

NURSING

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

Transforming patient care through professional practice

October 2023



A newsletter
from the office
of the Executive
Chief Nursing
Officer

Marilyn Dubree,
MSN, RN,
NE-BC, FAAN

ANCC ACCREDITS AP FELLOWSHIP

Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Advanced Practice Fellowship Program has been accredited as an Advanced Practice Provider Fellowship Program by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Commission on Accreditation in Practice Transition Programs.

After an extensive evaluation, the ANCC deemed the program to be the highest quality and worthy of public confidence. VUMC is now one of only five Advanced Practice Fellowship Programs nationwide that have specifically received this new recognition, said Buffy Krauser Lupear, APRN, CRNA, DNP, MMHC, director of Advanced Practice Development & Professional Practice and program director of VUMC Advanced Practice Fellowships. Advanced practice professionals are inclusive of nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, clinical nurse specialists, certified registered nurse anesthetists and physician assistants, she noted.

"This accreditation recognizes the curriculum we provide is evidence-based, and of the highest standards, to ensure we are providing the best possible education and environment to our advanced practice fellows as they transition into their new roles," Krauser Lupear said.

The program, which dates to 2016, has five fellows currently enrolled.

continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

ACNP/PA Critical Care
Boot Camp draws crowd

Spotlight on DAISY Award
recipients

Welcome to fall! As we enter this season of new routines and new initiatives, we have much great news to share. This issue particularly focuses on our advanced practice clinicians. In the story above, we congratulate our Advanced Practice Fellowship program for receiving accreditation from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Kudos to all.

Next, you will read about our annual ACNP/PA Critical Care Boot Camp, which brings advanced practice professionals from

throughout the country to Nashville.

Lastly, we have our quarterly salute to some of the latest recipients of The DAISY Award. Please join me in recognizing these remarkable nurses. Our patients and families who nominate them are passionate about the care that they have received at the bedside. Many thanks to everyone involved.

Enjoy this issue,

VUMC's Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner Fellowship previously received ANCC accreditation with distinction as a Practice Transition Program in 2020, a designation that covers other types of practice transition programs, not just advanced practice fellowships.

The latest accreditation includes fellowships in Solid Organ Transplant, Adult Urology, Medical/Surgical Weight Loss and Hematology/Oncology. The included sites are Vanderbilt University Hospital & Clinics and Vanderbilt Health One Hundred Oaks.

In January 2024, VUMC plans to apply to the ANCC for accreditation for a Behavioral Health-Child & Adolescent fellowship. An additional Otolaryngology fellowship is starting in January and can be submitted for accreditation after the first fellow graduates. And a fellowship in Emergency Medicine is planned.

ANCC Accreditation is a voluntary review process intended to strengthen and sustain the quality and integrity of practice transition programs. The accreditation was the result of a lengthy self-study that included information on the history of the program, how it has evolved, successes and challenges, quality outcome data

and stories from fellows. The self-study was further affirmed through a virtual site visit in July 2023 involving fellows, clinical coordinators and executive nursing leadership.

VUMC's 12-month fellowship program supports new advanced practice providers as they transition from student to competent clinician, or from practicing one advanced practice specialty to another. In the program, fellows receive specific education and skills training to assist them in developing effective decision-making, sound clinical judgment and professional performance.

"Our program allows the fellows a protected environment to learn about these specialty areas and their specialty patient population, building their confidence over the 12 months to be an independent and competent advanced practice clinician," Krauser Lupear said. "Fellows will not only see patients but also will have protected time for scholarly work, including attending conferences and completing a project, as each of them are required to do. It allows them to immerse themselves in clinical practice while gaining knowledge and experience."

VUMC is a national leader in advanced practice. There are more than 325,000 nurse practi-

tioners and 150,000 physician assistants in the United States today, and more than 1,500 advanced practice clinicians are at Vanderbilt.

"Our fellows join us from all over the country, and we have been fortunate to retain many of them after they finish," said Brent Dunworth, DNP, MBA, CRNA, NEA-BC, associate nurse executive for Advanced Practice in the VUMC Office of Advanced Practice. "I think that speaks to the culture at Vanderbilt that attracts advanced practice professionals to launch their careers with us."

The accreditation allows graduates of the program to claim that they participated in an ANCC-accredited advanced practice fellowship program that meets rigorous evidence-based criteria.

"I am honored to celebrate this achievement, as it reflects the incredible partnership that our advanced practice clinicians have with executive leadership and physician partners to care for our patients and families according to the latest, evidence-based practice," said Executive Chief Nursing Officer Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, FAAN. "It is also an affirmation of the discipline and rigor built in to the programs for Advanced Practice and the onboarding of new clinicians."

ACNP/PA CRITICAL CARE BOOT CAMP DRAWS CROWD

About 200 nurse practitioners and physician assistants from around the country gathered at Loews Vanderbilt Hotel from Sept. 16-17 for the 12th annual ACNP/PA Critical Care Boot Camp.

