Meeting Motions FAQs

If you're new to association business meetings, the idea of submitting motions may be intimidating. The following frequently asked questions, based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, will help demystify the process.

What is a motion?

A motion is a formal proposal by a member, made in a meeting, upon which the College takes a certain action. The proposed action may be substantive (eg, ACNM should support a single-payer health system or conduct a specific research project), or it may simply express a certain view (eg, all women should have access to nitrous oxide in labor). Motions can also be made in response to written or oral reports by the College leadership.

How do you bring a motion to the ACNM business meeting?

Members wishing to bring motions to the business meeting should fill out motion forms. Motion forms will be available at the Annual Meeting in the Program Committee Office located in the **Greene Board Room, 1st FL** beginning at 7:00 am Monday through Thursday. A student may submit a motion if an active, voting member is a co-sponsor.

Who decides when motions will be discussed at the business meeting?

If you submitted a motion electronically before the Annual Meeting, it will be numbered in the order it is received. If you submit a motion during the Annual Meeting, it will be considered in the order that it was submitted. Depending on the number of motions submitted and the time available for discussion, some motions may not be discussed during the business meetings. All remaining motions will be reviewed by the ACNM Board of Directors during their post-conference meeting, and the motion-maker will be notified of the outcome of the review.

What does the parliamentarian do?

The parliamentarian is a consultant brought in by ACNM to advise the President and other officers, committees, and members on matters of parliamentary procedure. ACNM's parliamentarian will be Barbara J. Rosi, professional registered parliamentarian.

Need Help writing a motion?

Members are welcome to meet with the parliamentarian in the **Greene Board Room, 1st FL** for assistance:

Tuesday	May 22	7:45a - 8:45a
Thursday	May 24	7:30a - 8:30a

How is my motion brought to the floor?

The president of the board invites the member who has submitted a motion to come to a microphone to make their motion. When approaching the microphone, first announce your name and state. The motion itself should be brief, such as "ACNM should support a single payer system." Then you have two minutes to give your position on this topic. After you have completed your position, take your seat. In order for your motion to move forward, another member must second it. After the motion is seconded, the chair states the question of the motion, and it is opened for debate by the membership.

ACNM Business Meetings



Are there rules for debate?

Yes! See additional rules in the following section. Once debate has ended or a motion to end debate (calling the question or moving the previous question) is adopted, members have the opportunity to vote on the motion.

Can discussion take place without a motion?

The general rule is that a motion must be made for discussion to take place on an issue unless it is permitted by the chair. This rule helps to keep the meeting on track.

Help! I'm still confused!

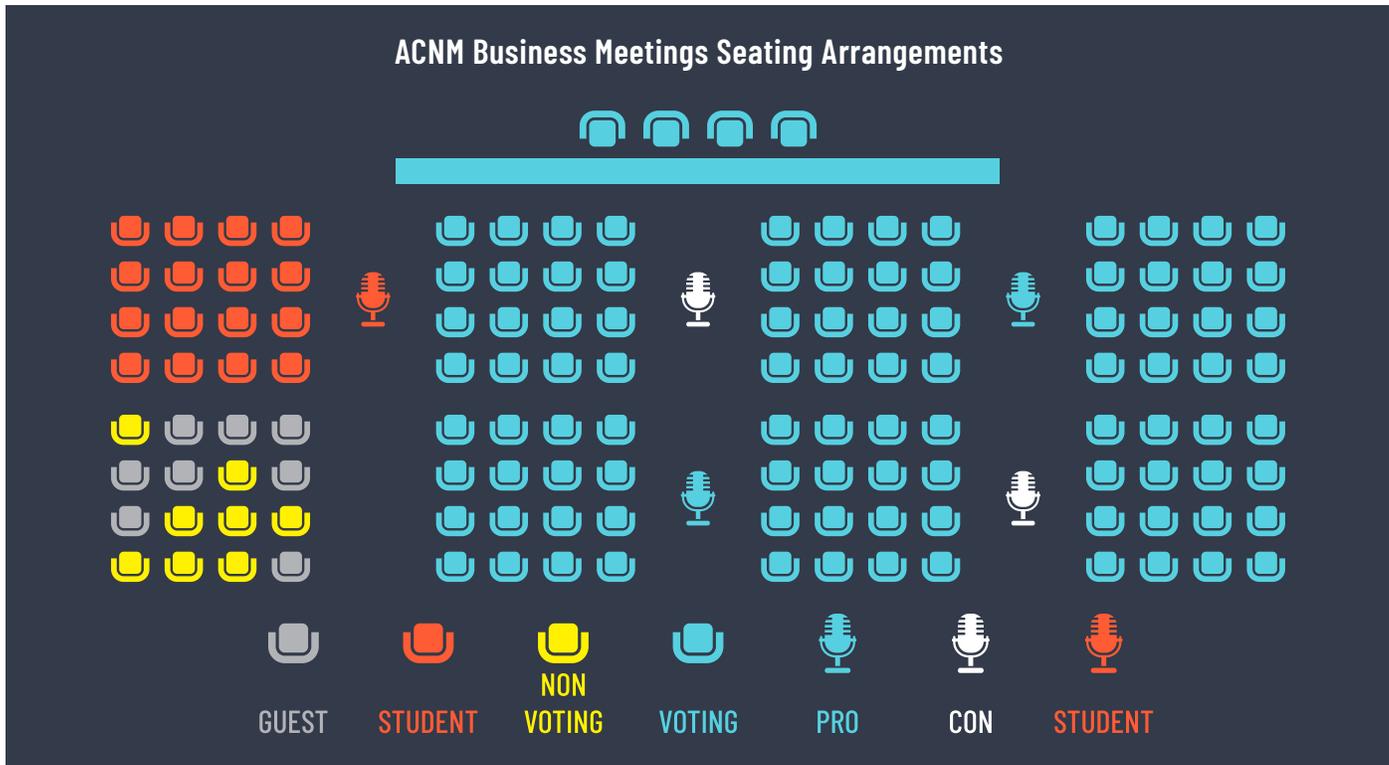
ACNM staff, board members, and our parliamentarian are available to assist you.

