



#### Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research™

### FNINR'S VISION

is to improve health through expanding support for NINR.

## FNINR'S MISSION

is to strengthen and magnify NINR's impact in advancing nursing science.

The Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research™ (FNINR) is an independent, non-profit, organization founded in 1993. Nurse researchers are grounded in clinical nursing practice and focused on the physical, mental, emotional, and social needs of patients. They recognize the illness and the presence of health risk factors affecting the overall well-being of individuals.

The healthcare community faces new challenges and opportunities to improve patient care each year. With the continuing leadership provided by NINR and the support of FNINR, nurse researchers will continue to contribute to the enhanced health and well-being of all Americans, especially in a time when cost-effectiveness and quality of care are equally championed by the public and the Nation's decision makers.

#### **National Institute of Nursing Research**

The National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) was first established in 1986 and was elevated in 1993 to an institute at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the nation's medical research agency. NINR believes that nursing research is the key to unlocking the power and potential of nursing by leveraging nursing's strengths and unique knowledge and perspectives inherent to the discipline to the benefit of all people. Their overall mission is to lead nursing research to solve pressing health challenges and inform practice and policy – optimizing health and advancing health equity into the future.

Support FNINR's mission by scanning the QR code.





Victoria Niederhauser DrPH, RN, PPCNP-BC, FAAN

## On Behalf of the FNINR Board of Directors, **Welcome to the 31st NightinGala!**

I, along with the FNINR Board of Directors, thank you for your continued generous support of the NightinGala, and for joining us in this evening of celebration. Funds raised through the NightinGala enable FNINR to continue our critical advocacy work to support NINR's efforts. The FNINR Board has made significant progress on advancing three strategic goals that are helping us reach our vision to improve health through expanding support for NINR:

- 1. Communicate how NINR funding for nursing science improves the health of the nation,
- 2. Strengthen and develop programs that advance FNINR's vision and mission, and
- 3. Advance FNINR's financial strength through diverse funding streams to support operations, programs and initiatives.

Over the past year, we have advanced these goals and the strategies that drive their success in multiple ways, including by broadening

our volunteer base and articulating how donations are used. FNINR's leadership has been instrumental in enhancing the diversity of our Board of Directors, bringing in a wider array of skills and perspectives. Meanwhile, our Ambassador Program has nearly doubled in size, now boasting representatives from most states who actively advocate on behalf of NINR. Additionally, we have further refined our communication efforts to clearly demonstrate the impactful use of every donation received.

Tonight, we celebrate the outstanding contributions made by nurse researchers in discoveries that improve lives and society. We honor them and their achievements as we commend the contributions of NINR in support of their scholarship. We are committed to this purpose and to raising awareness of the impact of nursing research to ensure it is known, recognized, and understood for its value, and its relevance to the health of our nation. It is a mission we hold dear and a responsibility we embrace. The FNINR Board of Directors extends its thanks to AMR Management Services, recognizing that without their support, we would not be successful in our efforts. A special thank you to FNINR's Executive Director, Justin Dodge, who does an amazing job overseeing the administration of the organization.

We hope you will enjoy the addition of some celebratory music and livelihood this evening! And wish you success in advancing nursing science by advocating for and supporting NINR.

Untonahudhauser

President, FNINR 2023-2024





#### A Message from the NINR Director



Shannon Zenk PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN

#### Dear Friends,

Forty years ago, Congress authorized the National Center for Nursing Research at NIH, which ultimately became NINR. This was an important step in the development of our community of nursing scholars, and a clear commitment to the growth of knowledge in our discipline and the continued advancement of the nursing profession.

On behalf of all of us at NINR, I want to thank you for your steadfast support of our Institute, and of nursing science. Thank you for joining us on our quest to bring healthier lives to communities and families across the Nation. It's been said countless times: nurses are the most trusted profession. I couldn't agree more, and I also firmly believe that with that trust comes the unique responsibility for nursing science to serve those who need it most.

