Mark Your Calendars: AACN Webinar on the New Congress

During the months leading up to the annual Student Policy Summit, AACN will host a series of one-hour webinars designed to ensure attending students possess the fundamental knowledge necessary to maximize their experience in Washington, DC. Although the primary purpose of the webinars is to serve as a resource for Summit attendees, they will be available for all AACN members and other nursing stakeholders. The first webinar in the series, “The New Congress and Nurses’ Future,” will provide an overview of what the nursing profession can expect as Congress transitions into the 113th Congress. Frank Purcell, Senior Director of Federal Affairs at the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, and Patrick Cooney, President of the Federal Group, Inc., will serve as panel speakers to discuss how leadership changes in the House and the Senate will potentially affect healthcare delivery and nursing practice in 2013 and beyond. Both presenters are experts in nursing policy and advocacy and will offer attendees the benefits of their extensive knowledge of federal relations.

This webinar will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 from 1:00 -2:00 PM ET.

To register, visit: http://www.aacn.nche.edu/webinars/2013/01/15/new-congress-nurses.

Now Accepting Applications for the Faculty Policy Intensive!

AACN is now accepting applications for the inaugural Faculty Policy Intensive (FPI) to be held on March 18-21, 2013, in Washington, DC. Participants in this program will receive an in-depth immersion experience in the legislative process and exposure to the critical relationships between advocates and legislators that shape federal policy. Participants also will gain insight into the dynamic linkages between federal departments and agencies, national nursing organizations, and nursing leaders. FPI provides an opportunity for attending faculty to sharpen their advocacy skills, which can then be shared with students. As our healthcare system continues to undergo transformations that will require interprofessional collaboration, it is crucial that the nursing profession develops leaders to represent nursing’s voice in policy decision-making.

AACN will chose up to eight participants on a competitive-basis to attend this fully-funded opportunity.

A tentative agenda for the 2013 FPI is available online at: http://www.aacn.nche.edu/government-affairs/FPIAgenda.pdf.

The deadline for applications is Monday, January 14, 2013. To apply, please visit: http://www.aacn.nche.edu/government-affairs/fpi. Questions may be directed to linouye@aacn.nche.edu.
Register for Webinar on Academic Progression

AACN and the National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (N-OADN) are collaborating to advance our shared goals related to academic progression in nursing. As part of this collaboration, AACN and N-OADN are producing a three-part webinar series for our members highlighting initiatives in academic progression and how institutions are currently working together to graduate students through higher levels of education. The second webinar in this series, “Collaborative Academic Progression Models: Showcasing Successful Partnerships,” will be held on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 from 1:00-2:00 PM ET. This webinar will feature an exciting panel of four nursing experts who will share successful models for academic progression through their respective institutions’ partnerships.

Anne G. Perry, EdD, RN, FAAN, Associate Dean for Academic Programs at Southern Illinois University, and Donna Meyer, MSN, RN, Dean of Health Sciences, Lewis and Clark Community College, will share insights and best practices related to their schools’ RN to BSN articulation agreement. Libby Mahaffey, PhD, RN, Dean, Nursing and Allied Health, Hinds Community College, and Patricia Waltman, EdD, RN, CNNP, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs and Accreditation, will discuss how Hinds Community College participates in the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s Pathways to Advanced Practice Nursing model to graduate students through its RN to MSN program.

To register for this webinar, visit: http://community.aacn.nche.edu/registration/register.cfm?reg=338&evt=GA122.

AACN and N-OADN have also published a brochure for associate degree-prepared nurse and nursing students on taking the next step in their nursing education by pursuing a baccalaureate or graduate nursing degree. To access the brochure, see: http://www.aacn.nche.edu/students/your-nursing-career/Academic-Progression-Brochure.pdf.

AACN and N-OADN are proud to offer these resources in support of the recommendations set forth in the Institute of Medicine’s 2010 report Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, which states, “Nurses should achieve higher levels of education and training through an improved education system that promotes seamless academic progression.” AACN is committed to working with other stakeholders to implement all of the recommendations of this landmark report.

Sponsor the 2013 Aacen Student Policy Summit Today!

The fourth annual Student Policy Summit promises to be the most successful Summit yet! Next year’s Summit, to be held March 17-19, 2013 in Washington, DC, has already reached attendee capacity. There are, however, opportunities are available for AACN schools of nursing and other organizations to sponsor the Summit. Depending on the level of support, sponsors can receive complimentary student registrations, place personalized items or information in the conference bags given to attendees, have their logos printed on Summit water bottles, and more.

The Student Policy Summit brings together nursing students from around the nation to participate in a three-day conference exploring advocacy and nursing’s role in the policy process. The Summit empowers student attendees with the political knowledge and savvy necessary to be successful advocates of their profession and to understand how policy influences their careers. As America’s healthcare system continues to undergo transformations to expand access to care, the voices of students are vital in shaping the future of care delivery. AACN is dedicated to strengthening nursing’s voice in the policy arena to ensure that America’s patients continue to receive the high-quality nursing services. Summit attendees are provided a rich experience that includes discussion sessions with
leadership from federal departments and agencies, as well as the opportunity to meet with members of Congress and their staff to discuss issues relating to nursing education, research, and policy.

