President’s Message

Happy Holidays AAPINA members!

This is my final message to you as President. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to have served as your President over the past two years. It has been an honor and a privilege to work closely with such a highly qualified group of professional nurses, I must say this was a once in a lifetime experience that I can look back upon with fond memories. In preparing this message I spent some time to reflect on some of the major milestones AAPINA has achieved. The organization now has a strategic plan that the membership approved at our last annual conference. The Executive Council is currently working on identifying multiple ways to operationalize this plan. We have also increased membership and are planning to continue our membership drive such that we will have a robust membership in a few years. Finally, as part of operationalizing the strategic plan for increasing Asian American/Pacific Islander nurse leaders, I hope to see AAPINA members volunteer as mentors to help members develop their leadership skills.

Respectfully,
Pat Alpert, DrPH, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, PNP-BC, CNE, FAANP

Patricia T. Alpert
President-elect’s Message:

I would like to thank all of you for your commitment and support for AAPINA. As I end my term as President-Elect for the past two years (2016-2017), let me share some of the highlights of AAPINA and my vision as the next President.

The President-Elect is also the Program Chair. As the program chair who oversaw the past conferences, I am pleased to report that our past conferences have focused on global health. Moreover, the presented abstracts were published in the APIN journal. The 13th annual conference in 2016 concentrated in global health and nursing through education, research, and practice. Several presenters focused on global health issues in nursing research and practice. The conference was also innovative since the venue was on a cruise ship. Thanks to Dr. Jennifer Kawi and her planning committee for co-chairing the conference. The 14th annual conference held in March 2017 in Hawaii is a historical event for AAPINA. The conference was the largest attended conference in the history of the organization. Thanks to Dr. Merle Kataoka-Yahiro and the planning committee for co-chairing the conference. Attendees were from Japan, Korea, Thailand, New Zealand, and United States.

The 15th annual conference has been rescheduled in fall 2018. The Executive Council (EC) voted/approved the rescheduling due to the low number of abstract submissions and conference registrants. Here’s a brief summary and a tentative plan for moving forward. After the 2017 conference in Hawaii, three AAPINA members expressed interest to host the 15th annual conference. The proposed venues were New York, New Jersey, and Philippines. Unfortunately, these proposals lost momentum on account of a combination of factors: budget, venue, lack of readily available manpower from the membership to fill key leadership and support roles and some process-related concerns. The cruise conference was then proposed and approved by the EC. Preparation began in spring 2017 by creating the committees (planning, program, etc.). Many hours were spent working with the University at Sea through Royal Caribbean, marketing, securing budget proposal/approval, soliciting keynote speakers, inviting exhibitors, constructing the website and crafting the conference theme, Call for Abstracts, program schedule, and other essential tasks. Somehow, this proposed conference was unable to get off the ground. Thank you to all who worked hard to plan and lay the groundwork that have parts which can be applied to a future 2018 conference.

Fortunately, we now have Dr. Eun-Ok Im, incoming President-Elect! She and her team stepped up to the plate and we have a host for the 2018 conference to be held in North Carolina. The EC voted and approved Dr. Im’s overall proposal for the conference. The EC is awaiting the final budget proposal from Dr. Im and her planning committee. On behalf of the EC, thank you to Dr. Im and your team. I also call upon our members to help with the conference as a volunteer, presenter, help as a committee member or contact Dr. Im to let her know how you can help.

The President-Elect also chairs the By-Laws Committee. Modifications were made to expand our networking, promote healthy living and better health outcomes of APIs, promote leadership, and increase AAPINA membership which is consistent with our new strategic plan. The revised changes were approved by AAPINA members in March 2017.
As the next President commencing January 2018, my goal is to operationalize our new strategic plan so it will be ready for implementation with specific objectives related to expanding AAPINA chapters and promote leadership and professional development.

It has been two wonderful years working with you and serving all of you! I look forward to working with you again. May you have a wonderful holiday season!