It's that principle that has guided everything we do at NINR. We wanted to challenge our investigators to push the boundaries of what nursing science can accomplish to drive meaningful change in health and healthcare practices and policies that will lead to a more equitable society.

We are so excited about how the scientific community has embraced that challenge. We're supporting more research in health equity and social determinants of health than ever before. We're inspired by the innovation and creativity of the nurse scientists who are building on the accomplishments of the past and proposing amazing new research to lead us toward a better tomorrow.

Nursing science is moving forward. Thank you for your tireless efforts to foster a community where knowledge, ideas, and expertise are shared to advance health for all.Please continue to help us spread the word about the incredible work you're doing and that we are proud to support. Congratulations to the FNINR on a successful NightinGala, and we can't wait to see what the future holds!

Shannon Zenk, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN
Director, NINR





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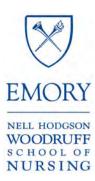
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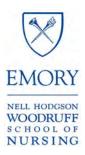












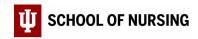














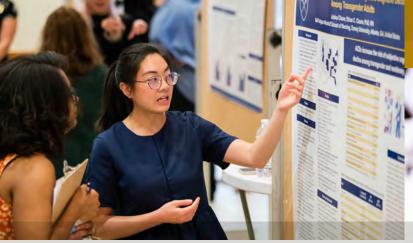




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## Congratulations

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Executive Director, Center for Healthcare Delivery Research & Innovations

#### **Previous FNINR Awardees**

#### **Protege Award**



Veronica Barcelona, PhD 2023



Ruth Masterson Creber, PhD 2022

**President's Award** 



Jacqueline Taylor, PhD 2020

Welch/Woerner Path-Paver Award



Rebecca Schnall, PhD 2020

**Ada Sue Hinshaw Nurse Scholar Award** 



Patricia Stone, PhD 2019

**Pathfinder Distinguished Service Award** 



Suzanne Bakken, PhD 2010



Elaine Larson, PhD 2003

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## Nancy Pike Joins the UC Irvine Sue & Bill Gross School of Nursing

#### The School Welcomes Nancy Pike as the first Associate Dean for Research

Dr. Pike will lead the school's Office of Nursing Research and Innovation, the knowledge-generating enterprise of the school. Her primary focus will be on extramural — especially NIH — funding. She will work closely with research faculty, to identify new talent and set the direction for the school's growing research enterprise. Her expertise will significantly enhance the school's strategic plan by improving its research capacity.



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#### **ADA SUE HINSHAW NURSE SCHOLAR AWARD**

The Ada Sue Hinshaw Nurse Scholar Award is considered the pre-eminent award given by FNINR and is named in honor of the first permanent Director of the National Institute of Nursing Research. Recipients have a substantive and sustained program of science that would afford her/him recognition as a prominent senior scientist.

#### **FAYE GLENN ABDELLAH LEADERSHIP AWARD**

The Faye Glenn Abdellah Leadership Award is named for this renowned nurse researcher. Faye Abdellah's vision has resulted in inestimable value created by nurse scientists over the years. This award will go to an organization or individual with a sustained or lasting impact on nursing science through advocacy, institutional leadership, or individual program of research that has led to the public awareness of the value of nursing science in improving health at the individual and/or population levels.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The President's Award is given based on a specific theme established by the President of FNINR, varies annually, and is awarded to a nurse researcher with sustained contributions in the field. This year, the theme is "improvement of health in children (birth to 21 years)" and is focused on research related to health promotion, disease prevention, or management of acute, chronic, or mental health illness.

#### **PROTÉGÉ AWARD**

The Protégé/Protegee Award is given to an evolving nurse scientist who shows great promise in advancing science and who is within the first 6 years of completing either their PhD or Post-Doctoral study.

#### **WELCH/WOERNER PATH-PAVER AWARD**

The Welch/Woerner Path-Paver Award is given to a mid-to-late career nurse scientist who has achieved one or more breakthroughs in theory development, research methods, instruments, or subject matter that has paved the way for other scientists and who has influenced and mentored the next generation of nurse researchers.





