Tim Porter-O’Grady, DM, EdD, RN, FAAN
Georgia Nurses Association

Tim Porter-O’Grady has a demonstrated record of outstanding contributions to the nursing profession as a leader, innovator, and advocate. Currently senior partner at the consulting firm that bears his name, his passion and dedication are exemplified in his landmark work as one of the founding architects of shared governance in nursing practice. The model now serves as the prevailing model of structuring the professional practice of nursing in more than 1,000 settings internationally.

Porter-O’Grady is recognized for his leadership, initiative, and ability to propel ideas into action. He is considered a critical resource for advancing the profession and a dedicated professional who is motivated to achieve high standards of excellence. Among his many achievements, Porter-O’Grady fostered the linkage between nursing practice and community. He initiated a federal grant to establish a model for homeless health care in Atlanta, resulting in 26 clinics and city-wide mobile health services for the underserved.

While he was vice chair of the board of Catholic Health East, the hospital health system initiated new quality performance measures that still serve as the standard for the system. During his term as chair of the Georgia Nurses Foundation, the foundation obtained more than $600,000 to erect a state-of-the-art professional building in Atlanta.

At the national level, he served on President Clinton’s National Health Policy Council as a health systems adviser for transforming the American health system. He is a prolific writer on the topics of health leadership, policy, future trends, and service, winning the American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award eight times. Known as a futurist who asks, “what can be” rather than “what is,” his recent work on transformational leadership is facilitating a new vision for nurses within health care organizations.
For nearly three decades, Mary Jane Mongillo-Williams has fearlessly advanced the profession of nursing through advocacy, education, and leadership. Williams has influenced a generation of nurses to become more civically aware and politically involved in policymaking.

As president of the Connecticut Nurses Association (CNA), Williams served as spokesperson and established CNA as the voice for nursing in the state. For more than a decade, she led the Government Relations Committee as chairperson and exerted her influence on issues of concern for nurses, with remarkable success. Her ability to articulate complex issues accurately and succinctly and her knowledge of the health care system have gained her the respect of medicine, policymakers, and the public alike.

Notably, she served as chief negotiator for the interests of nursing when the Nurse Practice Act was revised. With her expertise in the clinical and theoretic practice of nursing, she was able to negotiate and find consensus on proposed legislation. She has helped CNA develop and articulate its position on many issues, including access to health care, the role of nurses and allied health personnel in providing care, the environment and public health, the nursing workforce, and patient and nurse safety standards.

Successes include advocating to expand scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses in Connecticut, helping to implement an assistance program for health care professionals, and obtaining increased funding for nursing and capacity in schools of nursing.

Nationally, Williams launched into a position of national leadership helping nurses from around the country by serving on the Steering Committee that created the national Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments and serving as co-chair of the policy and advocacy committee. In recognition of her contributions to the nursing profession and health care, in 2010, CNA established in her honor the Mary Jane Mongillo-Williams Award for Lifetime Achievement in Nursing.
Gaurdia Banister, executive director at the Institute for Patient Care at Massachusetts General Hospital, is a role model, mentor, and advocate for minority students. Banister’s forte is collaboration and professional development, and her accomplishments have had a profound influence in Massachusetts and the District of Columbia.

Described as a champion of diversity, Banister has dedicated significant energy to advancing a program to enhance the nursing career opportunities of minority students at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, as well as other schools of nursing. Through the Clinical Leadership Collaborative for Diversity in Nursing, minority students are offered both scholarship assistance and mentoring. More than 64 undergraduate and 16 graduate students have benefited from the program and are now employed in the Massachusetts General Hospital system.

Banister has demonstrated leadership and contributed to the impact of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program as a member of the National Advisory Committee. The program awards scholarships to nursing students from underrepresented groups. Banister serves as an exceptional role model for those following in her steps.

While in the District of Columbia, Banister’s vision led to the development of a program in DC schools for disadvantaged minority students who were interested in pursuing health careers. One by one, she has had a positive influence on those students as they entered nursing.

Compassion characterizes many aspects of Banister’s career. While on the DC Board of Nursing, Banister introduced a program to assist nurses with substance use problems. Entitled COIN (Committee on Impaired Nurses), the program is staffed with experts in the mental health field. Letters from former participants attest that this program not only saved careers, it saved lives. With the establishment of COIN, Banister has left a long-standing contribution to the DC nursing community.
Marcia Stanhope, DSN, RN, FAAN
Kentucky Nurses Association

Marcia Stanhope’s many accomplishments as an innovative practitioner, teacher, author, researcher, and leader demonstrate her commitment to improving the health of the most vulnerable in our society, as well as preparing the next generation of public health nurses.