Business Meetings Procedures

- I. **Registration:** All members and guests must be registered for the Annual Meeting before attending business meeting sessions, and identification badges must be worn at all times. ACNM members who wish to attend only the business meetings may register at the ACNM registration desk with photo identification.
- II. **Seating:** Voting (all active) members will sit in reserved sections; associate members and student members will occupy separate, reserved seating sections. Guests may attend business meetings except when members vote to hold an executive session. All meetings shall begin on time and doors shall be closed when the meeting begins.
- III. **Discussion:** When addressing the president, a member shall go to a microphone and give his or her name and state. Members shall not speak more than twice on the same subject and shall be limited to two minutes each time. Members should speak at the microphone appropriate to their viewpoint or status (microphones are labeled Pro, Con, and Student). Persons with disabilities may speak at the microphone convenient to their seating, taking care to disclose their viewpoints or status at the outset of their remarks. No person shall speak a second time until everyone who wishes to speak for the first time has been recognized. In debate, active members shall be recognized first, followed by associate and student members. Student members will be allowed to speak at the microphone in proportion to their representation, related to representation of active members. Reports shall be limited to three minutes. A timekeeper shall signal to the speaker when allotted time has expired. The microphone will be shut off when the three minute time frame has expired.
- IV. **Motions:** Motions proposing new business shall be presented in the proper format and in the order in which they have been filed with the parliamentarian. Should a proponent of a motion not be available when the motion is presented, the motion will be placed last. Official forms used to propose motions will be available in the Program Committee office (**first floor, Greene Boardroom**).
- V. **Announcements:** Because of time constraints, announcements can only be made from the platform and must relate to the ACNM education sessions, meetings at which ACNM business is being conducted, or the overall business of ACNM. All other announcements should be posted on the message board or sent through the ACNM Annual Meeting app.
- VI. **Authority:** *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* govern the proceedings of the business meetings in all cases not covered by ACNM bylaws or these procedures.
- VII. **Recording:** Audio or video recording of business meetings is not permitted unless authorized by the president.



ACNM Business Meetings



Susan Stone, DNSc, CNM, FACNM, FAAN

Congratulations to FNU President Dr. Susan Stone!

Thank you for answering the call to service and leading us to new frontiers as the incoming president of the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

Distance Education Programs

- Master of Science in Nursing
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ACNM Business Meetings Agenda



OPENING BUSINESS MEETING

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

8:45a - 10:45

Moderator:

Letitia Sullivan, CNM, MS

Chair, Program Committee

Presidential Address:

Moving ACNM Forward: Leadership, Mission, and Priorities

Lisa Kane Low, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN

- Call to Order and Quorum Report
- In Memoriam
- Introductions and Recognitions:
 - » ACNM Board of Directors
 - » Parliamentarian Barbara J. Rosi, PRP
 - » Volunteer Leaders
- Adoption of Agenda
- New Business: Motions from the Membership
- Conclusion of New Business
- Adjournment

CLOSING BUSINESS MEETING

Thursday, May 24, 2018

8:30a - 10:30a

Moderator:

Letitia Sullivan, CNM, MS

Chair, Program Committee

Interim CEO Address:

Report of the ACNM Interim CEO

Kate McHugh, CNM, MSN, FACNM

- Call to Order and Quorum Report
- Student Report
- Adoption of Agenda
- New Business: Motions from the Membership
- Conclusion of New Business
- Officers Induction

Recognition of Outgoing Board Members:

- Lisa Kane Low, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN, President
- Stephanie Tillman, CNM, MSN, Secretary
- Mairi Rothman, CNM, MSN, Region II
- Jenny Foster, CNM, MPH, PhD, FACNM, Region III
- Lynne Himmelreich, CNM, MPH, FACNM, Region V
- Lillian Medhus, SNM, Student Representative

Induction of New Board Members:

- Susan Stone, CNM, DNS(c), FACNM, FAAN, President
- Bridget Howard, CNM, MSN, Secretary
- Jeanne Murphy, PhD, CNM, Region II
- Elois Edge, CNM, DNP, CLC, MSN, Region III
- Ann Forster Page, DNP, CNM, APRN, FACNM, Region V
- Kira Schultz, SNM, Student Representative





2018 Awards

Fellowship Awards

ACNM Fellowship Awards

Fellowship in ACNM (FACNM) is an honor bestowed upon those midwives whose demonstrated leadership, clinical excellence, outstanding scholarship, and professional achievement have merited special recognition both in and out of the midwifery profession. This honor is bestowed by the FACNM Board of Governors. Please see page 24 for the names and bios of the CNMs/CMs who will be inducted at the Welcome Premier Session as 2018 Fellows.

ACNM Awards

State Affiliate Awards

This award recognizes an ACNM state affiliate in each region that has demonstrated effective member communication and organizational structure; tackled a challenging project; or actively engaged members to affect positive change in legislation; and has represented the ACNM vision, mission and values at the affiliate level.

