Dear APGNN Membership,

Fall is such a beautiful time in Ohio. The leaves are changing colors and the days are still sunny and bright. Despite my love for the fall, attending the APGNN meeting in Hollywood, Florida was fantastic. It was a great place to have a meeting and a great environment to enjoy during the breaks! During the annual meeting our newly elected board starts and those that have fulfilled their tenure transition off the board. It is both a time of excitement and sadness. While the board gets new energy and ideas with those that are just starting, it also means saying goodbye to colleagues that have become good friends. This was Maureen Egan’s last year as the Program Committee chair. Maureen has spearheaded the last 4 conferences and has done an outstanding job! Thank you Maureen for your countless hours of hard work. Taking over for Maureen will be Nannette Martin. She has a lot of experience with program planning and has been a committee member for several years. I am certain Nannette will be able to carry on Maureen’s commitment to offer high quality conferences in the years to come.

Another member leaving her post is Goldie Markowitz, Research Committee chair. Goldie has energized our membership with her passion for research, evidence based practice, and quality improvement. Her term was slated to end October 2019 but Goldie needed to transition off this year. In the interim, 2 very qualified nurses will take her place. Sara Fidanza has been an active participant in the NOVEL project and has been an active member of the Research Committee. Kerri Fournier has also been on the Research Committee, is involved in research at her institution and is the 2018 recipient of the prestigious Susan Moyer research grant. With a little luck, both will run for the chairperson position next year!

We will be launching an FPIES video for CE. This is a video of the presentation given by Dr. Furuta and the FPIES Foundation co-founders at the 2017 APGNN annual meeting. APGNN and NAPNAP members will be charged $10 for this CE. Non-members will pay $20. Access to this will be on the APGNN website. Please take advantage of this and our other free CE modules. Moving forward, we will be offering additional video CE’s from the 2018 conference for people that were unable to attend. Please remember we have a 20% discount for dual membership with APGNN and NAPNAP.

Lastly, please make sure to go to the member center to update your demographics in the directory. We send out quarterly newsletters and email invites to the list serve through the email you have listed. Hospital firewalls have interfered with many members receiving communication. You may want to consider using a gmail email as your preferred contact to eliminate this risk.

As always, I encourage you to read through this entire newsletter to see what your board is busy working on – and believe me, they are ALL working hard!

Warm regards,

Amy Donegan MS, APRN
APGNN President
MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT ELECT

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Meeting in Florida, and an extra special thank you to all members who helped with planning or submitted posters! It was fantastic to meet new members as this is a great way to “get your feet wet” in GI.

Keep us informed as to what you want from APGNN, and remember to check the website throughout the year for information on new educational resources as well as information on next year's meeting!

Teresa Carroll, President Elect

“You can’t go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending” - C.S. Lewis

SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT

Our Board has raised $13,500 in grant monies to put toward our Annual Meeting. A new donor this year is Alexicon and we have repeat donations this year from Nutricia, Mead Johnson, Nestle and Abbott. This job involves a lot of one- on- one contacts plus forms to complete. It really has been through the personal relationships that these donations have been offered.

We owe them all a big “THANK YOU”. Mead Johnson has also agreed to fund a repeat edition of our handbook and the goal is to have a new edition ready in 2020. We have incurred no major or unusual expenses thus far this year. We are also recruiting for a new secretary/ treasurer for 2019. If you might be interested please email rosemary.pauley@boystown.org with any questions or comments.

As of September 1, 2018 TOTAL ASSETS = $102,690.22
Checking Account Balance
$47,596.36
Savings Account Balance
$55,093.86

PROGRAM

Thank you everyone who attended the Annual conference!! This year we changed our CEU provider to Amedco to be consistent with NASPGHAN so you can receive CEUs when you attend any of the NASPGHAN sessions. Our evaluation will be consistent with the NASPGHAN evaluation. Please continue to give feedback and suggestions for topics for next year’s meeting. We filmed the conference sessions to offer as CEU for those who were not able to attend the conference. We continue to work with NAPNAP to make the sessions available on-line. There are a total of 10.75 contact hours available for attending the APGNN conference, including 4.5 pharmacology hours, and 3 additional hours for attending the NASPGHAN concurrent sessions. Lastly, Nannette Martin will be taking over as program chair. Please join me in welcoming her to her new position. It has been my pleasure to work with this organization and I will continue to stay closely involved. And don’t forget to save the date for next year! It will take place October 16-19 at the Chicago Sheraton in Chicago, IL.