Stanhope received her doctoral degree in nursing from the University of Alabama Birmingham School of Nursing in 1981. Early in her career she began collaboration on the first edition of what is now the foremost public health nursing textbook, *Community and Public Health Nursing*.

She has served on the University of Kentucky College of Nursing faculty for 30 years in many roles, including director of the Community Health Nursing Division and since 2002, as the Good Samaritan Endowed Chair in Community Health Nursing.

Perhaps Stanhope’s most significant contribution to public health has been to establish the Good Samaritan Nursing Center, a virtual center affiliated with the University of Kentucky College of Nursing that reaches the underserved. The center provides vital health services, as well as teaches nursing students and new graduates the care of at-risk populations. Stanhope obtained grant funding and forged a number of public-private partnerships that sustained the operation for more than 25 years. The model she developed received national recognition, notably the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary’s Award for Innovative Health Promotion in 1988, and she was named an Edge Runner by the American Academy of Nursing in 2006.

Stanhope has been an active member of the American Nurses Association and provided leadership to the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), from which she received the ANCC President’s Award for her outstanding contributions.

Stanhope demonstrates how passion can truly make a difference and how public health nurses are uniquely positioned to advance health for all persons.
Marsha A. Martin is a leader with a strong voice advocating on behalf of staff nurses and patients. As a trauma care nurse at Shands Hospital at the University of Florida, she is passionate about providing high quality care to those who are critically ill or injured. She is equally passionate about fair treatment for nurses in the workplace.

Martin is described as fair-minded, able to appreciate the many facets of employment relations, and highly respected across the state for her collective bargaining leadership. She believes in the visibility of staff nurses and works to ensure their rights through collective bargaining. She has spent countless hours representing nurses in the grievance process and educated herself about labor law, the contents of the Shands Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement, and Shands Hospital rules and policies to represent nurses to the best of her ability.

Martin has served in varied leadership roles for the Shands Collective Bargaining Unit, including as president since 2004 and as director at large for the Florida Center for Nursing. Since 2008, she has served as the chair of the Florida Nurses Association Labor and Employment Relations Commission, where she represents the concerns of staff nurses in her facility and across the state of Florida.

Martin is a long-standing member of the Florida Nurses Association and American Nurses Association and has been elected to many leadership positions, including district president and member of the board of directors. Her accolades for her collective bargaining and staff nurse advocacy are numerous. In 2009, the Florida Nurses Association recognized her with the Great 100 Nurses of Florida Award in the category of “Role Model.” Martin was appointed by the governor to serve on the Board of Directors of the Florida Center for Nursing, representing direct care nurses.
Catherine F. Kane, PhD, RN, FAAN

Virginia Nurses Association

Catherine F. Kane’s focus on nursing care for the seriously mentally ill spans some 30 years. As associate professor at the University of Virginia School of Nursing, she has shepherded hundreds of undergraduate and graduate students through courses, original research and capstone projects. Through her publications and funded research, she has informed the larger nursing community on multiple avenues for partnering with the seriously mentally ill on their journey to recovery and has generated new knowledge for patients and families with serious mental health conditions.

At UVA she chaired the Department of Family, Community and Mental Health Systems for 13 years, leading the development of web-based graduate education for rural nurses. Her clinical background of community mental health nursing, working with the seriously mentally ill and their families, and interest in rural problems of service delivery has proved invaluable. She modified psychiatric assertive community treatment, incorporating teams of advanced practice registered nurses and consumer peer providers, to address the inordinately high morbidity and mortality rates in the seriously mentally ill population. Her publications address these issues, as well as clinical intervention programming.

In 1995, Kane was honored with fellowship in the American Academy of Nursing where she is a member of the Psychiatric Mental Health and Substance Abuse Expert Panel and recently co-chaired a task force to write and publish the Essentials of Psychiatric Nursing for Registered Nurses. As a member of the ANA, Kane chaired the Virginia Council of Psychiatric Nurses for 10 years. She was ANA’s representative to the Joint Commission’s Behavioral Professional Technical Advisory Committee and the second nurse to chair that committee. She currently co-chairs the task force revising the ANA Scope and Standards of Psychiatric Nursing. She has been honored by the International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing with the Psychiatric Nursing Education Award and the Melva Jo Hendrix Lectureship.
Jessie M. Scott Award
for demonstration of the interdependent relationships among nursing education, practice and research

Linda R. Cronenwett, PhD, RN, FAAN
North Carolina Nurses Association

Linda R. Cronenwett, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and former dean of the School of Nursing at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill, has enacted commitments to improving health, health care system performance, and nursing professional development through a career of leadership in integrating nursing practice, education, and research.