Outstanding Preceptor Award

This award honors a preceptor of student CNMs/CMs who has shown outstanding qualities of leadership and teaching, has been a mentor of multiple students, and has repeatedly promoted high standards of midwifery education. Nominations will be submitted by educational programs. The preceptor need not be a CNM/CM.

Excellence in Teaching Award

This award honors one teacher from each ACME pre-accredited/accredited education program who has shown outstanding qualities for teaching, who has inspired students to excel, and who repeatedly promoted high standards of midwifery education.

Hattie Hemschemeyer Award

The Hattie Hemschemeyer Award honors an exceptional CNM/CM who is an ACNM member, has been certified for at least 10 years, and has provided continuous outstanding contributions or distinguished service to midwifery or maternal child health or has made contributions of historical significance to the development and advancement of midwifery, ACNM, or maternal and child health.

Kitty Ernst Award

The Kitty Ernst Award honors an exceptional, relatively new CNM/CM who is an ACNM member; has been certified for fewer than 10 years; and has demonstrated innovative, creative endeavors in midwifery or women's health clinical practice, education, administration, or research.

Distinguished Service Award

The ACNM Distinguished Service Award recognizes a CNM/CM or other professional for an unusual and exemplary effort in the field of community service or innovation in midwifery practice, education, or research.

ACNM Partner-Supported Awards

Immunization Champions Award

This award, supported by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, honors four midwives for their exemplary work of promoting maternal immunizations in their practices or communities.

2018 Awards



March of Dimes Graduate Nursing Scholarships

These awards, which recognize and promote excellence in nursing care of mothers and babies, are given annually to registered nurses enrolled in graduate programs of maternal-child nursing.

THE A.C.N.M. FOUNDATION, INC.

Recognition Awards

Dorothea M. Lang Pioneer Award

The Foundation's most prestigious award honors the memory and legacy of the late Dorothea M. Lang, CNM, MPH, FACNM. The Lang Award is made to exceptional CNM/CM members of ACNM who have demonstrated pioneering vision and leadership.

Louis M Hellman, MD Midwifery Partnership Award

Given jointly by The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc., ACNM, and the Midwifery Business Network, this award recognizes an obstetrician-gynecologist who has been a champion supporter of midwives and midwifery practice.

Therese Dondero Lecture

Since 1986, this plenary lecture has been given annually in memory of the late Therese Dondero, CNM. Dondero speakers are selected on the basis of their achievements in maternal and infant health and their commitment to Therese's goals of clinical excellence, the rights of all childbearing women to responsive personalized care, and midwifery education.

Foundation's Staff Appreciation Award

Given annually to a member of the ACNM staff who best exemplifies the Foundation's mission of supporting excellence in midwifery.

Doctoral Education Scholarships

Fellowship for Graduate Education

This scholarship is given to a CNM/CM and ACNM member who is actively enrolled in doctoral or post-doctoral education and is funded this year by the Catherine A. Carr, CNM Scholarship Fund.

Carrington-Hsia-Nieves Doctoral Scholarship for Midwives of Color

This scholarship is given to an exceptional midwife of color (CNM/CM) and ACNM member who is actively enrolled in doctoral or post-doctoral education. This scholarship is given in honor of three legendary midwives of color and is funded by the Midwives of Color Scholarship Fund.

Student Scholarships Awards

Basic Midwifery Student Scholarships

Basic Midwifery Scholarships are given to student members of ACNM who demonstrate academic excellence, financial need, and leadership potential for the purpose of increasing the number, quality, and diversity of CNMs/CMs. Basic Midwifery Scholarships include the following: Midwives of Color-Watson Scholarships, GlaxoSmithKline Consumer for Life Scholarship, the Edith B. Wonnell CNM Scholarship, The A.C.N.M. Foundation Memorial Scholarship, and the Christine Nuger CNM Memorial Scholarship.



2018 Awards

Varney Participant Awards

These awards, established by Helen Varney Burst, CNM, DHL (Hon), MSN, FACNM, enables two student members of ACNM to participate in their first ACNM Annual Meetings under the mentorship of an established leader in the field of midwifery. This year's mentor is Heather Bradford, CNM, ARNP, FACNM.

Texas Midwifery Creation Scholarship

This new scholarship is awarded to student ACNM members who intend to practice in Texas after graduation with priority to those with Texan roots. Established by the Consortium for Texas Certified Nurse-Midwives, the scholarship also honors those who contribute to the advancement of midwifery in Texas.

Twentieth Century Student Interview Awards

Awards are given to the ACNM student members who submit the most outstanding senior midwife interviews and personal reflections as part of the Foundation's Midwifery Legacies Project.

Global Health Awards

Jeanne Raisler Award for International Midwifery

This award enables ACNM members or student members with expressed interest in a career in global health to gain experience in international midwifery through participation in a project designed to improve the health of women in a developing country.

Bonnie Westenberg Pedersen International Midwife Award

This award is given biannually (including 2018) to a midwife from an economically developing nation to encourage their path of leadership, vision, and significant contributions to the profession of midwifery and reproductive health. The recipient attends the ACNM Annual Meeting as an honored guest and is recognized for outstanding work in her or his home country to make birth safe for mothers and infants.

Leadership and Advancement Awards

W. Newton Long Award

This award, now in its 21st year, funds a wide range of projects by ACNM members that relate in various ways to the advancement of midwifery. It is given in honor of the late W. Newton Long, MD.