Sincerely,

Alona D. Angosta

Alona D. Angosta, PhD, APRN, FNP, NP-C
Associate Professor
University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Nursing

From THE EDITOR’ DESK

Co-Editors: Yu-Ping Chang, PhD, RN, FGSA and Melen McBride, PhD, RN, FGSA

When we were planning this issue, Dr. Chang, co-editor suggested that I write from the vantage point of a seasoned health professional and as one of AAPINA’s lifetime member. I gave this a lot of thought and an idea came to me related to mentorship and a subgroup of AAPINA members who had the vision and commitment to start our organization. Their passion for professionalism attracted API nurses to become members and together they created road-ways for individual and collective growth as academics, clinicians, scientists and caring colleagues. We are reaping the benefits of their dedication to high standards for systematic and incremental productivity. They are an invaluable resource to AAPINA members as well as the API RN community. We would like for you to meet each one through a section in our newsletter. These Scholars Assisting Growth to Expertise and Excellence (SAGEE) will be invited to share a pearl of wisdom about something that made a mark in their professional and/or personal successes. You are also welcome to send Yu-Ping and I a note to request a short comment from a SAGEE such as about a specific question on collaboration. We’ll look for a SAGEE who is available to respond and post it in the newsletter. Shall we try this idea? We are getting ready to conclude 2017 and to welcome a new year.

Wishing you all the best of the holiday season and may you have a perfect celebration with family and friends.

Yu-Ping and Melen
GERO SECTION: The 21st International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) World Congress

Yeonsu Song, PhD, RN, FNP-C
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The 21st International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics (IAGG) World Congress of Gerontology & Geriatrics was held on July 23-27, 2017 in San Francisco, California. This meeting was hosted by the Gerontological Society of America (GSA), which covered numerous interesting topics and new information. I was very excited to attend this meeting because it is one of the biggest, multidisciplinary meeting around the world and it offered invaluable learning and network opportunities. On the first day, opening ceremony and lectures were phenomenal: Jo Ann Jenkins, CEO of AARP emphasized the need to change the way we live throughout our lives toward longevity. Linda Fried, Columbia University presented on the importance of creating new ways to economically value contributions of older adults to society.

This meeting had two innovative features. First, the Age Stage presented a new venue to highlight the many ways creativity plays a role in aging, which included dance performance, music, short film, and portraits of elders. The other feature was a one-day Technology and Aging track that brought leading companies, gerontologists and entrepreneurs to discuss developing technology solutions for older adults. On the Tech Day, one-minute presentations by young researchers from various institutions and countries were fun to watch. Preliminary, yet their innovative ideas were impressive. The presentation of my alumni from Hanyang University, School of Nursing, Seoul, South Korea was one of them and their study of using virtual reality program for persons with dementia received much attention.

As an early career junior faculty, I also benefited to attend the sessions, which offered guidance on the pathways to independence. The mini-talk at the Exhibit area by a senior faculty member was also helpful to get tips on how to be successful in an academic setting.

I presented a poster focusing on sleep and caregiving experience among caregivers of older veterans. During my poster session, I met researchers from other disciplines who were interested in my research findings. Moreover, reuniting with my alumni was a valuable part of the meeting to me. Their research work in South Korea encouraged me to further develop a new way to improve sleep and health for caregivers, using technology. It also led to a collaborative research idea for older Koreans in South Korea and U.S. in the near future.

IAGG Resources:
- IAGG 2017 Abstract Book- https://academic.oup.com/innovateage/issue/1/suppl_1

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RESOURCES SECTION

Immunotherapy: Using the Immune System To Treat cancer, Updated: September 8, 2017

https://www.cancer.gov/research/areas/treatment/immunotherapy-using-immune-system

This is a primer on a relatively new approach to cancer treatment that provides a comprehensive overview on the immunotherapies for various types of cancers in children and adults. The brief descriptions for FDA approved therapies, therapies under FDA approval process, ongoing research on cellular innovations with potential to treatment and clinical trials are useful for developing basic knowledge about a new area in oncology research, practice and education. This primer includes a short video (4.11 minutes), an excerpt on “Cancer: The Emperor of All Maladies”, PBS with Dr. Steven A. Rosenberg of the National Cancer Institute’s Center for Immunotherapy Research who broke ground the research and clinical trials on T-Cells.

