American Academy of Nursing Designates Seven Nurses as Living Legends, the Academy's Highest Honor

Academy will Honor Living Legends at Annual Policy Conference in November

Washington, D.C. (August 9, 2018) - The American Academy of Nursing announced seven nurse leaders to receive its highly acclaimed designation of Living Legend today. Exceptionally accomplished in nursing and health care over the course of their careers, these pioneers will officially receive the Academy's highest honor at a special ceremony during its policy conference in Washington, D.C. on November 1, 2018.

“The Academy is thrilled to designate these incredibly deserving individuals as Academy Living Legends for their many contributions,” said Academy President Karen Cox, PhD, RN, FAAN. “Clearly, each nurse leaders’ accomplishments have positively impacted the health and healthcare of people in the United States and across the globe. Their legacy will endure the test of time.”

The Academy recognizes a small number of fellows as Living Legends each year. To be eligible, the Living Legend must have been an Academy Fellow for at least 15 years and have demonstrated extraordinary, sustained contributions to nursing and health care. The following nurses will be honored as 2018 Living Legends in recognition of the multiple contributions they have made to nursing that continue to reverberate throughout the health services field today.

American Academy of Nursing 2018 Living Legends:

Jacquelyn C. Campbell, PhD, RN, FAAN, is a leader in research and advocacy in the field of violence against women and health outcomes. Her investigations into intimate partner homicide and other violence against women, as well as policy initiatives to improve the justice and health care system response, have paved the way for a growing body of interdisciplinary knowledge. She developed the Danger Assessment instrument to assist abused women in determining their level of danger, and the Academy designated her an Edge Runner for this innovation in 2018. The author of more than 270 articles, 56 chapters and seven books, Dr. Campbell is the Anna D. Wolf Endowed Professor at Johns Hopkins School of Nursing, a member of the Baltimore Domestic Violence Fatality Review Committee, and serves on the Board of Directors of Futures Without Violence.

Marilyn P. Chow, PhD, RN, FAAN, is renowned for her innovations in nurses’ work; their learning; and their leadership in health systems, policy, and practice. Throughout her career she has been at the forefront of national issues such as workforce, community health, quality, credentialing, and technology. Dr. Chow's many accomplishments include being a pioneer in the education and credentialing of Advanced Practice Nurses, co-authoring the landmark reference textbook, Handbook of Pediatric Primary Care; and securing funding for an HIV/AIDS train-the-trainer program that became a national model. She was co-investigator in a groundbreaking national time and motion study that documented how medical-surgical nurses spent their time. Retired from her role as Vice President of National Patient Care Services and Innovation at Kaiser Permanente, she is professor of nursing at the University of California, San Francisco.
Joanne M. Disch, PhD, RN, FAAN, has served as the senior leader in almost every type of health care organization. As a founding leader of the QSEN initiative, she and colleagues launched an international movement to make health care safer. She championed fair and just cultures in nursing schools, and advanced the concept of person and family-centered care. In the 1980s, as American Association of Critical-Care Nurses president, Dr. Disch fortified relationships between ANA and specialty nursing organizations. In the 1990s, she brought together, and led, two nursing departments (one unionized, one not) after a merger. Later, as an Academy board member, she and a colleague spearheaded the Raise the Voice campaign and its signature Edge Runner program. Currently, she is the inaugural chair of the Board of Directors of Advocate Aurora Health Care and chair of the Board of Trustees of Chamberlain University.

Ada K. Jacox, PhD, RN, FAAN, is well-known as a pain researcher and fierce advocate for nursing and women's rights. In the 1970's, she lobbied Congress and NIH on the importance of nursing research and succeeded in establishing the National Institute for Nursing Research. She and two colleagues won equitable retirement for female faculty members when they sued TIAA-CREF for discrimination and won after 8 years. In 1989, Dr. Jacox chaired the AHRQ clinical practice guideline panel on acute pain that became the first guideline published by AHRQ, and this was followed by the cancer pain guidelines. She founded the American Pain Society’s Clinical Practice Guidelines Program and led the development of pain guidelines for Sickle Cell, arthritis, and fibromyalgia. Dr. Jacox is professor emerita of the University of Maryland and Wayne State University.

Beatrice J. Kalisch, PhD, RN, FAAN, is an internationally known nursing scholar who has made numerous contributions, particularly in the areas of the image of the nurse and patient safety. Her research on the history and image of nursing has resulted in nurses garnering more respect for their patient care responsibilities and an improved public perception as professional decision-makers. As a Principal at Ernst and Young, she focused on improving nurses’ workplace environment and made landmark discoveries concerning what she called “missed nursing care,” and defined as standard required care not completed. Her MISSCARE Survey and MISSCARE-Patient instruments created a new knowledge base concerning missed care, the impact on patient outcomes, and solution strategies. Dr. Kalisch is the Shirley Titus Professor Emeritus at the University of Michigan.

Sally L. Lusk, PhD, MPH, RN, FAOHN, FAAN, is a pioneer in the area of occupational health nursing — advancing graduate education, promoting utilization of research, and conducting clinical trials of predictor-based interventions. She identified behavioral predictors of the use of personal protective equipment and conducted the country's first large-scale, randomized clinical trials of interventions to promote the use of hearing protection. Dr. Lusk’s promotion of safety to underserved worker groups resulted in increased use of hearing protection devices. Her innovative behavioral approach to increasing workers’ protective behavior served as the basis for the internal program of research at NIOSH. A past president of the Midwest Nursing Research Society and its Foundation, Dr. Lusk is professor emerita at the University of Michigan School of Nursing.

Ruth McCorkle, PhD, RN, FAPOS, FAAN, is a pioneer in oncology nursing, symptom science, hospice and palliative care. Her experience as a volunteer with the Air Force Nurse Corps during the Vietnam War, led her to study at St. Christopher's Hospice in London. She later cofounded the Hospice of Seattle and Northwest Regional Oncology Society. Dr. McCorkle developed the Symptom Distress Scale, the first self-reported scale to measure the presence of a symptom and the associated distress. In seven clinical trials, she has tested the role of the Advance Practice Nurse on quality of life and survival outcomes of cancer patients and their caregivers. The Wald Professor Emerita of Nursing at Yale University and professor emerita at the University of Pennsylvania, she continues her work as Director of Psychosocial Oncology at Yale Cancer Comprehensive Center.

The American Academy of Nursing (http://www.AANnet.org) serves the public and the nursing profession by advancing health policy, practice and science through organizational excellence and effective nursing leadership. The Academy's more than 2,500 fellows are nursing's most accomplished leaders in education, management, practice, policy, and research. They have been recognized for their extraordinary contributions to nursing and health care.