Thacher-MBN Midwifery Leadership Fellowship

Funded by the Frances T. Thacher Midwifery Leadership Endowment and the Midwifery Business Network, this fellowship is awarded to ACNM member midwives with interest in building leadership skills in the business management and marketing of midwifery practices who are first-time attendees at ACNM's annual Midwifery Works meeting.

Thacher Community Grants

Also funded by the Frances T. Thacher Midwifery Leadership Endowment, these grants support small, high-impact, community-based projects that promote excellence in health care for women, children, and families worldwide.



Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health Awards

Best Article of the Year Awards

The Best Article of the Year Awards honor authors whose contributions to the *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health* enhance midwifery and women's health through publication. There are two awards given, one for the best research article and one for the best review article. These awards are sponsored by the journal's publisher, Wiley.

The Mary Ann Shah New Author Award

The Mary Ann Shah New Author Award honors a CNM or CM who was the first author of a research or review article in the *Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health* for the first time. This award is sponsored by the journal's publisher, Wiley.

Research Awards

Best Poster, Best Podium Presentation, and the Division of Global Health Best Podium Presentation.

2018 Pedersen Award Winner

The A.C.N.M. Foundation is delighted to welcome **Darwin Dela Cruz-Diaz, RN, RM, MAN, EdD**, the 2018 winner of the Bonnie Westenberg Pedersen International Midwife Award. Darwin exemplifies the Pedersen criteria: A mid-career midwife who has “demonstrated commitment to make significant contributions to the profession of midwifery in an international setting.” Darwin, who is from San Manuel, Pangasinan, Philippines, became a midwife in 2008 and worked at the University of Baguio, where he twice earned the Top Performing Teaching Employee Award. He is also active in the Integrated Midwifery Association of the Philippines and the Association of Philippine Schools of Midwifery (APSOM). APSOM's President described Darwin as a midwife who has “proved his commitment, dedication, hard work, and leadership potential...” Since 2014, Darwin has worked with Medecins Sans Frontieres in South Sudan in three midwife supervisory roles and as a midwife trainer. Please join us in ensuring Darwin's welcome as a guest of honor at the ACNM 63rd Annual Meeting.





2018 ACNM Fellows



Susan Altman, CNM, DNP has always had an interest in women's health; while working with women and families as a physical therapist and childbirth educator, she was inspired to become a midwife. Susan is currently the Director of the New York University Rory Meyers Midwifery Education Program. Before transitioning to academia, she worked in a variety of clinical practice settings. She has been an active member of ACNM and has held several chapter leadership positions. She serves as a site visitor for the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME), a project manager on the ACNM Publishing Committee, and as an Executive Board member of the National Perinatal Association.



Angela Anderson, CNM, DNP is in her 23rd year of clinical practice and is the Practice Director of Intermountain Nurse-Midwives. She fell in love with birth growing up on a sheep farm in rural Ohio. She conceptualized a Perinatal Quality Collaborative for the state of Utah during her doctoral work, helped it reach fruition, and is current board chair. She lived in Guatemala for two years supporting traditional midwives. Angela is dedicated to quality improvement in perinatal care at the state, national, and international levels. She is an advocate of woman-centered choices in childbirth and the midwifery model of care.



Jessica Anderson, CNM, DNP, WHNP is an assistant professor at the University of Colorado College of Nursing and Director of the Center for Midwifery. Jessica has held multiple positions within the Colorado ACNM Affiliate and Chapter. In addition, she has been involved at the ACNM national level through multiple committees and, most recently, on the ACNM Board as the current Region 6 representative. She is active on committees with the March of Dimes, ACOG, Colorado Health Department, and Colorado Hospital Association. Jessica has presented on an array of topics including nitrous oxide, water birth, skin-to-skin care, breastfeeding, and perineal suturing. Most recently, she was coauthor on the ACNM nitrous oxide manual.



Jeanne Pichette Bair, CNM, DNP has been in full-scope midwifery practice for 35 years. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1982, she worked in the Philadelphia metropolitan area for six years before accepting a position as faculty at the University of Colorado. During that time, she opened practices at two Denver hospitals that had never previously credentialed midwives and coordinated the initiation of a nurse practitioner-managed clinic in a small town outside of Denver. She served as the Regional Clinical Coordinator for Frontier Nursing University from 1997 to 2004. She loves teaching and has precepted students from numerous programs. She currently serves on the Colorado Affiliate Board.



Kathleen Brown, CNM, MSN describes her professional passions as caring for women and their families, teaching in innovative ways, and caring for the underserved. Midwifery has laid the paths for her to travel globally, meet midwives from several countries, and to have the opportunity to teach Haitian traditional birth attendants safer birth practices. She was fortunate to pioneer a midwifery practice in a Michigan hospital where midwives were previously shunned and to create a program using high fidelity manikins and simulation to teach teamwork in the hospital. She loves teaching midwifery and APN students in her Colorado community health clinic and working to change local policy to help the underserved.

2018 ACNM Fellows



Jessica Brumley, CNM, PhD, a graduate of the New York University Midwifery Program, earned a PhD from the University of South Florida. She is an assistant professor and the Director of the Division of Midwifery in the USF Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She has served ACNM as the chair of the Basic Education Section of the Division of Education, secretary of the Midwives of Color Committee, member of the Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce, and ACNM liaison to the AIMS workgroups on the Peripartum Racial and Ethnic Disparities Patient Safety Bundle. She has served on the Florida Affiliate Executive Board since 2012 and currently serves as Vice President.