Maureen Egan, Program Chair
APGNN Wants You!

Consider being a candidate, or nominating another member, for the following 2019 board positions:

President Elect– 6 year term total
Secretary/Treasurer– 3 year term
Patient and Family Education -2 year term
Research– 2 year term

See page 8 for additional details…
MEDIA COMMITTEE

Happy Fall!

This is my favorite time of year! The leaves are changing and the weather gets cooler, which means sweaters and tall boots!

For those of you who attended the annual conference, I hope it was both educational and enjoyable. For those of you unable to attend, I hope our social media posts kept you both updated and entertained. The conference was videotaped and we plan on offering CEU credit for those who were not able to attend so stay tuned!!

We’re now on Instagram!! Head over and check us out!

If you have something at your center you want to highlight or you’ve done something amazing you want to share, please let me know and I will get it out there!! Just email me at sharon.perry@uhhospitals.org

- Sharon Perry, Media Chair

Like us on Facebook @APGNN
Follow us on Twitter @APGNN1
Follow us on Instagram @apgnn1

PATIENT AND FAMILY EDUCATION

The Patient and Family Education Committee has been hard at work updating all the current content available on GIKids.org and partnering with NASPGHAN's Public Education Committee. This year we will be focusing on expanding the educational content on the website, with an emphasis on topics that highlight the expertise of nursing (think psychosocial and enteral tube teaching!)

Speaking of enteral tubes, congratulations to our Excellence in Education Award winner, Katie Oleksak, FNP who is being honored for her role in the NOVEL Project (New Opportunities for Verification of Enteral Tube Location). The NOVEL Project, developed by the American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ASPEN), provides an evidence-based approach to nasogastric tube placement and management with educational videos. Katie presented her project at the APGNN Annual conference and the link to the videos will be available on the APGNN and GIKids.org website. Congratulations, Katie!

Our committee is always seeking new members to share their ideas on how to improve the quality of GI patient and family education.

Elizabeth Burch, CPNP
Patient & Family Education Chair

"everyone must take time to sit and watch the leaves turn"- Elizabeth Lawrence
MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to those who joined APGNN during our Annual Meeting at Hollywood, Florida

Congratulations to Ann Wuerth for winning the new/renewing member raffle during the meeting!! Ann won a $25 Amazon gift card!

It was great to network with our APGNN members who were able to attend the conference. We are proud to have more than 400 members in our organization and 90 members were able to attend the meeting. There were also 41 non-members who attended. Some of them decided to join during the meeting!!

This year we awarded 3 APGNN Conference Scholarships, which covers the cost of the registration and hotel accommodations for two nights in a shared room or one night in a private room. Our scholarship winners were:

♦ Alison Fernbach, PNP from Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital in Palo Alto, CA. She is a new member of APGNN. She works in the liver and intestine transplant division caring for the post-transplant population

♦ Kerri Ann Fournier, RN from Boston Children’s Hospital in Boston, MA. She works at the Waltham Infusion Center as a clinical leader. She is also an active member of our APGNN Research Committee

♦ Debra Browne, PNP form the Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles in Los Angeles, CA. Her passion is motility! She loves to help children who suffer from motility problems such as constipation and encopresis

The membership committee was honored to award one of our members the Abbott Scholarship, designated for a new member. Robin Luffy, PNP is our awardee. She has been a nurse since 1975 and a PNP for the past 20 years working in pediatric gastroenterology. She works at Children’s Health in Dallas, TX.