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Stella Aguinaga Bialous, DrPH, FAAN

University of California San Francisco

Stella Aguinaga Bialous is a native of Brazil, where she obtained her BSN at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. After working in med-surg units, she came to the United States and obtained a MS from The Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. Upon her return to Brazil, she was assigned to the National Cancer Institute Division of Cancer Prevention and Education, where her policy focused work started in earnest. It was when she decided to return to the US for a doctorate degree in public health, focusing on health policy. After earning her Doctoral degree, she became a WHO Global Health Leadership Fellow, initiating a collaboration with WHO that remains active. She has worked in cancer and tobacco control policy development, evaluation and implementation for over 30 years, nationally and internationally. She is an internationally recognized expert on monitoring, and countering, the tobacco industry interference with tobacco control and public health. She has also developed, in partnership with Dr. Linda Sarna, the largest national and international research and capacity building effort to prepare nurses to integrate evidence-based tobacco use cessation interventions into health care and nursing practice. The Tobacco Free Nurses Initiative received many awards, included the American Academy of Nursing's Edge Runner.

Her expertise is recognized through several awards, including a World Health Organization's World No Tobacco Day Award, and World Heart Federation's World Heart Hero Award, and her engagement with the International Society of Nurses in cancer Care.

Her current research focus on continuing to address tobacco-related inequities and cessation needs to people with disparate burden of tobacco-related diseases, including people living with HIV, with a cancer diagnosis and with mental health and substance use disorders. Her national and global policy work focus on addressing the commercial determinants of health, using lessons learned from her experience in tobacco control.







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#### **Yvette P. Conley, PhD, FAAN** *University of Pittsburgh*

Dr. Yvette Conley is a Distinguished Service Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. She was the first geneticist in the country to hold a primary appointment within a school of nursing and has been a tireless advocate for nursing science. She has been Principal Investigator for seven R01s, two R21s, and one T32 and a co-investigator for over 20 R-level awards, which is a nod towards her collaborative nature, and she has published over 385 manuscripts. Her research has implicated the genomics of an individual's cancer cells on their cognitive function and established that the epigenome of cells from cerebrospinal fluid after severe traumatic brain injury and subarachnoid hemorrhage change in the days after insult, contribute to the development of cerebral ischemia and intracranial pressure, and impact patient recovery. Her research currently focuses on the interaction between social and biological drivers of health including epigenomic weathering and physiologic aging.

Dr. Conley is dedicated to developing the next generation of nurse scientists and has directed an NINR T32-funded training program for over 19 years; was a primary faculty member for the NINR Summer Genetics Institute for 18 years; and a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholar National Mentor. She has served on the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research; Board of Scientific Counselors for the Department of Nursing at the Clinical Center at NIH; NRCS study section; Co-Chair of the NINR and NHGRI Genome Research Consortium Workgroup; CANS Advisory Committee for PhD Curriculum Development; Co-Chair of the 2022-2026 NINR Strategic Plan Working Group; and currently the CANS Science Committee. She has been recognized through many awards, including the ENRS Distinguished Contributions to Nursing Research Award and induction as an Honorary Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.



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#### David Vlahov, PhD, RN, FAAN

Yale University

Dr. Vlahov is Professor at the Yale School of Nursing and Professor of Epidemiology- Microbial Diseases at the Yale School of Public Health. Prior to this, Dr. Vlahov served as Dean and Professor at the University of California, San Francisco School of Nursing and earlier was Senior Vice President for Research, Director of the Center for Urban Epidemiologic Studies at the New York Academy of Medicine. He was the Co-Director of the National Program Office for two Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's programs: Evidence for Action and Health and Society Scholars. Earlier, he was a Professor of Epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

His primary area of focus has been on urban health, infectious diseases, substance use and mental health. He led the ALIVE study in Baltimore that recruited and followed 3,000 persons who inject drugs to study the natural and then the treated history of HIV infection. Analyses from the study provided key information for HIV prevention and treatment; for this, NIH recognized his worked with a MERIT Award. His work was influential in providing empirical evidence to pass harm reduction legislation. His studies in Baltimore, Harlem and the Bronx served as a platform for subsequent individual, community and policy level intervention studies and advocacy. He has led community based participatory research to address social determinants of health, contributed new knowledge to promote health equity.

