

Candidate for Nominating Committee

Pamela Watson Konrath, MSN, APRN, ACCNS-AG-BC, CCRN, CPHQ
CNS/Consultant (Interim Contracts)
AMN Healthcare/B.E. Smith
County Supervisor
Washington County, WI



Experience and Activities

AACN Commitment and Involvement, 2021-present

Includes ways in which the candidate integrated the mission and work of AACN into their current role and practice. Local and national volunteer activities are listed, if applicable.

- AACN Beacon Review Panel, 2024-2025
- Sepsis Micro-credential Test Specification Committee, 2024
- NTI Leadership Development Workshop, 2022-2024
- Chapter Advisory Team, 2019-2024
- Preceptor, MSN in Leadership Capstone focusing on HWE impact on shared governance engagement, 2023
- ACCNS-AG Virtual Item Review Committee, 2021-2022
- Preceptor, BSN completion student, Capstone project focusing on early warning system tools to empower nurses in identifying sepsis and change in clinical status, 2021

Key Professional Activities Outside AACN, 2021-present

Includes involvement with other professional organizations, teaching and/or speaking engagements

- Legislation & Regulation Committee, National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists, 2023-present
- County supervisor (elected), serving third term, 2020-present
 - Past and present service includes Health & Human Services Committee, Public Safety Committee, Board of Health
 - Influenced county executive to explore a private/public partnership in an effort to save our county nursing home and sustain caring for our community across the life span
 - Creation and chair, Watershed/Greenspace/Farmland Preservation Committee, Authored resolution for grant pilot program to partner with a nonprofit focused on watershed/greenspace/farmland preservation. Innovative for county

- Presentations/Education, 2021-2024
 - Sepsis grand rounds
 - Empowering nurses to improve outcomes
 - World Sepsis Day, Stroke Awareness, Cancer Walks, Prone CPR
 - AACN chapter presentations, Greater Chicago Area Chapter: “Post Cardiac Arrest Care - Targeted Temperature Management and Prognostication,” AACN Fall Conference, October 2024
 - WIACNS Visibility Committee, Initiated and past chair
 - Annual CNS Week proclamations, Nurses Day at the Capitol, APRN Day at the Capitol, CNO/ CNS/SG breakfast to increase knowledge of the impact of the CNS role, testified for WI APRN Modernization Act
 - Led creation and first chair, Unit-based shared governance for Quality & Safety Department to meet Pathways to Excellence Standards, 2023

Issues Statement

Healthy Work Environments (HWE) are the foundation to the success and future of our acute and critical care nursing profession. The evidence speaks for itself. A healthcare system needs to commit and invest in all six standards to obtain the biggest impact. If a healthcare system and/or department has a healthy work environment, everything else falls into place. It is truly that simple.

AACN members need to educate themselves on the HWE research to the point they are able to articulate and advocate for needed resources to overcome any identified HWE gaps. If a healthcare system’s leadership has an HWE knowledge or appreciation gap, it is our duty, using AACN resources, to address and eliminate the knowledge gap. Acute and Critical Care nurses need AACN to sustain their commitment to investing in HWE educational tools, resources and advocacy for implementing all six standards. Essentially, since AACN completed the research and knows the impact of HWE, AACN also has a duty to sustain their commitment in empowering Acute and Critical Care nurses with HWE resources and advocating for HWE standards.

AACN HWE advocacy is needed now more than ever. AACN’s HWE advocacy is needed beyond healthcare system walls to the legislature. Nurses are the number one trusted profession, and every person and their loved ones we care for are counting on us to keep advocating for them and providing the best care possible. HWE is the foundation to sustain this trust and sustain our profession of acute and critical care nurses.

AACN is a priceless resource. I repeatedly share with others without ACCN and my faith, I might not still be serving in the nursing profession.