Our APGNN Mentoring Program was piloted at the 2017 annual meeting in Las Vegas, NV. We opened it to new members who were interested in having a mentor. We had 6 mentor-mentee pairs who agreed to meet by phone, email, or skype at least quarterly to discuss career and professional development of the mentee. We paired mentees with mentors who had the skills in areas that the mentee was interested. This year we are opening our APGNN Mentoring Program to all APGNN members. If you are interested in being a mentor or mentee, please email me at bdiez@psvcare.org for the application

Benefits of having a mentor include: Advice on developing strengths; exposure to new ideas; guidance on professional development and career advancement; opportunities to develop new skills and knowledge; increased visibility and recognition; opportunities to learn more about projects and professional opportunities

Benefits of being a mentor include: Recognition as an expert and leader; personal development of leadership and coaching styles; exposure to new ideas; personal satisfaction of helping others; recognition by an employer as going above and beyond the job description

Please consider being a member of our Membership Committee and help us with our exciting projects to recruit, retain, and unite our APGNN membership.
AGPNN Evidence Based Practice (EBP), Quality Improvement (QI) and Research Mentorship Program – What gives?
Sara Fidanza, MS, RN, CNS-BC, CPNP-PC and Melba Williams, MSN, CPNP

A mission of APGNN is the provision of advanced knowledge and expertise through education and mentorship of its members. To facilitate this mission, the APGNN Research Committee identified mentors in the field of EBP, QI and research. Once a member requests a mentor, mentorship guidelines are provided to both the mentor and the mentee to assure both understand the relationship and commitment required. The mentor’s role is to understand what the mentee is expecting of the relationship and investigate clinical and research interests. As the research mentor, one should provide enthusiasm, support, guidance and direction to assure the mentee is able to accomplish his or her goal. The mentor may need to explain the differences of EBP, QI and research to assure the mentee chooses the right path for his or her project. Breaking down the components of investigation and setting small goals may provide the mentee with the motivation required to progress through the project. Discussing limitations and or barriers and developing a strategic plan should provide vision for the mentee. Frequent contact is essential in assuring both parties stay engaged in the process and the project continues on its trajectory. Being there to bounce around ideas, address struggles, and assure the mentee does not quit is imperative of the mentor. Ultimately, it is the role of the mentor to provide knowledge, leadership and guidance to assure the mentee achieves his or her goal to either develop and complete an abstract, poster or publication that will contribute to the advancement of new knowledge.

What is the role of the mentee? The goal of a mentor-mentee relationship is to provide a safe environment for learning. In this relationship, the mentee is allowed to explore new knowledge, ideas and interests with a supportive knowledgeable individual. The mentee may require inspiration, motivation, or basic knowledge in the research process. Also, the mentee may need assistance with identification of barriers to success using problem solving strategies.

Recently, APGNN hosted their first research mentorship recipient, Melba Williams, University of Illinois at Chicago, with Sara Fidanza, Children’s Hospital Colorado, acting as her mentor. As a pediatric GI nurse practitioner with 5 years of experience and background as NICU nurse and NIH multisite research coordinator, Melba joined the APGNN Research committee with the hopes of mastering new knowledge in the field of EBP, QI and Research. As a past Susan Moyer grant reviewer and current abstract reviewer for APGNN, Melba’s appreciation for the research process was ignited. Being a member of this committee provided her with the enthusiasm to apply for the Research Mentorship Program. Melba’s goal for this relationship is guidance in the completion of a quality improvement project she started some time ago. Melba sought a mentor to help navigate the overwhelming world of EBP, QI and Research and assist her to stay on task and complete her project. Her goal is to submit an abstract to APGNN in 2019/2020.

Entering into this mentor-mentee relationship has provided Melba with a resource to bounce research ideas around, ask questions, acknowledge next steps in the research process, facilitate new ideas for project direction and assist her to navigate Internal Review Board (IRB) processes. Working with a mentor has facilitated her to set up project timelines and keep her accountable to the process.

APGNN members who have an interest in seeking new knowledge, investigating clinical practices or gaps in care or are driven to improve clinical outcomes should consider applying for the research mentorship program.
Committee
Fall is a time of much anticipation and change. Many are excited for the changing color of leaves, the change of temperature, and change in the amount of sunlight. Fall is also a time for our annual conference and our posters that highlight the hard work of our membership! I am proud to have been witness to the growth of our committee. I am excited to see what new research will be displayed via posters and presentations. And I am elated by the passion and dedication within our membership. Welcome Sara Fidanza and Kerri Fournier, as the new Research Co-Chairs. Their energy, enthusiasm, and varied professional experiences, are great assets for our committee.