Dr. Vlahov is editor of the Journal of Urban Health, has edited four books, published over 700 scholarly papers, (H-index: 148). He served as Founding President of the International Society for Urban Health and was on the New York City Board of Health. He was on the Strategic Planning Workgroup for the National Institute of Nursing Research and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine.





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#### Connie M. Ulrich, PhD, MSN, RN, FAAN

University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Ulrich is the Lillian S. Brunner Endowed Chair in Medical-Surgical Nursing and Professor of Bioethics and Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing with a secondary appointment in the School of Medicine, Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy. She received her PhD from the University of Maryland with a focus on nursing ethics in 2001 and was the first nurse to receive postdoctoral bioethics training at the National Institutes of Health, Department of Bioethics under the mentorship of Drs. Christine Grady and Marion Danis. Her program of research has focused on ethical issues in clinical practice and research. These studies include the day-to-day ethical issues that clinicians (nurses and social workers and advanced practitioners) and clinical ethicists encounter in their clinical and research practice within healthcare systems and the ethical stress these issues engender. Dr. Ulrich also focuses on issues surrounding informed consent and the benefits and burdens associated with participation in cancer clinical trials.

She has received funding from the National Institutes of Health, including the National Institutes of Nursing Research and the National Cancer Institute, the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation and other funding organizations to support her bioethics work. Dr. Ulrich has published in leading peer-review medical, nursing, and bioethics journals as well as the public press to voice her support of nursing. Her most recent books published by Springer Nature with her colleague Dr. Christine Grady are entitled, "Moral Distress in the Health Professions" and "Nurses and COVID-19: Ethical Considerations in Pandemic Care." She is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and past Co-Chair of the Bioethics Expert Panel, a 2018 inductee into the Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame, Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society, a Salzburg Global Fellow, and a Hastings Center Fellow.



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#### Lusine Poghosyan, PhD, MPH, RN, FAAN, HFAANP Columbia University

Dr. Poghosyan is the Stone Foundation and Elise D. Professor of Nursing at Columbia University School of Nursing and Professor of Health Policy and Management at the Mailman School of Public Health. She is also the Executive Director of the Center for Healthcare Delivery Research and Innovation. Dr. Poghosyan is an internationally recognized nurse scientist with expertise in primary care, the nurse practitioner workforce, and the quality and outcomes of patient care. Her studies produce evidence on eliminating policy and organizational barriers facing the primary care nurse practitioner workforce so these clinicians can maximally contribute to patient care and health equity.

Dr. Poghosyan is the Principal Investigator on multiple federal- and foundation-funded research projects, including those funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research, the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the National Institute on Aging, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, American Nurses Foundation, and the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, among others. She has published about 140 manuscripts. Dr. Poghosyan mentors the next generation of nurse scientists and is the PI of the NINR-funded T32 training grant. Dr. Poghosyan was the past Chair of the Primary Care Expert Panel at the American Academy of Nursing. Currently, she is the only nurse serving on the AcademyHealth Board of Directors.

Dr. Poghosyan is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the New York Academy of Medicine, and an Honorary Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. She has received multiple awards, including the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame from Sigma Theta Tau International and Mentorship and New Investigator Awards from AcademyHealth's Interdisciplinary Research Group on Nursing Issues. Through her contributions, Dr. Poghosyan shapes and impacts nursing science and profession.