Rebecca H. Burpo, CNM, DNP directs the midwifery program at Texas Tech. Career highlights include founding the premier Allen Birthing Center and holding joint clinical privileges/faculty appointments at Parkland Hospital, Parkland School of Nurse-Midwifery, and UT Southwestern Medical Center. Precepting has been threaded throughout her career. Becky's ACNM service highlights include serving as an inaugural chair of the Business Section, a Texas Affiliate chair, a Texas Legislative representative, and a Dallas Fort Worth Chapter chair. She graduated from Yale University, the Parkland School of Nurse-Midwifery, the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. Becky is a former "Kitty" recipient, wife, mother, and grandmother.



Cara A. Busenhart, CNM, PhD has been the Program Director of the University of Kansas Nurse-Midwifery Program since 2009. During her tenure, Cara has developed innovative interprofessional education and practice opportunities for nurse-midwifery and other advanced practice students. Cara was one of the first two CNMs to be credentialed at her academic medical center, where she supervises educational experiences for nurse-midwifery students and medical residents. She has been staunch in her advocacy of midwifery practice for legislative and regulatory initiatives in the state of Kansas, where she currently chairs the Nurse-Midwifery Advisory Council for the Kansas Board of Healing Arts.



Thomas M. Chappell, CNM started his midwifery career as an Air Force officer more than 20 years ago in South Carolina. He quickly embraced midwifery and has served as the Chairperson for the South Carolina ACNM Chapter, a member of the Sumter County FIMR Committee, a member of the South Carolina BON's Advance Practice Committee, and currently as a member of the South Carolina DHEC Midwifery Advisory Council. On a national level, Tom was selected for the Executive Search Committee, elected to the ACNM Nominating Committee, and presently is a member of the Ultrasound Education Task Force. An avid preceptor, Tom continues to share his passion for midwifery with students.



Robyn Churchill, CNM, MSN is a Frontier Midwifery graduate, and practiced in the Boston area as Midwifery Service Director at Mt. Auburn Hospital. Throughout her career, she has worked to provide culturally responsive services to immigrant women, set up a CenteringPregnancy program, and was founder of the Latina Doula Program, currently at Mt. Auburn Hospital. When Robyn's children left home, she returned to international health, first as Research Director for the BetterBirth Trial at Harvard School of Public Health and Northern India. She became the Senior Technical Advisor for maternal-newborn health at Clinton Health Access Initiative, and has supported government efforts to ensure quality maternity care and strengthen the midwifery workforce in more than 15 countries.



2018 ACNM Fellows



Linda Cole, CNM, DNP, CNE practiced as a full-scope nurse-midwife at the Lisa Ross Birth and Women's Center, a freestanding birth center in Knoxville, Tennessee for 23 years. She was Director of the center from 2000 to 2010 and developed innovative programs to serve a largely underserved population. She served two terms as president of the American Association of Birth Centers and also served on the AABC Foundation Board. She is an assistant professor at Frontier Nursing University, and in 2017 co-edited *Freestanding Birth Centers: Innovation, Evidence, Optimal Outcomes*, the first US textbook on the freestanding birth center model.



Kim Dau, CNM, MS graduated from the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Nurse-Midwifery Education Program in 2007 and worked as a staff midwife at Duke University Medical Center and Kaiser Permanente before joining the faculty of the UCSF Nurse-Midwifery Education Program in 2012. She has been engaged in efforts within ACNM to improve health equity through diversification of the midwifery workforce and deeper engagement in anti-racism work. She led the ACNM Diversification and Inclusion Taskforce between 2012-2015. Additionally, during the past five years she has led statewide affiliate efforts to remove physician supervision of midwives in California and promote abortion provision by midwives.



Kathleen M. Dermady, DNP, LM, CNM is a licensed midwife at SUNY Upstate Medical University Regional Perinatal Center. She earned a doctorate in nursing practice from Stony-Brook University, master's degree from Syracuse University, midwifery degree from Frontier University, and was a leadership fellow of the Health Foundation WCNY. Kathleen is also a clinical educator and Director of CenteringPregnancy Special Care, with groups targeted to women at highest risk for adverse perinatal outcome, pregestational diabetes, and opioid use disorder. A New York State Board of Midwifery chairperson and a founding board member of the New York State Association of Licensed Midwives, Kathleen is an active member of an ACOG Task Force and works with New York State and her local health department on opiate use disorder.



Cathy Emeis, PhD, CNM is an associate professor at Oregon Health & Science University where she directs the OHSU Nurse-Midwifery Education Program and the Faculty Practice. Highlights of her midwifery career include serving as the Chair of the Quality Section, member of the Steering Committee of ACNM's Reducing Primary Cesarean project, co-lead for the Reducing Primary Cesarean Data Center and Curriculum Development project, member of AMCB Research Committee, and member of the Oregon Affiliate Nominating Committee. Cathy continues to practice in the OHSU Faculty Practice and advises students in the DNP and PhD programs. Her areas of scholarship include vaginal birth after cesarean and breastfeeding outcomes, and she is co-author of the 2012 and 2017 AMCB Task Analyses.



Debra Erickson-Owens, CNM, CNE, PhD is celebrating her 30th year as a nurse-midwife. Her career spans clinical practice, administrative leadership, midwifery and nursing education, and scholarly work. She has served as the chief midwifery consultant to the US Air Force (USAF) Surgeon General and as an educational program director at the USAF Midwifery Program and the University of Rhode Island. Her research focuses on umbilical cord clamping at the time of birth. In 2014, she co-authored ACNM's position statement on delayed cord clamping. Teaching is her joy, and she has received numerous ACNMF Excellence in Teaching awards.