New Member Spotlight

Ying-Yu Chao, PhD, RN, GNP-BC
Clinical Assistant Professor
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I received my PhD in Nursing from The State University of New York at Buffalo in 2014, and joined the Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey after graduation. My research interests are in the areas of health program, gerontological nursing, and health disparity. For my doctoral dissertation, I designed and tested a self-efficacy theoretically based intervention by using active video games (exergames) to encourage assisted living residents to engage in exercise. The results were published in several peer-reviewed journals. Upon academic appointment, I have extended my research program to the underserved community through community-based participatory research approach. Currently, I am working with psychiatrists to improve health care access, delivery, and quality in the underserved Chinese Americans with mental health disorders. I am also working on the project to improve self-and family-management of older Chinese immigrants with mental disorders.

As an Asian American faculty and nurse practitioner, I am honored to be a member of AAPINA. I want to send a special thank you to Dr. Yu-Ping Chang (Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship, The State University of New York at Buffalo) for her introducing me to this wonderful organization. I was glad to see Dr. Chang at the international conference in California few months ago. I have known Dr. Chang since my PhD study, but now only meet occasionally at conferences after graduation. We talked about research ideas and how to foster personal growth in the national organizations. I learned that APPINA platform provides excellent mentorship opportunities to work with well-accomplished scholars, as well as offers grant support for research. I also learned that scholars not only have opportunities to present their research work, but also have fun at the APPINA conference. I dedicate myself to promote better healthcare needs and services to Asian American and Pacific Islanders. I will continue to seek the opportunities to collaborate and network with members of this wonderful organization.
MEMBERS NEWS

Rose E. Constantino, PhD, JD, RN, FAAN, FACFE  Email: rco100@pitt.edu
Associate Professor, University of Pittsburgh University
Department of Health and Community Systems, School of Nursing

Dr. Constantino has just completed two visiting professorships. The first visiting professorship she completed is as a 2016-2017 Fulbright Scholar at the University of Jordan. The second is with the Philippine Council on Health and Research Development (PCHRD) as a 2017 Balik (Return) Scientist Scholar. These 2 scholarships added to the depth and breadth of her understanding of cultural humility, emotional intelligence and interprofessional collaboration in education, research and practice in global health.

Sujayalakshmi Devarayasamudram, PhD, RN  Email: sdevarayasamudram@nccu.edu
Assistant Professor
North Carolina Central University Department of Nursing

Dr. Devarayasamudram has a recent publication.

She also has five poster and seven podium presentations. Below are some of her presentations:


Emerson Ea, PhD, DNP, RN  Email: eee203@nyu.edu
Clinical Associate Professor, Assistant Dean, Clinical and Adjunct Faculty Affairs
New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing

Beginning this fall 2017, Dr. Ea was promoted to Assistant Dean, Clinical and Adjunct Faculty Affairs at New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing. He was inducted as Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine in November, 2017. Dr. Ea co-authored a book, 301 Careers in Nursing that was published in Spring 2017, and has several recent publications.


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Eun-Ok Im, PhD, MPH, RN, CNS, FAAN  Email: Eun-Ok.Im@duke.edu
Professor &  Mary T. Champagne Professor
Duke University School of Nursing

Dr. Eun-Ok Im was recently featured in an article on NBCNews.com entitled "She Watched Her Mother Suffer Quietly. Now She’s Helping Cancer Survivors Find Help." The article goes into detail about her ongoing study "To Enhance Breast Cancer Survivorship of Asian Americans." Please click the link below to read the full article.

“Asian Americans tend to be very quiet, and they rarely manage their pain while tolerating all the symptoms and pain because of their culture.”

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Jing Wang PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN  Email: Jing.Wang@uth.tmc.edu
Associate Professor, John P. McGovern Distinguished Professor of Nursing
Director of Center of Excellence in Mobile and Connected Health at UT Health Consortium on Aging
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Cizik School of Nursing

Dr. Jing Wang, Associate Professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UT Health) Cizik School of Nursing, is also adjunct faculty at UT Health School of Biomedical Informatics. She was inducted to be a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing in 2017. She is also recently named as the John P. McGovern Distinguished Professor of Nursing, and founding Director of Center of Excellence in Mobile and Connected Health at UT Health Consortium on Aging. As a current Macy Faculty Scholar funded by the Josiah Jr. Macy Foundation, she’s developing the first interprofessional curriculum on mobile and connected health technologies.

CONGRATULATIONS!