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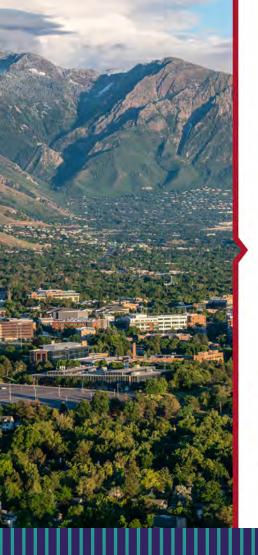
Junxin Li, PhD, RN, FAAN Johns Hopkins

Dr. Li is an Associate Professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing and an exceptional nursing scientist in aging research. Recognized nationally and internationally, Dr. Li's work focuses on promoting sleep and cognitive health in older adults and improving health equity for those at risk of Alzheimer's disease, particularly among populations that are sedentary, have insomnia, mild cognitive impairment (MCI), functional disabilities, or are low-income. Dr. Li's postdoctoral research centered on modifiable lifestyle factors, such as napping and physical activity, to enhance sleep and cognitive health in older adults. Her pioneering work in developing mHealth-facilitated personalized physical activity programs for community-dwelling older adults established a strong foundation for her independent research career.

Dr. Li's current research aims to elucidate the mechanisms of cognitive aging and Alzheimer's disease while developing and testing interventions to promote healthy lifestyles, sleep, and cognitive aging. She is particularly interested in cost-effective behavioral interventions, like physical activity or auditory interventions, that can be seamlessly integrated into older adults' daily routines. Notably, Dr. Li's recent mHealth-facilitated Physical Activity Toward Health (mPATH) study seeks to bridge the digital divide and reduce health disparities among low-income older adults through innovative and accessible mHealth strategies. Additionally, her work on a 40Hz-music intervention for older adults with MCI has provided pivotal data, suggesting it as a promising therapeutic option to address the global Alzheimer's disease epidemic.

Dr. Li's research has been supported by multiple National Institutes of Health awards (K99, R00, P30, R21, R01) and published in high-impact Nursing, Gerontology, Sleep, and Interdisciplinary journals, highlighting the innovative and impactful nature of her work. Beyond research, Dr. Li is passionate about mentoring emerging scientists and actively engages with the community through public science initiatives.





## CENTER FOR FAMILY INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE

The Center for Family Integrated Healthcare's mission is to transform fragmented family care delivery in health care systems. Through health care education, practice, and research, the center's goal is to position families as active partners in health care, enhancing the quality of life for all family members across the lifecourse.

Our vision is for families to be active partners in care, collaborating with patients and health care professionals to create a competent, compassionate, and family-centered experience.



Center Director: Lynn F. Reinke, PhD, ANP-BC, FAAN, FPCN, ATSF Lynn.Reinke@nurs.utah.edu

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#### Debra Huffman Brandon, PhD, RN, CNS, FAAN

**Duke University** 

Debra Brandon is the Chair of the Division of Women, Children, and Families and a Professor at the Duke University School of Nursing. Throughout her career she has focused on ensuring high-risk infants, children and their families have care that is of high quality and evidence based. With consistent NIH funding for over 20 years, her program of research has focused on: 1) the impact of the environment of care, which has led to changes in clinical practice and development of practice guidelines; 2) models of infant caregiving including family centered care, neonatal and pediatric palliative care, and parent-partnered care; and; 3) preterm infant skin health and its intersection with developmental care. Two of her NINR funded studies on the physical light environment of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) supported the safety of providing cycled light to promote weight gain and development of circadian rhythms. Her research contributed to adoption of day/night cycled light for infants in NICUs worldwide. Cycled light is now recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics, as part of individualized infant and family developmental care and in NICU design recommendations of consensus committees in the US and Europe.

Dr. Brandon's ongoing work is guided by the health inequities in care for infants and their families in the NICU and following hospital discharge. She is also the Co-editor in Chief for the Journal Advances in Neonatal Care and was awarded the National Association of Neonatal Nursing Distinguished Service Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Brandon is a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and has received numerous faculty awards including the Duke Samuel DuBois Cook: Raymond Gavins Distinguished Faculty Award for her work on increasing student diversity in the PhD program.