2018 ACNM Fellows



Rebecca Fay, DNP, APRN, CNM, WHNP-BC practiced full-scope midwifery for 18 years in the Boston area. Dedicating her midwifery career to providing health care to women and families, she established two midwifery practices within obstetric-gynecologic practices. Rebecca served on the Government Affairs Committee and currently is the Secretary for the Membership & Marketing Committee. After retiring from clinical practice and moving to Arkansas, Rebecca was instrumental in developing and organizing the Arkansas Affiliate and serves as President and Legislative Chair. Rebecca is an assistant professor at Frontier Nursing University.



Heather Findletar Hines, DNP, CNM is Director of the SUNY Stony Brook Midwifery Program and an alumnus of their master's and doctoral programs. She has practiced full scope midwifery for 18 years, primarily with the Stony Brook Midwifery Practice. In 2017, she was selected as an Apple Distinguished Educator after helping the midwifery program launch its iPad Educational Initiative. Her passion is fostering a strong clinical foundation for midwifery students. In May 2017, Heather became the Co-chair of the ACNM Students and New Midwives Section. In November 2017, she was instrumental in launching her hospital's first volunteer doula service, which provides comfort to patients and supports the ACNM initiative to reduce the rate of primary cesarean births.



Katharine A. Green, CNM, MS, PhD(c) is a member of the nursing faculty at the University of Massachusetts and a practicing CNM. She currently chairs the ACNM National Government Affairs Committee, serves as a Massachusetts co-ALC, and was the original chair for ACNM's Midwives Teaching Nurses Caucus. Kate has served as an expert panel member on interprofessional education for HRSA and on state and regional committees focused on women's health and nursing education. She has designed courses focusing on women's and public health in the Dominican Republic and Spain. Her interests include education in maternal-newborn settings, public policy, and maternal outcomes.



Pandora T. Hardtman, CNM, DNP is a midwifery capacity consultant in the Syrian Conflict. She earned a BSN from John Hopkins University, a MSN from UCLA, and a DNP from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and is a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority and Sigma Theta Tau. She has 23 years of practical midwifery experience from work in the Caribbean, South East Asia, Middle East, and Africa. Working through agencies funded by UNFPA/GIZ, DFID or USAID, such as Engender Health Fistula Care Plus, she is a champion of midwifery education through a global human rights lens. In the United States, she serves primarily minority practices in underserved urban areas.



Carol E. Hayes, CNM, MN, MPH has been a CNM for 29 years. Carol serves as ACNM's liaison to the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice. She arranged for ACNM to be the first non-medical organization to endorse the CDC Adult Immunization Schedule and for the *Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health* to be the first non-medical journal to publish the schedule. She was Legislative Liaison for Georgia for nine years in the 1990s, working tirelessly for prescriptive authority. In 1989, she published the first study on knowledge attitudes and beliefs in pregnant women about HIV and worked in infectious disease caring for women with HIV. She has worked as an educator and trainer for a variety of institutions.



2018 ACNM Fellows



Elizabeth Hill-Karbowska, CNM, PhD has been a CNM since 1995. Her education includes a MSN from Marquette University (1995) and a PhD from Marquette University (2014). She is 2016-2017 Duke-Johnson & Johnson Nurse Leadership Fellow. The span of her career includes full-scope CNM practice, involvement in multidisciplinary education, consultation, and management. She currently serves as a member of the ACNM Bylaws Committee, Education Director for the A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc. and President of the Wisconsin Affiliate. Areas of clinical interest include vaginal birth after cesarean, cesarean reduction, fetal monitoring, and interdisciplinary education. As Regional Director for Women and Families at Ascension-Wisconsin, her position includes collaboration and leadership within several inpatient and outpatient areas. This month Beth transitions into a new role as the Director of Midwifery Practice, Education, and Global Outreach with ACNM.



Jane Houston, CNM, DNP is currently the Clinical Director for the Midwifery and Women's Health Programs at Frontier Nursing University and a birth center midwife in Jacksonville, Florida. She has assisted birthing families on four continents. She trained as a nurse and midwife in Scotland and has worked in Zimbabwe, Haiti, and New Zealand. She came to the United States in 1996 to continue her midwifery journey and completed her MSN and DNP programs at the University of Florida. She is passionate about increasing the quality of care, particularly in rural and underserved populations. As a gay, gender non-conforming person, she emphasizes midwifery care for all families.



Joyce Hyatt, PhD, DNP, CNM is an associate professor and Director of the Nurse-Midwifery Program at Rutgers University and provides didactic and clinical education to nursing and midwifery students. She delivers presentations regionally, nationally, and internationally on women's health issues with a main focus on pain management in labor and birth. She has received several awards, including Outstanding Nurse Educator, Lester Lieberman Humanism in Healthcare, ACNM Foundation Excellence in Teaching, and Midwife of Color Outstanding Mentor of the Year Award. Dr. Hyatt is the main representative to the United Nations for the International Confederation of Midwives. Her international involvement includes medical missions to Haiti and Dominican Republic.



Sascha James-Contarelli, DNP, CNM, LM has been a midwife for more than 16 years. She maintains her clinical practice at Planned Parenthood while managing the graduate programs of the School of Nursing at Long Island University as Senior Director of Graduate Programs. Her professional journey since becoming a midwife has been unique and broad-reaching as she has applied her knowledge and skills nationally and internationally. She continues to provide expertise to the development of the perinatal regional centers for New York State and at the same time is President of the New York State ACNM Affiliate.



