

For Immediate Release

AACN Announces 2019 Election Results for Board of Directors and Nominating Committee

WASHINGTON, D.C., February 11, 2019 - The **American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN)** is pleased to announce the results of its 2019 election to fill seats on the AACN Board of Directors and Nominating Committee. With votes cast by nearly two-thirds of all member deans from the nation's nursing schools with baccalaureate and higher degree programs, those selected to serve as AACN's top leaders include Board Members Susan Bakewell-Sachs (chair-elect) from Oregon Health & Science University; Lin Zhan (treasurer) from the University of Memphis; Jean Giddens from Virginia Commonwealth University; Judith Karshmer from the Arizona State University; Julie Sanford from James Madison University; and Terri Weaver from the University of Illinois at Chicago. New members of AACN's Nominating Committee include Steven Cavanagh from the University of Massachusetts Amherst and Jeannette Andrews from the University of South Carolina.

"The key to AACN's effectiveness as a champion for excellence and innovation in academic nursing has always been our engaged and loyal members," said AACN Board Chair Ann Cary, PhD, MPH, RN, FNAP, FAAN. "On behalf of the association, I am pleased to welcome these new and returning leaders to the Board and Nominating Committee, and I applaud their strong commitment to advancing the goals and mission of AACN."

Those elected to the AACN Board of Directors and Nominating Committee will begin their terms of service following the business meeting at [AACN's Deans Annual Meeting](#) on March 25, 2019.

- **Julie Sanford**, DNS, RN, FAAN, professor and director of the School of Nursing at James Madison University (JMU), was elected to serve a two-year term as Board member at-large. Prior to arriving at JMU in 2011, her career in nursing education included leadership and teaching roles at the University of South Alabama, University of Southern Mississippi, and Spring Hill College. Her leadership within the profession extends to serving as vice chair of the Virginia Association of Colleges of Nursing, executive director of the Caregivers Community Network, and member of the Virginia Action Coalition's Education Progression sub-committee. For AACN, she has served on the Nominating and Government Affairs Committees, as chair of the Baccalaureate Education Conference Planning Committee, as a state grassroots liaison, as a CCNE team leader, as a member of the CCNE Report Review Committee, and as a mentor in the New Dean Mentoring program.



She is a graduate of the AACN-Wharton Executive Leadership Program.