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The FNINR Ambassador Program is a group of committed individuals who serve as advocates of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR). Ambassadors focus on educating Congressional leaders as to the high-impact, cost-effective interventions and quality-of-life enhancements that emanate from nursing science. The goal of FNINR's ambassador program is to increase research funding for continued scientific breakthroughs and training of scientists made possible by the NINR.

"FNINR Ambassadors are key players for our organization," says Victoria Niederhauser, President of FNINR, "These nurse leaders share the excellent outcomes resulting from nursing science that is supported by NINR and advocate for continued funding to conduct cutting edge research that improves healthcare and trains the next generation of nurse scientists."

# FNINR Ambassadors are key players for our organization

Victoria Niederhauser

Are you interested in supporting the FNINR Ambassadors in their work to educate legislators and the public about the importance of nursing research?

Scan the QR code to contribute!





## Meet our new faculty researchers.



### Carleara Weiss, PhD, MS, RN

Dr. Carleara Weiss specializes in behavioral sleep medicine and circadian rhythm research, bringing innovative solutions to improve sleep quality. As an NIH MOSAIC Scholar and active member of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine and the Sleep Research Society, she is at the forefront of sleep health advancements.



#### Daniel Smith, PhD, AGPCNP-BC, CNE

Dr. Daniel Smith's research focuses on the health impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations, with a particular interest in resilience and adaptation strategies. An expert in community-based participatory research, he works closely with Spanish-speaking populations and has led initiatives for the Global Nurses Climate Change Committee and the National Institute of Nursing Research.

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## Northeast Institute for Evidence Synthesis and Translation (NEST)

NEST, an award-winning Center of Excellence within the global JBI Collaboration, will hold its annual Spring Institute for Comprehensive Systematic Review, March 17-21, 2025 (Online). The Institute offers hands-on training in the methods and specialized software used to conduct quantitative and qualitative reviews; 1-day, 3-day, and 5-day tracks are available.

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#### **Funding Spotlights**

Scan the QR codes to learn more.



#### **Advancing Health Equity in Maternal Health**

In her NINR-funded research, Dr. Madelyne Greene is exploring whether a nurse-led prenatal care coordination (PNCC) intervention has the potential to meaningfully reduce the racial disparities that drive materials health outcomes.



#### **Exploring the Recovery Journey of Trauma Patients**

In her NINR-funded research, Dr. Sara Jacoby explored how social, environmental, and economic realities impacted Black patients' risk for serious traumatic injury, their acute care experience, and their ability to recover afterward.



#### **Improving Outcomes for Latina Mothers and Children**

In his NINR-funded research, Dr. Hudson Santos is exploring whether a community-driven intervention that addresses social determinants of health can improve obesity-related outcomes among immigrant Latina mothers and their children.



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Professor and Chair of Women, Children and Families, Duke University School of Nursing

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FNINR is a primary advocate for the NINR and for nursing science. As a 'Friend' of FNINR, we enhance visibility of nursing research, strengthen legislative support for NINR, and foster funding for development of nursing knowledge and the training of nurse scientists. Ultimately, being a 'Friend' is a superb way to promote the health of our communities and assure high quality, evidence-based nursing care.

- Sandra J. Weiss, PhD, DNSc, FAAN

Being a friend of NINR is one of my top philanthropic activities. Nursing has never needed NINR more than it does today as we work diligently to increase the numbers of nursing scientists. The future of nursing science depends on Friends who continue to show their support for our next generation.

- Linda A. McCauley, PhD, RN, FAAN, FRCN



We are grateful to those who become a Friend of the Friends because their contributions help FNINR support the work of NINR and our Ambassadors program. We are not a membership-based organization, so our Friends help us make a difference in advancing nursing science!

- Cathleen Wheatley, DNP, RN, CENP, FAAN

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