

FANNP Board of Directors Elections 2024

FANNP has an excellent, well-qualified slate of candidates for the Board of Directors to lead FANNP forward for the next two years. The candidates represent Neonatal Nurse Practitioners from Florida and throughout the United States.

All elected candidates will assume office in January 2025. Jennifer Humphries will continue for another year as President of FANNP. Colleen Moss is completing her year as Past President.

FANNP Voting and Retired members will receive an email the week of September 30 with voting instructions and a link to the candidate information and ballot. Voting will end at 3PM (eastern) on October 16, 2024.

The candidates were asked to submit a statement with their name and photo, hometown, current professional and personal qualifications, length of FANNP membership, past or current service/contributions to FANNP and their reasons for running.

Candidates for Election 2024 are:

PRESIDENT

Patrick McCrae, MSN, APRN, NNP-BC Ponte Vedra, Florida Pediatrix Medical Group in Florida

It is with great exuberance that I submit my nomination for the position of President-Elect to serve in 2025-2027. I first attended the FANNP symposium as a student in 2016 and have been an active member since 2019. After attending one of the annual business meetings at the conference, I was inspired to become more active in the organization. My initial involvement was serving as co-chair of social media. This led me to run for the Member at Large Board of Director seat in 2022 where I continue to serve. Additionally, I serve as social media chair and assist in the Legislative representation of the group. My road to becoming an NNP (Neonatal Nurse Practitioner) was not the straight and narrow path. Stuck in a non-fulfilling job while raising a family with my wife led me to nursing. I knew I did not want to work in a factory all my life and I wanted a career that would make my children and family proud. With the love for anatomy and physiology along with the desire to serve others, I pursued nursing. My journey started at a community college where I became a CNA. I then further my education as an LPN, then ADN, and BSN. During this entire process I was working full-time and juggling family life with the support of my wife. With every opportunity I worked hard to succeed, this included teaching clinicals, working with adults, and finally reaching my dream job in a level IV NICU. I became an Assistant Nurse Manager of

that unit and met my first group of amazing NNP's. The NNP's in the medical group on the unit encouraged me to go back to school for my MSN /NNP. Through their mentorship and encouragement, I received my MSN from the University of Cincinnati in 2017. After I received my NNP certification I continued to work in the Level IV unit for a couple of years before taking my current role with Pediatrix Medical Group in Florida. This position opened more doors for me in Neonatology, including joining the national simulation team for Pediatrix. This allowed me to travel around the country teaching high fidelity manikin simulations in NICU's and LDRP's. Today I continue to work for Pediatrix as a practicing NNP in Jacksonville, FL and currently am the education director for the practice.

As president elect my vision for FANNP is two-fold. Increase student engagement and modernize the organization to help expand our voice as a representative group for NNP's. As a current BOD member, I have seen how well our group reaches out to NNP's students and I want to grow that movement. As social media chair I recognize



the power of social media and all its platforms. Expanding our footprint to better reach students and have them engage in our group more frequently will encourage membership, comradery, and a sense of fellowship. I hope when the student becomes the NNP, they will have found a place in FANNP and continue with us, while encouraging others.

To modernize the organization many things have started to take shape in my brief time as a BOD member. Through great teamwork and organization, FANNP has made technological advances including a new website design, and the largest social media presence in the group's history. This could not be done without such a talented group of people. My hope as your president elect is to help guide this process even further allowing our organization to meet the needs of members more efficiently and promptly using technology.

To expand our voice in the world of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners we need to have a unified voice. That includes increasing membership in our organization and fostering communication across all levels of neonatology. Open forums of communication, whether it be learning oppor-

tunities like our amazing conference, newsletter updates, or social media posts. An open line of communication with membership is key to growing our organization.

As we all know, what we do is special. What I love about the profession is that every day we make a difference, or we try to. We educate terrified new parents, work on the sickest and smallest babies, welcome new life into the world, and occasionally save it. There is a passion that goes into our field and that is something as your president elect, I will bring to the table every day. I'm sure many of you can relate to the long rough road of becoming an NNP or getting to where you are today. As your president elect, I hope to make that road a little easier, by promoting an organization that is here to help you find what you need to continue that passion. Through positive networking with colleagues, engagement with students, and updated practice development, my goal will be to represent all of you with passion and demonstrate how NNP's make a difference every day. Thank you for your consideration of my nomination for President-elect.

