

NURSING

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Transforming patient care through professional practice

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A newsletter
from the office
of the Executive
Chief Nursing
Officer

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MSN, RN,
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DUBREE, CARD PICKED AS AAN FELLOWS

Executive Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, and Lead Research Nurse Coordinator Elizabeth Card, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC, have been selected as fellows of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN).

Dubree and Card are among 250 distinguished nurse leaders who were selected to be inducted into the 2022 Class of Fellows based on their contributions to advance public health. They will be recognized at the AAN's annual Health Policy Conference Oct. 27-29 in Washington, D.C. Induction into the AAN is a significant milestone in which nursing colleagues honor past and current accomplishments.

The 2022 fellows represent 35 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and 17 countries. With this class of fellows, the AAN will be comprised of more than 3,000 leaders who are experts in policy, research, administration, practice, and academia that champion health and wellness, locally and globally.

Since arriving at VUMC more than 45 years ago, Dubree has risen through the ranks from clinical nurse specialist and nursing instructor to her current role as executive chief nursing officer, where she serves more than 7,000 nurses. Since obtaining her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree from Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in 1976, she has

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We are entering what I like to call our Magnet month. Appraisers from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) are visiting Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt University Hospital and Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital. Congratulations to all for reaching this milestone as we eagerly await the result of our Magnet journey.

In this issue, there is much good news. It is my honor to be chosen as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing along with

Elizabeth Card, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC. In addition, Brent Dunworth, DNP, MBA, CRNA, NEA-BC, is stepping into the role of associate nurse executive for Advanced Practice in the VUMC Office of Advanced Practice. Lastly, our Nurse Residency Program has attained a second accreditation as a Practice Transition Program from the ANCC. Kudos to all.

Enjoy this issue,

served as assistant professor, assistant dean for clinical practice and, currently, senior associate dean for clinical practice.

“I am thrilled to join this class of accomplished nurses,” Dubree said. “As Vanderbilt nurses, it is our privilege to care for our patients and families. Everything we do is toward this end, including our culture of shared decision making, transformational leadership and evidence-based practice, leading to better outcomes. Congratulations to Elizabeth and all the recipients of this honor.”

Dubree’s accomplishments over the years have been many, both at VUMC and in the community. Under her leadership, VUMC has obtained three successive Magnet designations from the American Nurses Credentialing Center, the highest honor an organization can receive for the provision of nursing care and interprofessional collaboration. She has served on the Renewal House board of directors, graduated from Leadership Nashville and has been involved with and advocated for the Middle Tennessee chapter of American Heart Association, the Tennessee Board of Nursing, Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee and the American Cancer Society, just to name a few of the organizations. In 2016, she was inducted

into the YWCA’s Academy for Women of Achievement.

Card, who joined VUMC in 1994, is a nurse practitioner at the Vanderbilt Health Walk-In Clinics and a research nurse practitioner in the Department of Anesthesiology. In the research setting she has functioned as a sub-investigator or principal investigator on more than 125 clinical trials.

Her research interests include perianesthesia nursing practice, utilization of traditional medicine or complementary and alternative medicine, emergence delirium and post-operative cognitive decline, advance practice professional development, health literacy/patient education, burnout, and workplace wellness and resilience. In her prior role as research nurse consultant, she educated, mentored and coached nurses in evidence-based practice and research.

Card received her MSN from Union University and is pursuing her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Aspen University. She served as president of the American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses (ASPAN) from 2020-2021.

Card helped lead the cre-

ation and launching of *The Empowered Nurse*, VUMC’s twice-yearly, peer-reviewed journal for and about nursing research where she served as the executive editor until 2022. She is currently a section editor for the *Journal of Emergency Nursing*.

Card has served on the board of directors for the Tennessee Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses and the Tennessee Viticultural and Oenological Society, and as a member of the Perioperative Multi-Center Handoff Collaborative. She has volunteered for Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee and Remote Area Medical.

“I am so very honored to be among this cohort of AAN Fellows,” Card said. “It is one of the highest recognitions for nurses who have contributed meaningfully to building the science and knowledge of our practice. At VUMC, all nurses have the opportunity to be innovative, make changes in our workplace, conduct research, and implement evidence-based practices and continuous improvement projects — all of which contribute to the building up of nursing practice and elevating patient care. Congratulations, Marilyn; I am so humbled and proud to receive this honor in the cohort with you.”



Card

DUNWORTH TO HEAD VUMC ADVANCED PRACTICE

Brent Dunworth, DNP, MBA, CRNA, NEA-BC, has been named associate nurse executive for Advanced Practice in the VUMC Office of Advanced Practice, effective Sept. 1.