Committee Project Update

Annual Poster Presentation
We had 11 great posters that were displayed at the Annual conference

Annual Nursing Foundation Grant: Susan Moyer Research
Proud to say we have one recipient for 2018

Projects
♦ Education: See our Poster at the conference to see the results of the survey!
♦ Mentorship: We have one mentorship in research and quality improvement. If you would like to help serve as a mentor, please reach out to us.
♦ Membership Support: Have you ever engaged in research? Are you involved with quality improvement at your institution? If you answered yes, then consider joining our committee.
♦ Research Registry/Speakers Bureau: tabled

Thank you for your kind support and belief that as a team, we can make a difference. Over the past 6 years, it has been an honor and privilege to serve as your Chair of Research and Quality Improvement.

With highest respect,
Goldie Markowitz, MSN, CRNP
Outgoing Chair, APGNN Research Committee

Sara Fidanza, MS, RN, CNS-BC, CPNP-PC
Kerri Fournier, BSN RN CPN
Incoming Co-Chairs, APGNN Research Committee

Susan Moyer NASPGHANN Foundation Nursing Grant
2016 Award Recipients
Congratulations to the three recipients who have completed their research and presented their findings at the Annual Meeting!
♦ Kim Osbourne
♦ Fiona Paul
♦ Stephanie Skirka
MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT

Seeks nominations!

In 2019, APGNN will be searching for candidates for several open board positions: President Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Patient and Family Education, and Research. Outside of Secretary/Treasurer, which is a 3 year term, all positions are a two year commitment. Each candidate must have been a full member of APGNN for one year preceding each election, and have a minimum of one year experience in pediatric gastroenterology and/or nutrition and must be in good standing (dues paid for the calendar year) prior to placing their name on the ballot. If you would like to nominate yourself OR you have a colleague in mind that you would like me to personally reach out to, please let me know. I can assure you it is a fun and rewarding volunteer position that will enhance your professional experience!

Check out http://www.apgnn.org/?esid=leadership if you would like to learn more or email me directly ryan.shonce@atriumhealth.org

Clinical Practice

Happy Fall Ya'll! Fall has finally arrived in Texas.

My name is Donna Garner, and I'm the Clinical Practice Committee Chair of APGNN. I hope everyone is doing well. We have been continuing to work on our main Clinical Practice Committee projects for the year.

We have completed rough drafts of 2 Basic Liver Disease modules and are in the process of finalizing them. When completed, they will be available on the APGNN website for CE credit.

We have been working together to create a "Boot Camp" for new GI nurses and advanced practice providers. This curriculum will be split into sections such as constipation, GERD, abdominal pain, FTT, etc. With each topic we will collect all of the available resources we currently have from APGNN and NASPGHAN and edit the information to apply to our APGNN audience. Once we compile all information, we will decide what else is needed to be able to complete Certificate of Training for that particular topic. This would possibly include guidelines, PowerPoint education slides, webinars, or videos. The completed curriculum will be available on the APGNN website for all members to access and complete. CEUs will be provided upon completion. The first topic we are working on is constipation.

We are also in the process of updating the APGNN telephone triage protocols on the APGNN website.

We as a board are excited about these projects, and the impact they will have on the current and future APGNN members.

I am actively looking for members to join the Clinical Practice Committee to help with these projects. If you would like to join the Clinical Practice Committee and help in creating this curriculum or any other current projects please contact me at dkgarner@texaschildrens.org

We are in need of more Clinical Practice Committee Members in order to complete our projects in progress.

If you have any ideas for future projects please contact me as well.

Best regards,
Donna Garner CPNP
Clinical Practice Chair
MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!!