The event, organized by the Vanderbilt University Medical Center Office of Advanced Practice, is a conference for critical care nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician assistants (PAs) to receive specialized critical care training to improve patient care.

The lecture-based course is designed to educate new providers with relevant evidence-based clinical information as well as challenge experienced providers with new research, updated best practice guidelines and thought-provoking discussions. The diverse conference faculty includes physicians, NPs and PAs who are leaders in their disciplines both at Vanderbilt and in health care facilities nationwide.

This year's topics included topics such as "Top Papers in Critical Care Medicine," "Acute Management of Spinal Cord Injuries," and "What's New in Status Epilepticus Seizure Prophylaxis."

"The boot camp is just one example of the unique and amazing advanced practice culture at Vanderbilt," said Buffy



The ANCP/PA Critical Care Boot Camp was held Sept. 16-17 at Lowes Vanderbilt Hotel.

Krauser Lupear, APRN, CRNA, DNP, MMHC, director of Advanced Practice Development & Professional Practice in the VUMC Office of Advanced Practice.

The two-day course was offered in-person, but recordings of all course presentations are available for attendees to view online for six months after the conference. In addition to sessions, the conference offered a complimentary networking event and ultrasound skills lab, cadaver lab and a hands-on procedural skill lab with mannequins.

Participants, many of them recent graduates and early career professionals, come from all over the country, and their feedback helps inspire future topics. They also have networking opportunities and leave with a new group of friends and mentors.

VUMC is a national leader in advanced practice. The Boot Camp is one of the only conferences in the country that pro-

vides focused education for critical care NPs and PAs.

"Because of our reputation, the boot camp attracts both annual attendees and many who are attending for the first time because they have moved into a critical care role," said Brent Dunworth, DNP, MBA, CRNA, NEA-BC, associate nurse executive for Advanced Practice in the VUMC Office of Advanced Practice.

Each year, the conference honors the late Arthur Wheeler, MD, who was medical director of the Medical Intensive Care Unit and helped launch and support the event.

"Each year, our critical care boot camp harnesses the energy of advanced practice professionals around the country," said Marilyn Dubree, MSN, RN, NE-BC, FAAN, executive chief nursing officer. "Participants have the opportunity to broaden their critical care skills, benefiting patients and families nationwide."

SPOTLIGHT ON DAISY AWARD RECIPIENTS



Rita Hayle, RN

Unit: Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit (CVICU)

Entity: Vanderbilt University Hospital

From the nomination: I became the recipient of a heart transplant ... During the recovery in both the CVICU Unit as well as the step-down unit, Rita continued to be there when I needed someone most. She would always be the voice that kept giving me advice and just listening when it seemed too hard to continue but she always knew just what to say to keep me going. She is an amazing nurse and an even better listener. ... Rita is the epitome of what patients need when recovering and an asset to Vanderbilt Hospital. She is my earth angel and I am forever grateful for her."



Kyle Stroud, BSN, RN

Unit: Critical Care Unit

Entity: Vanderbilt Tullahoma-Harton Hospital

From the nomination: "I have been a physician for over 38 years and have worked with many nurses in many situations. None have done a better job than this young man. He is compassionate and caring and very competent. He has been extremely attentive to my dad during his week in the CCU and has been a great blessing as he passed from this life to his home in heaven this evening. My family is extremely grateful for Kyle's presence here! Thanks, Kyle!!!"

SPOTLIGHT ON DAISY AWARD RECIPIENTS



Amber Tate, RN

Unit: Women's Health

Entity: Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital

From the nomination: "Amber was so attentive to my daughter and son-in-law as they delivered their first child. She calmed their fears and established a great rapport with them. (My daughter) has a phobia of hospitals and Amber had her smiling and at ease from the very start. I witnessed this when I stepped in the room that morning. Amber explained procedures and prepared them for what to expect by teaching them. She was very professional but also established their trust by showing them equipment beforehand. ... Amber was the best and most caring, knowledgeable nurse. We are so very thankful that she took such great care..."

Alexandra Willis, RN

Unit: Emergency Department

Entity: Vanderbilt University Hospital

From the nomination: "I was so impressed with Alex. My husband came in through the ER and was to have a catheter put for peritoneal dialysis. But while there he declined pretty rapidly. I was extremely concerned and knew he would need emergency dialysis. Alex was beyond helpful to us in advocating to the internal medicine doctor and Nephrology how dire he was in needing the emergency dialysis. I truly felt she knew exactly how I was feeling as a family member and I was beyond thankful for all she did to help us. I truly feel she helped to save his life. She was a pleasure to have and such an asset to Vanderbilt."



WANT TO NOMINATE A NURSE?

Scan the QR code or go to www.VUMCDAISY.com.