Dunworth succeeds April Kapu, DNP, APRN, ACNP-BC, FAANP, FCCM, FAAN, who was preeminent in the development of advanced practice provider models at Vanderbilt. Kapu left the position last year, after being named president of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) and subsequently becoming associate dean for Clinical and Community Partnerships at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing (VUSN).

Dunworth, who served as chief certified registered nurse anesthetist (CRNA), came to VUMC in 2015 as associate director of Advanced Practice in Anesthesiology. Under his leadership, the service of advanced practice providers expanded in the perioperative space to meet the patient care demands at Vanderbilt. The CRNA team grew by more than 50%, and now provides patient care 24 hours a day, seven days per week across the enterprise.

Nurse practitioners and physician assistants in the Vanderbilt Preoperative Evaluation Clinic and Perioperative Enhanced

Recovery Services have experienced similar gains as well.

“Through these efforts, the team has been able to enhance the Vanderbilt patient experience through dramatic reductions in hospital lengths of stay, complication rates and opioid consumption,” said VUMC Executive Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC. “I am so pleased to welcome Brent to this position. We look forward to partnering with him as the health system continues to grow.”

“I am delighted that Brent will be leading the Office of Advanced Practice and continuing the strong collaborative relationships with other clinical leaders at VUMC,” said David S. Raiford, MD, Chief of Clinical Staff for VUMC. “He is a proven leader who brings great experience to this important role.”

Dunworth holds a primary faculty appointment in the School of Medicine as an assistant professor of Clinical Anesthesiology and a secondary appointment in the School of Nursing as an assistant professor of Nursing. In addition, he is a fellow of the American



Dunworth

Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA).

“I am very excited to work alongside our outstanding advanced practice clinicians in this new role,” Dunworth said. “As our enterprise continues to grow, these clinicians will be a key element to the clinical service delivery in so many important ways.”

Dunworth joined VUMC from the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, where he was the senior director for Nurse Anesthesia and faculty for the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing and Waynesburg University College of Nursing. He was responsible there for organizational growth and operations of 16 hospitals and more than 450 nurse anesthetists.

Dunworth earned his Bachelor and Master of Science in Nursing from University of Pittsburgh prior to obtaining a Master of Business Administration from Waynesburg University. He then received his Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Pittsburgh.

Dubree thanked two interim leaders who have guided the Office of Advanced Practice since Kapu’s departure: Michelle Terrell, DNP, APRN, PNP; and Jill Kinch, MMHC, APRN, PNP.

NURSE RESIDENCY PROGRAM ACCREDITED AGAIN

Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Nurse Residency Program has been awarded its second Accreditation with Distinction as a Practice Transition Program (PTAP) by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's (ANCC) Commission on Accreditation in Practice Transition Programs.

The program was originally accredited in 2019. The new accreditation comprises Vanderbilt University Hospital (newly including adult peri-operative services), Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital and (newly included) Vanderbilt Adult Ambulatory Clinics.

VUMC's 12-month Nurse Residency Program supports newly licensed RNs as they transition from student to professional nurse. The program, which began in 2008, supports the development of 500 to 700 effective, competent and committed nurses each year through multiple practice settings, both inpatient and outpatient.

In the program, nurse residents receive specific education and skills training to assist them in developing

effective decision-making, sound clinical judgement and professional performance. The program's professional development opportunities incorporate evidence-based practice to strengthen the nurse resident's commitment to professional nursing as a career choice and target specific transitions in the first year of practice as a nurse.

"The ANCC's accreditation acknowledges the Nurse Residency Program's high standards for training a new generation of nurses in the latest, evidence-based practice," said Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, Executive Chief Nursing Officer. "I couldn't be more pleased. Congratulations to all who made this achievement possible."

The 2022 reaccreditation affirms the dedicated work and commitment of the VUMC team in the support of transition to practice. VUMC's Nurse Residency Program remains the only such program in Nashville to achieve this accreditation and attributes its programmatic success to an organizational commitment to support nurse residents as they deliver safe, effective, quality patient care.

The accreditation involved a lengthy self-study, more than 400 pages, that included information on the history of the program, how it has evolved over the years, successes and challenges, quality outcome data and stories from nurse residents. The self-study was further affirmed through a survey of more than 1,200 nurse residents and a virtual site visit involving more than 75 nurses and interdisciplinary team members.

The ANCC PTAP team highlighted multiple strengths in Vanderbilt's Nurse Residency Program, including strong executive support, clear quality outcome measurement and visualization through dashboards and involvement from multiple key stakeholders through the Residency Oversight Committee. The organization noted close relationships between residency sites and tracks, interprofessional collaboration and education and peer support among nurse residents.

For more information about the Nurse Residency Program, please visit <https://www.vumc.org/nurse-residency-program/home>.