



AAPINA

ASIAN AMERICAN / PACIFIC ISLANDER NURSES ASSOCIATION, INC.

Organization identifying the health care needs of Asian Americans / Pacific Islanders

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Dr. Jing Wang



Dear AAPINA Family,

Happy Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage month! Hello from the state capitol, Tallahassee, of the sunshine state of Florida!

Time has truly flown in these months since my inauguration back in January. I am overjoyed to be able to serve as President of AAPINA and continue our mission of providing a unified voice that advocates for concerns of our AAPI nursing community. First and foremost, I want to thank our previous president, Dr. Eun-Ok Im. She has been tremendous in assisting with transition and truly helped lay a foundation that I hope to build upon. I am very glad to see our secretary Dr. Lina Nguyen continue one more year, she has been a valued asset in the executive committee and source of information and support. I also want to extend a warm welcome for our two executive team members, Dr. Jung-Ah Lee as President-Elect, and Donna Palakiko as our new treasurer. I am inspired by all of them for their commitments for AAPINA and by all of you for what you do to support AAPINA community.

We have now been in Covid-19 pandemic for over two years, and undoubtedly none have suffered as much as the AAPI and nursing communities. We have seen growing concerns from our community to

address issues of racism, language access, economic equity, immigration, health equity, and much more. In my short term thus far, much has been discussed internally on how we can continue to evolve as an organization and best address these issues from the nursing lens. I am proud to see that President Biden is listening and has established [President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders \(Commission\)](#) and the [White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders \(WHIAANHPI\)](#) through [Executive Order \(EO\) 14031](#). The commission held its recent commission meeting that listed numerous recommendations presented to the president. I highly encourage others to watch the [video](#) or visit the commission [website](#) for more information.

My takeaway is that there is much work to be done. It is my belief that AAPINA must and will continue to play an important role in shaping the future of nursing and advocacy for AAPI communities. I am happy to share that in these past few months we have made some incredible strides including a new partnership with JMIR Publications to publish the [Asian / Pacific Island Nursing Journal \(APINJ\)](#) on behalf of the association. The Asian / Pacific Island Nursing Journal was born in 2014 to assist in the dissemination of scholarly work of AAPINA members and the A/PI communities they serve. The partnership is a great tool to uplift our voices and disseminate scholarly research on the health disparities and educational challenges faced by the AAPI community. I am thrilled to have Dr. Hyochol "Brian" Ahn, Professor and Associate Dean for Research at Florida State University College of Nursing, serve as new editor-in-chief of the AAPINA official journal. We look forward to seeing your work published, please spread the word, the journal is ready to accept submissions!!

Additionally, I am happy to announce we will be hosting an upcoming webinar ([Future of Nursing and Healthcare: Advancing AAPI Leadership Through Interprofessional Collaboration to Address Health Equity](#)) alongside the Philippine Nurses Association of America (PNAA) on May 31st as a celebration of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage month and to discuss opportunities for advancing AAPI leadership in healthcare. I hope to see you there.

It is truly an honor and privilege to serve this organization as President, I have joined AAPINA since I was a PhD student and have grown with AAPINA to be who I am today. I hope to hear from you on how we can build together for a bright future of AAPINA.

Thank you to all our members, friends, and supporters of AAPINA. I am excited for the journey to come and look forward to seeing you on May 31st.

With admirations,

Jing Wang, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN

President, AAPINA

Dean and Professor, Florida State University College of Nursing

TREASURER'S MESSAGE: Dr. Donna-Marie Palakiko

Aloha mai kākou,
'O Donna-Marie Palakiko ko'u inoa
No Hawai'i mai au

Greetings everyone,

My name is Donna-Marie Palakiko, and I am from Hawai'i. I am a Native Hawaiian mother, nurse, researcher, educator, and health strategist. I joined the executive committee of AAPINA as Treasurer in January 2022 and am excited to work with an amazing team of nurse leaders, educators, and scientists.

I am an Assistant Professor, in a tenure track position, at the Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. My current research focuses on understanding the role and influence culture has on disease management among indigenous populations. My current study is funded by the Hawai'i Community Foundation, Robert C. Perry Fund and seeks to understand the impact COVID-19 has on asthma management among Native Hawaiian adults with asthma. For the next 10-months, I will be fulfilling a Fulbright Post-Doc Award at the Centre for Treatable Traits at the University of Newcastle in Australia.

In my time as AAPINA Treasurer, I look forward to working with the board, executive committee, committee members, and members to bring about growth opportunities for our Asian American and Pacific Islander nurses.

Wishing you all a great summer!

Donna-Marie Palakiko, PhD, RN, APRN

Assistant Professor

Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

From the Editor's Desk: Dr. Meng Zhao, PhD, RN

In 2021, AAPINA has significant growth. We have more members, collaboration organizations, and advertisements on our website. Getting united, we are proud to be Asian American/Pacific Islander nurses and are able to get our voices heard! We are also proud that the 2021 Emory University Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing (NHWSN)/AAPINA Joint Virtual Conference was held successfully on November 29-30, 2021. We look forward to our new AAPINA leadership taking us further in success!