TREASURER

Sheryl Montrowl APRN, MSN, NNP-BC
Gainesville Florida
University of Florida

Current Position: I am currently employed as an NNP at University of Florida College of Medicine Neonatology Division in Gainesville, Florida. In addition to my clinical duties, I serve on the ELBW committee, the discharge planning committee, the Pediatric Resident Clinical Competency Committee and have served as liaison to the Neonatology division for our NNP group.

Current service: I am currently functioning as the treasurer. My further duties with the organization include serving on the conference planning committee and the scholarship award committee.

Length of membership: since 2007

Personal statement:

Since my teenage years, I have always known I would grow up to take care of babies. In nursing

school at the University of Florida I was exposed to the NICU and fell in love with the fragile population, the families and the fast pace. After several years I returned to school and obtained my MSN and became an NNP.

I have functioned in that role for over 30 years and have seen many changes in our profession. I joined FANNP in 2007 and have met many wonderful people with the same goals of fostering evidence-based practice and mentoring new NNPs. I have enjoyed my time on the board and have met so many wonderful people. I work hard to help FANNP remain fiscally fit and to help provide a first-rate conference at an economical price.



SECRETARY Voters will choose one of two options.

Anecia Carter, MSN, FNP, NNP-BC
Allentown, Pennsylvania
MidAtlantic Neonatology Association (MANA)

Initially, I graduated with a master's degree from a Family Nurse Practitioner program in a time when in the Lehigh Valley PA no one really knew what that role was. I was hired to work in an NICU with 2 other NP's who were also not NNPs. We developed the role to what it is today. I then returned to school at the University of South Alabama to obtain my certificate as an NNP. I currently work full-time as a NNP for a private neonatal group and part time as a pediatric NP in a private office. In the summer I volunteer my time to be a medical provider for week-long camp sessions for children with Down Syndrome.

The fall of graduation from my NNP program, I came to FANNP for the board review and enjoyed the people, lectures and setting so much I kept coming. After networking at the conference for a few years one of the board members reached out to me to run for a member at large position and a position on the planning committee. A few years later there was a sudden vacancy as secretary. I took the challenge and filled the position. I am also the chair for the Communications committee and on the scholarship committee. And of course, yearly I help set up for FANNP's exiting beach party! Then I love to dance and mingle

with students who will soon be fellow peers as well as networking with fellow NNPs.

While being part of the organization, I have watched FANNP evolve and grow. We as a group were able to continue the conference through a pandemic and currently offer different platforms to participate year-round. Social media has tripled in the past two years. We are developing a program to assist students in finding preceptors. When I first joined FANNP a copy of the conference was mailed on a CD after the conference. Later a thumb drive was mailed and currently an instant copy is available for viewing on-line.

It has been exciting to watch FANNP continue to grow. I have found such pride in my position as FANNP secretary for the past 8 years. I really enjoy the first day of the conference at registration when I am able to welcome the members I have registered online and meet them in person. I would like to continue my position as FANNP secretary and am asking for your vote to do just that!



Colleen Moss, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC
Franklin, Tennessee
Vanderbilt University

Professional & Personal Qualifications:
Practicing NNP for 21+ years in TN and FL. Academic director of Neonatal Nurse Practitioner program at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing. Serving on the FANNP BOD since 2021. Member of the Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing Editorial Board since 2022. Kim Nolan Spirit Award recipient (2023).

Length of FANNP membership: Active since 2017

Past or Current Service/ Contributions to FANNP: President Elect 2021; President 2022-2023; Past President 2024. Received FANNP grant in 2019 for DNP project, "Mentoring New Graduate Neonatal Nurse Practitioners." Speaker Co-Chair 2021 - present. Student Engagement Task Force 2024 - present.



I am running for Secretary because I have enjoyed my service on the BOD. As my 4-year term as President ends, I want to continue to serve FANNP in a formal role within the organization. My strengths include dedication to completing tasks, making personal connections, and attention

to detail- I enjoy taking meeting minutes on our Student Engagement Task Force. If elected to this role, I look forward to working closely with the Communications committee (Social Media Chair, Newsletter Co-Editors) to advance the mission and values of FANNP.

BOD MEMBER AT LARGE Voters will choose four of six options.