Laura Jenson, MPH, MS, CNM, CPH completed her nurse-midwifery and public health master's degrees at Oregon Health & Science University and worked in a federally-qualified health center in the Pilsen area of Chicago before returning to Portland. She currently serves as Manager of the OHSU midwifery practice. Laura has a keen interest in legislative affairs, particularly regarding public health issues, and served as chair of the ACNM Government Affairs Committee and of the Legislative & Advocacy Committee of the Oregon Affiliate. She also served on the board of Midwives Political Action Committee and on the ACNM State Government Affairs Committee. As faculty, she has taken the lead on interprofessional education initiatives.

2018 ACNM Fellows



Christina Kocis, CNM, DNP, FACNM notes that empowering women through passionate support of their health care choices has been the mission of her 20-year career. She has approached this goal by increasing access to midwifery care (by growing an independent midwifery-led practice model from four to 15 midwives) by teaching midwifery students from many programs, and by providing leadership in quality improvement for the delivery of evidence-based care. She has served in leadership positions in the Long Island Midwives organization and nationally for ACNM as President of the Midwifery Business Network. She is humbled and honored to be named an ACNM fellow.



Judy Lazarus, DNP, CNM, ARNP has been in full scope midwifery practice with the Neighborcare Health Midwives in Seattle for 30 years. She is a senior lecturer and community liaison at the University of Washington in the Nurse-Midwifery Education Program and has received the ACNM Foundation Excellence in Teaching Award twice. She was the Chair of the Preceptor Development and Support Committee, served on the National Program Committee, and is Chair of the Midwife Educators Section. Judy has also served terms as secretary and treasurer of the Washington Affiliate. Judy is active in peer review, precepting regulation and policy change, and continuing education planning. A major focus of her career has been clinical precepting, and she co-created the ACNM preceptor manual.



Maryann H. Long, PhD, MPH, CNM notes that that earning her midwifery certificate from SUNY Downstate in 1981 was a dream fulfilled and the foundation of an eclectic career. She cherishes the deep affinity that develops with women through their birth journeys, but has derived the greatest professional satisfaction as an educator of midwives. Her engagement in education led to interest in accreditation. As a volunteer with Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME), she has served in various capacities for 26 years. Maryann's doctoral research on work-related musculoskeletal disorders in Australian midwives resulted from a hunch that midwives' work puts them at risk. She believes there is an urgent, unrecognized need to study US midwives' health.



Leilani J. Mason MSN, CNM is an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Vanderbilt School of Medicine where she provides clinical care for a diverse patient population with emphasis on the special needs of immigrant women. As Director of the low risk OB curriculum, she tracks clinical competencies and coordinates simulation learning for obstetrics and gynecology residents. She is also a principle research investigator and was granted the W. Newton Long award by the ACNM Foundation in 2015. Leilani has served ACNM as the first Tennessee Affiliate president from 2012-2015, on the Local Program Committee for the 2013 Nashville Annual Meeting, and since 2015 as the Chair of the Medical Education Caucus. She is a frequent speaker at ACNM Annual Meetings and numerous other conferences.



Mary Kay Miller, MSN, CNM, DNP(c) includes full-scope clinical practice, midwifery and women's health education, scholarly work, and public service in her career. As 2000 graduate of Frontier Nursing University, she contributed to ACNM's Florida Gulfcoast Chapter, serving as chair. A safe birth activist, she founded a free-standing birth center and was practice director and administrator for multiple successful practices. She pioneered meetings with the ACOG Advisory Council, fostered engagement between LMs and CNMs, and is prominent in legislative/lobbying efforts, including with the ACNM Political Action Committee, Governmental Affairs Committee, and the state of Florida. She additionally has served as Florida Affiliate President for the past nine years.



2018 ACNM Fellows



Charlotte Morris, CNM, DNP has spent more than 30 years in clinical practice committed to midwifery care for low-income and minority women. She established and served as Director of Temple Hospital's midwifery service in Philadelphia, reducing cesarean rates to 8%. In 2012, she expanded her education and earned her doctorate from Temple University. She is currently a faculty member at Frontier Nursing University. Active in ACNM, she was Chair of the Membership Committee and currently serves as Secretary of the Midwives of Color Committee and as a member of the Nominating Committee. In addition to her clinical and academic achievements, Dr. Morris serves her church community.



Jeanne Murphy, PhD, CNM is an assistant professor at George Washington University School of Nursing. She was also a program officer at Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute and completed the Cancer Prevention Fellowship Program at National Cancer Institute. Her PhD at Johns Hopkins University featured a randomized trial of self-collected HPV testing to improve cervical cancer screening in women with HIV infection. She practices as a nurse-midwife at University of Maryland St. Joseph Medical Center and has been in clinical practice continuously since 1994. She was educated at Yale University School of Nursing, Springfield Technical Community College, and Brown University.



Amy Sara Nacht, DNP, CNM, MSN, MPH started working with the University of Colorado College of Nursing Faculty Practice in 2008 and has been the Director of the practice since 2010. Before joining the University Nurse Midwives, Amy worked in rural Colorado for six years. Her professional interests include global health, quality and safety, perinatal mood disorders, inter professional education, curriculum development, and medical education. She is actively involved with the University of Colorado Center for Global Health Guatemalan Birth Center and Maternal Health Programs as the lead midwife. She is going into her third year as the Director of the Midwifery Fellowship.