For a complete list of sponsorship packages available, please see: http://www.aacn.nche.edu/government-affairs/SPSSponsorPackages.pdf. Summit sponsorship opportunities are limited and awarded on a first-come-first-served basis. Sponsorship requests should be submitted by January 18, 2013.

To find out more or to become a sponsor, contact AACN Government Affairs Manager Lauren Inouye at linouye@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930 ext. 271.

Debra Barksdale Reappointed to PCORI Board

Debra Barksdale, PhD, RN, CFNP, CANP, has been reappointed to serve second term on the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Board of Governors, a twenty-one member Board comprised of distinguished healthcare and research leaders. Dr. Barksdale also has been appointed Chair of the PCORI Subcommittee on Scientific Publications, which communicates PCORI’s important work to broader healthcare and patient communities. Dr. Barksdale is also a faculty member at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing. AACN applauds this appointments and is confident she will continue to make great strides in advancing high-quality, patient-centered care as a part of the leadership of PCORI.

PCORI was established through the Affordable Care Act to help America’s patients and their families make informed healthcare decisions and improve healthcare delivery and outcomes. For more information on PCORI, see: http://www.pcori.org/.

Apply for the NINR Graduate Partnerships Program

The National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) Graduate Partnerships Program (GPP) is now accepting applications for the 2013 funding cycle. GPP supports the education of doctoral nursing students who are interested in pursuing careers in basic or clinical research. GPP students complete the program requirements at the academic intuitions in which they are enrolled and then conduct their dissertation research with the National Institutes of Health Intramural Research Programs. The student’s doctoral research should focus “in areas of pathophysiological mechanisms related to symptoms and symptom management, health promotion, disease prevention, tissue injury, and genetics.”

Applications are due January 3, 2013, at 5:00 PM ET.

For more information about this program, or to apply, see: http://www.ninr.nih.gov/Training/TrainingOpportunitiesIntramural/GraduatepartnershipprogFile/.

AHRQ Announces Funding Opportunities

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has announced that it will release several new funding opportunities in early 2013. These new initiatives will focus on Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) and have been announced early so as to give research institutions with expertise in PCOR more time to consider applying. The planned announcements cover a broad scope of issues, from workforce development to improving data and technology use.

Title VIII Funding Announcements

The Health Resources and Services Administration has released the following information regarding funding opportunities for the Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act):

Nurse Faculty Loan Program (Sec. 846A)
The Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) was established to increase the number of qualified nursing faculty. The NFLP provides funding to schools of nursing to support the establishment and operation of a distinct, interest-bearing NFLP loan fund. Participating schools of nursing make loans from the fund to assist registered nurses in completing their graduate education to become qualified nurse faculty. The program offers loan cancellation of up to 85 percent for borrowers that graduate and serve as full-time nursing faculty for the prescribed period of time.

Application Deadline: January 10, 2013.

For more information see: http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=yHvyQ4ydBGCV0CBGnqTqJk3h47BTD1hByQY0mcG97HGlvC0mFs!-2129049045?oppId=209053&mode=VIEW.

A Technical Assistance webinar will be available on January 8, 2013 from 1-3pm ET. To register, visit: https://www.mymeetings.com/emeet/rsvp/index.jsp?customHeader=mymeetings&Conference_ID=2731931&passcode=9007404.

Advanced Nursing Education Grants (Sec. 811)
The Advanced Nursing Education Grants are provided to schools of nursing with master’s and doctoral programs that address the healthcare needs of persons with multiple chronic conditions. Applicants must describe how their advanced nursing education programs will be incorporated into an interprofessional education (IPE) model. Projects must engage other graduate health professionals and demonstrate the integration of IPE into the nursing curriculum.

Applications are due February 1, 2013.

For more information, see: http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=QngxQzDVRLjFvZQcpw94mtL3NpdWvG5hLj8J6pvFXdM4vPffHK8Y!-1502138492?oppId=2081373&mode=VIEW.

Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention Grants (Sec. 831)
The Nurse Education, Practice, Quality, and Retention Grants provide support for projects designed to strengthen the nursing workforce, increase nurse retention, promote coordinated care, improve the quality of patient care, and provide nurses with the skills needed to practice in existing and emerging organized health care systems.

Applications are due January 25, 2013.

For more information, see: http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=QngxQzDVRLjFvZQcpw94mtL3NpdWvG5hLj8J6pvFXdM4vPffHK8Y!-1502138492?oppId=2081373&mode=VIEW.

Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship Program (Sec. 811)
The Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship Program provides support for nurses enrolled as full-time students in a master’s or doctoral nurse anesthesia program. Traineeships will pay all or part of the costs of the tuition, books, fees, and the reasonable living expenses of the individual during the period for which the traineeship is provided.

Applications are due December 17, 2012.

For more information, see: http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do;jsessionid=3GPSQJ9GJTxVQ1zZtD1Wr7k21gX2Gnb8DgTDTGcYLGlJbKHK2B4!-8042782807?oppId=207093&mode=VIEW.