**Melissa C. Dollings, PhD, APRN,
NNP-BC**

Richmond, Virginia

Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU

I am the Lead Nurse Practitioner in a 40 (soon to be 60) bed academic Level IV NICU. I am responsible for Student placements and clinical experiences as well as onboarding and orientation of new NNP's. I mentor and formally evaluate our NNP team. I have been a Peer Reviewer for Biologic Research for Nursing and for the Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing and am currently working as an expert witness for a neonatal specific court case.

I have been a member of FANNP off and on since I was a student and attended the review course in 2008. I have continuously been a member for about the last 5 years. I was awarded a FANNP research grant in 2019 for my PhD dissertation research. I have presented as a brief podium

presenter at two conferences, most recently in 2022.

In 2022, I volunteered for the Research Committee and have assisted with reviewing research grants and abstracts submitted for conference. I also had the pleasure of judging posters last year. At the conference in 2023, I helped with the poster presentations, some set up and monitored two or three sessions.

I am running for Member at Large because I absolutely LOVE the FANNP community and want to increase my participation in an effort to help the organization I love to grow, expand, reach more people and continue to be fabulous!



**Jacqueline "Jacqui" Hoffman, DNP,
APRN, NNP-BC**

Vancouver, Washington

**Rush University / Oregon Health & Science
University**

Current professional & personal qualifications:

Professionally, I have been in the field of neonatology for over 40 years including 23 years as an NNP. I have always had a passion for teaching, informally at the bedside, and formally as an invited guest speaker at neonatal conferences on various neonatal topics and holding several faculty appointments. I have a clinical practice as

an NNP with Oregon Health & Science University where I am the Lead APP in a Level III NICU and often facilitate the practice and doctoral scholarship of DNP-NNP students. I hold a faculty appointment in the Doctorate in Nursing Practice/ Neonatal Nurse Practitioner track at Rush University. I am a member of the Editorial Board for the Journal



of Perinatal and Neonatal Nurses, a peer-review editor for *Advances in Neonatal Care*, have published neonatal content book chapters, and collaborated on publications with other neonatal colleagues. I am a member of the Association of Women's Health Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN); American Academy of Neonatal Nurses; American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP); American Academy of Pediatrics, Perinatal Section; NANN/National Association of Neonatal Nurses - Advanced Practice (NANNP); and Sigma Theta Tau International. Personally, I am active in the Catholic Daughters of America and a robust participant in the March of Dimes and American Heart Association annual fundraising walks. I am the proud grandmother of three phenomenal grandchildren (one now a teenager - yike!).

Length of FANNP membership: since 1999

Gayla Kaye-Steed, MSN, NNP, APRN-BC

**Olive Branch, Mississippi
Pediatrix Medical Group**

My name is Gayla Kaye-Steed. I live in Olive Branch, Mississippi with my husband and 3 of my 5 children. After earning my BA in Political Science at The University of Mississippi in 1992, I felt a calling for Nursing. I graduated from Nursing School in 1997, obtained my BSN in 2003, and my MSN in 2005 from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center all while working in a Level III NICU.

I began working as a NNP in 2006 at the Regional Medical Center in Memphis, TN. Shortly after, I was recruited to begin a new NNP group at Methodist Germantown Hospital in Memphis, TN. with Pediatrix Medical Group. I was the first NNP in the Level III NICU in a practice that has grown to 11 NNPs where I am currently employed.

I have been a member of FANNP since 2005 where I first attended as a student. I immediately fell in love with the FANNP organization, and I have been an active member ever since. I served as President of FANNP during the COVID years

Past or current service/contributions to FANNP:

I became involved with FANNP after attending the review track session and was so inspired by the members, I became an active member serving in many capacities including participation on several committees as Conference Chair, Conference Speaker Chair, and have held Board positions including President and member-at-large.

Reason for running for member-at-large

position: As an experienced board member, in the role of member-at-large, I would like to actively support the mission of the organization in the promotion of advanced neonatal nursing practice, especially in regard to growth of the profession through the advanced practice NNP and NCNS students as well as the professional development of seasoned NNP and NCNS participants.

2020-2022. I have also served as the Co-Editor of the FANNP Newsletter, Social Media Chair, and Past President of FANNP. I am currently serving on the Board of Directors as a Member at Large, Social Media Co-Chair, Conference Planning Committee and Beach Party Co-Chair.