The year 2021 continues to be a hard year as the Covid-19 pandemic continues. We suffered from the Delta variant and now the Omicron. Till Dec 8, Omicron has been detected in 19 states. As Omicron has an unusual combination of mutations, it may spread faster than all the other Covid-19 strains. The CDC recommends using all precautions no matter fully vaccinated or not. If you would like to travel abroad during the Christmas/ New Year holidays, please also be aware of major changes in travel restrictions. I wish you a peaceful and blessed Christmas and New Year and look forward to a better 2022!

Newsletter Team Members:

- Dr. Angela Chia-Chen Chen**, PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC from Southwest Interdisciplinary Research Center, Arizona State University;
- Dr. Sangmi Kim**, PhD, MPH, RN from Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Emory University;
- Dr. Jinyoung Kim**, PhD, RN, FAAN from School of Nursing, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV);
- Dr. Gloria Park**, PhD, APRN, FNP-C, RN from College of Nursing & Health Sciences, Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi;
- Ms. Kristine Lim** – AAPINA IT support member

SPECIALTY REPORT

The [Asian American / Pacific Islander Nurses Association](#) (AAPINA) and [JMIR Publications](#) announce a new agreement to publish *Asian / Pacific Island Nursing Journal* (APINJ) on behalf of the association. AAPINA will leverage the full support suite offered by JMIR including: editorial expertise in indexing and content strategy, best-in-class copy editing and typesetting, and promotional services such as knowledge translation programs and author interviews.

The number of nursing professionals in Asia has exploded in recent years, while Asian / Pacific Islanders (A/PI) make up the fastest growing minority group in the United States. However, research on health disparities and the cultural and educational challenges faced by these patient groups is frustratingly limited. Formed in the wake of a 1992 conference hosted by the U.S. Department of Health for minority leaders in nursing, AAPINA champions the work of A/PI nurses through education, networking, policy, and research.

To assist in the dissemination of scholarly work of AAPINA members and the A/PI communities they serve, the *Asian / Pacific Island Nursing Journal* was born in 2014. APINJ provides a dedicated home for research on all challenges the A/PI community faces in engaging with healthcare, whether they be policy-based, educational, cultural, or regarding disparities in health outcomes.



Dr. Hyochol Ahn, Professor and Associate Dean for Research at Florida State University College of Nursing and Editor-in-Chief of APINJ, says, “Healthcare is an opaque institution for many, however cultural and other barriers only exacerbate these issues for the A/PI community. Transparent and accessible science can go a long way in addressing these problems - AAPINA is very excited to partner with JMIR to advance our shared mission of educating patients and improving outcomes.”

JMIR Publications is thrilled to welcome APINJ to our growing family of journals, expanding our horizons to rigorously cover important discrepancies seen in healthcare for minority populations. AAPINA recognizes the importance of Open Science principles and transparency in addressing the barriers to equitable healthcare facing A/PI people.

Dr. Gunther Eysenbach, founder and CEO of JMIR Publications, says,

“*Asian / Pacific Island Nursing Journal* is an important addition to what we can offer as a publisher. I am thrilled to support the important voices and issues highlighted in the journal, and look forward to working with the Editor-in-Chief and editorial board to propel the title to the forefront of research on health disparities in minority patients.”

JMIR Publications is actively expanding our society publishing business to support organizations that prioritize innovation in healthcare and who uplift lesser-heard voices. If you are interested in learning more or partnering with JMIR, please contact us at partnerships@jmir.org.

About AAPINA:

AAPINA serves as the unified voice for Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) nurses around the world. AAPINA strives to positively affect the health and well-being of AAPIs and their communities by: 1) supporting AAPI nurses and nursing students around the world through research, practice, and education; 2) facilitating and promoting networking and collaborative partnerships; and 3) influencing health policy through individual and community actions.

About JMIR Publications:

JMIR Publications is the leading, born-digital, open-access publisher of academic journals and other innovative scientific communication products that focus on medicine, health, and technology. Our flagship journal, the Journal of Medical Internet Research, is the leading digital health journal globally in terms of quality and visibility in the medical informatics category and is the largest journal in the field.

Members of the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses Association (AAPINA) are entitled to a members-only article processing fee (APF) of \$300 upon acceptance. All manuscripts submitted under the membership will be verified with AAPINA. The APF for non-members is USD \$1500 upon acceptance.

