

PRESS RELEASE

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## Two American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing Leaders Selected by the American Academy of Nursing for Class of 2019 Fellows

*Dr. Deena Gilland and Dr. Stephanie Witwer  
join the ranks of the country's most distinguished nurses.*

**PITMAN, NJ** -- Deena Gilland, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, of Covington, GA, a director on the [American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing](#) (AACN) Board of Directors; and Stephanie Witwer, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, of Pine Island, MN, editor of the new AACN *Core Curriculum for Ambulatory Care Nursing, 4th Edition*, have been chosen by the American Academy of Nursing (Academy) to the 2019 class of Academy fellows, one of the most prestigious honors in nursing.

Dr. Gilland and Dr. Witwer will be among the 231 highly distinguished nurse leaders in the 2019 class who will be celebrated at an induction ceremony October 24-26, 2019, during the Academy's annual policy conference in Washington, DC.

"Dr. Gilland and Dr. Witwer have both made tremendous contributions to nursing," AACN President Kristene Grayem, MSN, CNS, PPCNP-BC, RN-BC, said. "They have mentored others and spent countless hours volunteering their expertise, all to nurture individuals and advance our profession. The AACN Board, volunteers, members, and staff congratulate them on this well-deserved honor."

The 2019 class of fellows represents 38 states, the District of Columbia, as well as 17 countries. The Academy is currently comprised of more than 2,600 nurse leaders in education, management, practice, policy, and research. These nurse leaders have been recognized for their extraordinary commitment to promoting public health through evidence and innovation.

Fellows are selected through a rigorous process and chosen for their outstanding contributions to improving health care access and quality. Being inducted into the Academy is a significant milestone in a nurse leader's career because selection is extremely competitive and decided by an elected committee of Academy fellows.

"I am proud to welcome this incredible class of leaders to the American Academy of Nursing," said Academy President Karen Cox, PhD, RN, FACHE, FAAN. "Their amazing accomplishments have changed health and health care across the country and around the globe. I look forward to celebrating the new

fellows at our 2019 policy conference and working with them in the future so that our collective knowledge can impact and influence health policy."

## About the AAACN Inductees



### **Dr. Deena Gilland**

Dr. Gilland is an ambulatory care nursing executive, educator, and speaker. She has dedicated the past decade to establishing a national model and structure for nursing practice in an ambulatory care setting. Her work centers on nursing optimization and illuminating the value of nursing. Gilland impacted nursing practice by developing an ambulatory nursing organizational structure with senior nursing options, optimizing the ability of nurses to influence the health of our population.

In addition to her current role as a AAACN Director, Dr. Gilland has served on numerous association committees and task forces, including serving as an editorial reviewer for the *AAACN Scope & Standards of Practice for Professional Ambulatory Care Nursing, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition*. She has been a AAACN member for 6 years.

Dr. Gilland is currently Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer, Ambulatory Care, at Emory Healthcare, in Atlanta, GA. She is also an instructor at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, Emory University, having launched the school's inaugural ambulatory care nursing course, curriculum and ambulatory nurse residency program within Emory Healthcare.



### **Dr. Stephanie Witwer**

Dr. Witwer is a nurse executive, author, educator, and speaker. Among her many contributions to AAACN is her recent work as co-editor of the new [\*Core Curriculum for Ambulatory Care Nursing, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition\*](#), the foundational text for the specialty. She is a member of the Editorial Board for AAACN's official publication, *ViewPoint*, is the column editor for that publication's Care Coordination and Transition Management (CCTM) column, and is team leader for the AAACN Academic-Practice Partnership Task Force. Dr. Witwer was also the committee co-chair for the 2017 *Role of the Ambulatory Care Nurse Position Statement*. She has been a AAACN member since 2007.



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*Many settings. Multiple roles. One unifying specialty.*

Dr. Witwer is currently Nurse Administrator, Primary Care, at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. During her career, she has held several top executive positions at regional medical centers and universities and has been an active member of several major nursing organizations, including the American Nurses Association, the American Organization of Nurse Executives, and Sigma Theta Tau.

#### **About AAACN**

The [American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing \(AAACN\)](#) is a welcoming, unifying community for registered nurses in all ambulatory care settings. As the premier nursing organization for this specialty, AAACN is devoted to advancing the art and science of ambulatory care nursing.