The growth, sustainability, and a National presence remains a passion for me. I have dedicated the last 20+ years to FANNP and still believe I have much more to contribute. I have a proven record of strong leadership both with FANNP and my professional practice. I believe that my attributes are consistent with FANNP's mission to facilitate strong clinical collaboration fostering advanced practice education and increasing public awareness of the NNP role.

Thank you for your consideration and I would appreciate your vote so that I may continue to serve FANNP to my fullest potential.

Jessica Jones, DNP, ARNP, NNP-BC
Tampa, Florida

Pediatrics Medical Group / Baylor University

My name is Jessica Jones, and I am a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner in Tampa, Florida.

I currently serve as the Coordinator of Advanced Practice Providers for the Pediatrics Medical Group in Tampa. I have worked with them for the past fourteen years. Additionally, I hold a position as Clinical Assistant Professor with Baylor University's Louise Herrington School of Nursing, teaching in their Doctor of Nursing Practice program. I have worked in neonatal nursing for the last 22 years, 17 as an NNP. I am hard working, collaborate well with others, and am focused on leadership and teamwork.

I have been a member of FANNP since 2006 and have had the pleasure of recently becoming more involved, serving on the conference planning

AnnaLeigh Pedroza, MSN, APRN,
NNP-BC

Colleyville, Texas
Envision Medical

My name is AnnaLeigh Pedroza. I live in Colleyville, TX. I have been an NNP since 2017 and a neonatal nurse since 2011. I work full time with a physician group that provides services for seven hospitals in Dallas-Fort Worth, serving newborn nursery up to level IV NICUs. I have completed my education through Texas Tech University, Texas Woman's University, and Vanderbilt University.

I have been a FANNP member since 2020 and have attended conferences both in person and

Stephen Stoeber, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC
Portland, Oregon

Oregon Health & Science University

Hello all! By way of introduction, I am Dr. Stephen Stoeber, an East Coast native, now living and working in Portland, Oregon. My NICU career began right after nursing school, first as a NICU RN, and then once I finished my MSN at Columbia University, I transitioned into an NNP role in our large Level IV NICU at NY Presbyte-

rian. Over the past 14 years as an NNP I became particularly interested in the care of neonates born with congenital heart disease and helped plan and open the world's first cardiovascular NICU in 2018. In 2019, I committee since 2023. I have a passion for reaching the next generation of NNPs, which led to me helping to spearhead a student engagement task force for FANNP last fall.

I am running for a position as a BOD Member at Large. I have benefited greatly from the FANNP through conferences and as a recipient of two scholarships during my time as a student. My hope is to give back to this association through service and hard work with the goal of advancing the recognition of FANNP as a premier organization for NNPs.



virtually, all with positive experiences. Educating neonatal nurses, practitioners, and patient families is at the heart of what and why I do this every day. Therefore, I am running for the FANNP member-at-large

position to offer my willingness to educate others, my time, and experience to create an environment for education, research, and advocacy for our profession.



rian. Over the past 14 years as an NNP I became particularly interested in the care of neonates born with congenital heart disease and helped plan and open the world's first cardiovascular NICU in 2018. In 2019, I



completed my DNP degree at Seton Hall University where my interests focused on bioethics and organizational leadership.

Shortly thereafter in 2022, I transitioned into the role of Nurse Practitioner Program Director, which allowed me to maintain some clinical time as well as expand my knowledge as a healthcare leader. Most recently, I joined the APP team at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, OR as a clinical NNP.

I have been a part of FANNP for many years, first as a student, then a novice NNP, and now an NNP expert/conference speaker serving as Member at Large for this past term. Initiatives I've worked on in this capacity have included creating a preceptor repository to connect volunteer preceptors with students needing clinical placements

and coordinating QR code and logo development for FANNP.

The friendships and collegial relationships that have formed as a result of the FANNP conference have been an immeasurable part of my life and career. My interest in continuing in this role as part of the organization's Board of Directors stems from a desire to contribute to the organization that played a pivotal role in my own career, and to bring my own ideas and experience to the table. As neonatal nurse practitioner programs continue to disappear over the years, it's even more important to continue to invest in the next generation of NNP leaders while recognizing the indispensable value of those who are currently practicing.