MEMBER NEWS



Dr. Hyochol Brian Ahn, Professor, Associate Dean for Research at Florida State University College of Nursing, established the Brain Science and Symptom Management Center (BSSMC) as the founding director, an institute for interdisciplinary research that will use brain simulation and computer technology to optimize pain and symptoms management. This news was published at South Florida Hospital News, available at: [https://southfloridahospitalnews.com/fsu-college-of-nursing-launches-new-center-for-brain-science-and-symptom-](https://southfloridahospitalnews.com/fsu-college-of-nursing-launches-new-center-for-brain-science-and-symptom-management/)

[management/](https://southfloridahospitalnews.com/fsu-college-of-nursing-launches-new-center-for-brain-science-and-symptom-management/)

Dr. Hyochol Brian Ahn was recently invited and accepted as the guest editor for the Journal of Clinical Medicine: Special Issue on Challenges and Opportunities in Application of Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (impact factor = 4.2), and editorial board member for Frontiers in Pain Research.

Alicia Truelove, MSN, RN, CV-BC, was one of six nurses chosen for the American Nurses Association- California chapter's (ANA/C) Advocacy Fellowship Institute for the upcoming year.

below is a link to the announcement on social media:

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/american-nurses-association-california-b09ab6196_amplifiedrn-anac-2023fellows-activity-6924687784427368448-xDC7?utm_source=linkedin_share&utm_medium=member_desktop_web

<iframe src="<https://www.linkedin.com/embed/feed/update/urn:li:share:6924687783521390592>" height="843" width="504" frameborder="0" allowfullscreen="" title="Embedded post"> </iframe>



Assistant Professor, tenure track:

https://tamus.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/TAMUCC_External/job/Corpus-Christi-TAMUCC/Assistant-Professor--Nursing_R-048137

Clinical Assistant Professor:

https://tamus.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/en-US/TAMUCC_External/job/Corpus-Christi-TAMUCC/Assistant-Clinical-Professor--Nursing_R-048436

MEMBER'S SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS

Gloria Park, PhD, APRN, FNP-C, RN, Assistant Professor, College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Texas A&M University Corpus Christi

Publication:

- Yang, Y., **Park, G.**, & Lee, K. E. (2022) The best-worse scaling approach: prioritizing burdensome menopause symptoms among Cambodian women, *Women & Health*, 62:4, 325-335, DOI: 10.1080/03630242.2022.2068736

Sangmi Kim, PhD, MPH, RN, Assistant Professor, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Emory University

Research Grant:

Dr. Kim has received the **NIH/NINR K01 Career Development Award**. The title of her study is **“Race/Ethnicity-Specific Algorithms of Chronic Stress Exposures for Preterm Birth Risk: Machine Learning Approach.”** The K01 Research Project grant provides funding for three years (2022-2025) of \$440,863 to develop machine learning algorithms to compute women’s complex chronic stress exposures and then identify women at high PTB risk.

Racial/ethnic disparities in preterm birth (PTB) are persistent in the U.S., with a higher prevalence of PTB in non-Hispanic (N-H) Black women than their N-H White counterparts. However, the underlying mechanism of such Black-White differences is not well understood. Even extensive biomedical, behavioral, and socio-demographic risk factors can explain only about half of PTB incidence. Chronic stress has received significant attention as a robust predictor of PTB, particularly among racial/ethnic minority groups. Nevertheless, literature shows inconsistent evidence on the relationships among race/ethnicity, chronic stress, and PTB, mainly because of the complexities involved in assessing women’s chronic stress exposures. Accurate chronic stress measures should capture the nature of stressors: cumulative, interactive, and population-specific. In this regard, conventional statistical models (e.g., linear regression) have limited ability to model chronic stress exposures with high precision.

The K01 award gives Dr. Kim and her team the opportunity to develop simple, accurate, and explainable machine learning algorithms for chronic stress exposures to predict PTB risk by building a hybrid algorithm (multivariate adaptive regression splines + deep neural networks) specific to N-H White and N-H Black women and computing SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations) values.

Publication:

- **Kim, S.** (2022). Different maternal age patterns of preterm birth: Interplay of race/ethnicity, chronic stress, and marital status. *Research in nursing & health*, 45(2), 151–162. <https://doi.org/10.1002/nur.22205>
- Al-Garadi, M. A., Yang, Y.-C., Guo, Y., **Kim, S.**, Love, J. S., Perrone, J., & Sarker, A. (2022). Large-scale social media analysis reveals emotions associated with nonmedical prescription drug use. *Health data science*. <https://doi.org/10.34133/2022/9851989>

AAPINA ORGANIZATION NEWS

AAPINA would like to invite you, your students, and faculty to this year’s **Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Webinar** on **May 31st, 2022, 5:00 -7:00 PM EDT**. This year’s theme is “Advancing Leaders Through Collaboration”

Presidents of AAPINA and PNAA are co-hosting a presidents’ panel for this webinar that will include esteemed healthcare leadership from AANHPI communities including opening remarks from president of National Academy of Medicine, Dr. Victor Dzau. Panel will discuss future of nursing healthcare and opportunities for advancement of AANHPI leadership to address health equity. For more information on panelist and registration, visit <https://nursing.fsu.edu/aanhpi-heritage-month-webinar>

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