Research and Quality Improvement

Although I am a board certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, I have been employed as a Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) in the Digestive Health Institute (DHI) of Children’s Hospital Colorado for the past 34 years. The DHI is a very busy practice, with 39 providers and 11 fellows who provide service to patients in more than a seven state region, with network of care clinics throughout Colorado and Montana. In my role as CNS, I have provided leadership in the development of clinical programs to improve the care of children with Short Bowel Syndrome (Intestinal Rehabilitation), Nutrition Support and Inflammatory Bowel Disease. Over the years, I have transitioned from inpatient to outpatient care with focus directed at population management and care coordination across the continuum. In addition, I provide organizational leadership, consultation and education in the areas of: enteral and parenteral access devices; homecare interface; EBP, QI and research; evaluation of new products and recommendations for innovations in care. Accomplishments include multiple abstracts, posters, national speaking, publications and I have coauthored a chapter in two nursing pathophysiology books. I also have received a Nightingale Award nomination and a 2012 Women of Distinction Award from CCF, a 2016 Daisy award and two Children’s Hospital Colorado Nursing Excellence awards in 2013 and 2018. I have been involved with APGNN for over a decade and in the past was a member of ASPEN (nutrition support certification) and an elected official for the local chapter, CSPEN. My passion is to provide leadership and mentorship of GI nurses focusing on EBP, QI, Research and Innovation.

Sara Fidanza, Incoming Research Co-Chair

I have been a pediatric nurse at Boston Children's Hospital (BCH) since graduating from Boston University in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Throughout my career at BCH, I have worked on various units including the neonatal intensive care unit, IV team and an infant-toddler surgical floor. For the last 18 years, I have worked in the Center for Ambulatory Transfusion and Clinical Research (CAT/CR) and satellite infusion center. Nearly 60% of the patients we treat in our infusion centers have inflammatory bowel disease and we manage their care using a variety of biologics. I have always been passionate about research and clinical inquiry and I am an active member of BCH’s Medical/Patient Services Clinical Inquiry Committee, Dissemination Committee and Improve Care Now collaborative. I am currently a mentee in the BCH Nursing Science Fellowship Program, through which I am working to develop a tool to better understand administration delivery practices and characteristics of pediatric/young adult gastroenterology patients receiving infliximab infusion therapy in ambulatory infusion clinics. Recently, I was honored as the recipient of the 2018 APGNN Susan Moyer Nursing Research Award. I have been a member of APGNN since 2016 where I am an active member of the Research and Quality Improvement Committee. I believe all nurses play an essential role in promoting a culture of safety and high reliability in health care by ensuring that care practices integrate the strongest available evidence. I look forward to continuing to foster, promote, and support the mission of the APGNN Research and Quality Improvement Committee and its members’ enthusiasm for research.

Kerri Fournier, Incoming Research Co-Chair

Program

I am excited and honored to be the next Program Chair for the APGNN conference. I joined this wonderful organization in 2004 and have been part of the Program Committee since that time. The knowledge I have obtained and the relationships that have developed have enhanced me professionally and personally. I look so forward to our annual meetings and am ready to be a bigger part of planning future conferences.

As many may know, I live on the North Carolina coast in the southeastern part of the state. My favorite time of year is fall. The weather cools, vacationers return to their routines and the fishing is the best! This year was different, though, as Hurricane Florence decided to visit on September 14th and stay awhile. The damage in our counties, both coastal and inland, has been devastating. Several families, who had so little to begin with, have lost everything. It has been a time of reflection for me as we too prepared for the worse. I was so grateful that my home was spared but so saddened to see people’s lives change so quickly. I recalled something Mr. Rogers said years ago that popped up on social media during the storm, “my mother always told when a catastrophe happens, look for the helpers. If you see the helpers, you know there is hope”. Well, I didn’t have to look far! Several of my nursing friends stayed at their hospital for days. My public health nursing colleagues worked 24/7 in schools converted to shelters. Atrium Health (Ryan Shonce’s hospital system) sent nurses to the trauma center in Wilmington to relieve exhausted staff. I was privileged to meet a group of nurses from Kentucky, brought in on a military helicopter to care for refugees. They slept in sleeping bags or cots, missed meals, and at times went without air conditioning and running water while tending to traumatized and ill people of all ages for a week. I’m so proud to be a nurse and looking forward to working with some of the best!!

Nannette Martin, Incoming Program Chair