Gina Novick, PhD, CNM is an associate professor at Yale and teaches in the midwifery and women's health Specialties. Her research and policy interests focus on understanding and implementing alternative, midwifery-based models of care. She was a founding board member of the Centering Healthcare Institute and Founding Chair of the Birth Center Task Force of the Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, which legalized freestanding birth centers in Illinois. Gina's research focuses on barriers and facilitators to implementing and sustaining group prenatal care, as well as the patient-provider experience. Gina has practiced midwifery in a wide range of clinical settings.



Cynthia Nypaver, PhD, CNM, WHNP-BC has clinically practiced in maternal-child health for the past 37 years. She has been a member of ACNM since 1999 and has served in various capacities, including most recently as President of the Ohio Affiliate. For the past 14 years, she has taught at the University of Cincinnati and is the Program Director for the Nurse Midwifery Program. Her research focus is meaningful prenatal care for African American women. She is married with five adult children and two lovable, little granddaughters.

2018 ACNM Fellows



Patricia Olenick, PhD, CNM has practiced for more than 20 years in various settings from free-standing birth centers to academic hospitals. She is currently a faculty member of the TTUHSC midwifery program and maintains part-time clinical practice. Her doctoral research was in breastfeeding education. Patricia's areas of expertise include global health and curriculum, and she has taught in Central America and Asia. She is also a founding member of a community-based breastfeeding coalition and introduced interprofessional education within a family practice residency program. With the Texas Affiliate and The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc., she developed an endowed "Midwifery Creation Scholarship" fund, which is a model for other states.



Michelle Palmer, CNM, MSN has been practicing full-scope midwifery since 1998. Passionate about physiologic birth, she has been an innovator in her state and across the globe. She works tirelessly for families she serves across birth settings. For 10 years she has served on the Rhode Island Advisory Council for Midwifery at the State Department of Health. Currently as President of the Rhode Island Affiliate, Michelle has sought to grow the strong presence of midwifery throughout her state. Additionally, she is a doctoral student at the University of Rhode Island where she is examining the role of the midwife in care of the newborn.



Elisa L. Patterson, PhD, CNM has worked as a nurse-midwife for 25 years in many Colorado settings, rural and urban, as a clinician. Her passion is policy and advocacy for nurse-midwives, including legislative changes to enable CNMs to practice at their full potential, rules and regulations for safe practice sites, and workforce surveys that assist Colorado CNMs with practice data. Her involvement with ACNM includes the Nominating Committee, the Political Action Committee, and the Governmental Affairs Committee. She has served ACNM locally as legislative chair, affiliate secretary, and president for the Northern Colorado chapter and state affiliate. She also founded and coordinates an annual symposium for CNMs in Colorado, which supports their lobbying efforts.



Katherine S. Puls, CNM, MS, APRN began her CNM career in 1974, caring for an urban, under-resourced population, and eventually becoming director of the practice. She was adjunct faculty at the University of Illinois for 35 years. Kathy received the Joyce Roberts Excellence in Nurse Midwifery Award and was Chair of the Inter-organizational Affairs Committee representing ACNM at numerous meetings. Currently, Kathy is part of the leaders' group of the Midwifery History Caucus. In Illinois, she was President of the Illinois Affiliate and Chair of the Peer Review Committee. In Arizona, Kathy is Secretary of the Tucson Chapter and the Arizona Affiliate.



Eileen J. B. Thrower, CNM, PhD, APRN practiced clinical midwifery in Georgia for 25 years before transitioning into an academic role at Frontier Nursing University in 2016. During her clinical practice, she established two nurse-midwifery practices in West Georgia. Her PhD dissertation examined oral histories of nurse-midwives in Georgia. She continues to research the history of midwifery, focusing on the Southeast and the grand midwives of Georgia. She is the current President of the Georgia Affiliate, the Vice-chair of the Georgia Coalition of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, and the Local Program Committee Co-chair for ACNM's 63rd Annual Meeting.



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Kimberly Kovach Trout, CNM, PhD, APRN was the Director of the midwifery practice at J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital in Central Pennsylvania during the '90s. While there, she saw the infant mortality rates decline dramatically in this rural county, which previously had some of the highest rates in Pennsylvania. She initiated several quality and safety initiatives that helped to achieve some of the maternal-infant health improvements seen in the county. Wanting to expand her positive influence on women and their families to a greater extent by conducting research and teaching within the profession of midwifery, Kim pursued her PhD at Penn.



Cheri Van Hoover, CNM, MS has been midwife and active member of ACNM since 1987. Her practice has ranged from full-scope care at San Francisco Area tertiary centers to outpatient services in rural Washington State. She is an accomplished educator who received the ACNM Excellence in Teaching award twice and the Philadelphia University Distinguished Adjunct Faculty award in 2017. She is a *JMWH* contributing editor, peer reviewer, and author, and her publications include the article that received the 2017 Best Review Article of the Year. An early advocate for diversity and inclusion as founding chair of the Membership Committee, Cheri's passion for policy and activism led to a recent run for political office.



Clarice Nichole Childs Wardlaw, CNM, MSN is a CNM for the US Air Force at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia. She is currently active with the Virginia Affiliate as the Legislative Co-chair. She also serves on the ACNM Program Committee. She holds BSN and MSN degrees from MUSC, a BA in psychology from Spelman College, and a MA in education from Pace University. In addition to working as a nurse-midwife, she is a clinical faculty advisor for Georgetown University. When not taking care of patients or teaching, she is active with her sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.





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