In practice, Cronenwett has served as a staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, director of nursing research, and director of professional practice. At Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC), she was responsible for research, academic affiliations, and the Nursing Practice Council professional practice structure. Her innovations in these roles, disseminated in editorials and publications, were precursors to the evidence-based practice initiatives seen today.

While at DHMC, Cronenwett served terms on the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) nursing study section and on the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research, NIH, contributing unique expertise in science relevant to practice and administration. She also served as president of the New Hampshire Nurses Association, and chair of the American Nurses Association’s Congress on Nursing Practice.

In academia, Cronenwett served in faculty roles at Stanford University, the University of Michigan, and UNC-Chapel Hill. She came to UNC in a distinguished professorship that involved integrative work between the school and hospital and subsequently served 10 years as dean of the school. She furthred work on academic-practice partnerships, served as a board member for the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and initiated the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)-funded Quality and Safety Education for Nurses project. This national initiative is changing nursing education to produce graduates with the competencies needed to continuously improve the quality, reliability, and safety of the health care systems within which they work.

Cronenwett is an elected fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and National Academies of Practice. She currently serves as co-director of the RWJF Executive Nurse Fellows program.
Shirley Titus Award
for significant contributions to the economic and general welfare of registered nurses

Joanna Boatman, RN
Washington State Nurses Association

Joanna Boatman is recognized as a pioneer in the labor arena at the local, state, and national levels and a champion of the staff nurse. She graduated from the Emanuel Hospital School of Nursing in 1951, immediately joined the Washington State Nurses Association (WSNA), and has been an activist and committed member of WSNA continuously since then.

During her more than 60 years in WSNA and the American Nurses Association (ANA), Boatman served as president and board member of Lower Columbia and King County Nurses Associations and twice served as president for WSNA from 1989-1993 and again from 2003-05. During her tenure, Boatman successfully led the association in its difficult fight back after devastating union raids. In her first term, she visited nearly every district and bargaining unit in Washington State at least twice to let nurses know she was listening and responding to their concerns. Her leadership and commitment to WSNA and ANA enabled other members to fight to save their association in a difficult time.

Boatman was honored with induction into the WSNA Hall of Fame, and received the first WSNA Staff Nurse Leadership award named in her honor. She was the first staff nurse to become WSNA president, to be appointed to the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission, and to be elected as chair of the Washington State Board of Nursing.

Boatman’s nursing career was spent primarily in the operating room where for more than 44 years, patients, physicians, and fellow staff nurses all expressed confidence in her abilities. Boatman elevated the image of the nurse in the operating room as president of the Seattle Chapter of the Association of Operating Room Nurses.

For her dedication and success in recognizing the work and dignity of the staff nurse, Boatman has made a lasting contribution to the health of her community.
Debbie Dawson Hatmaker, PhD, RN-BC, SANE-A
Georgia Nurses Association

A talented and visionary leader, Debbie Dawson Hatmaker has served in distinguished association leadership roles where she has successfully pioneered innovative approaches, built partnerships, and led beneficial organizational and process changes. She is a model of professionalism, poise, and integrity, and an ideal for others to emulate.

Throughout her illustrious service to the American Nurses Association (ANA), she has become recognized as an expert in governance, competency, credentialing, education, health policy, and program management.

Hatmaker was president of the Center for American Nurses from 2004-06, where she worked collaboratively with ANA to strengthen the ties between the two organizations. She led the Center to build a foundation of products and services as the new organization began to establish itself.

While first vice president of ANA from 2006-2010, Hatmaker was a supportive and outspoken board officer during a time of organizational transition and mission realignment. Her leadership skills and organizational loyalty were noted assets when the ANA board appointed her to lead the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) in 2007.

During her two terms as ANCC president, Hatmaker led the strategic planning and governance of the credentialing organization to achieve exceptional revenue growth. She transitioned the governance from an association-style model to a business model, requiring in-depth work with a large number of stakeholder groups, customers, and staff. Importantly, she guided an improved relationship between parent-subsidiary organizations resulting in better collaboration among programs and between the two staffs. During her ANCC presidential term, Hatmaker led the board of directors to develop an international business plan, which is now a major area for growth for the organization.

Hatmaker began her association leadership career with the Georgia Nurses Association (GNA) as president from 1999-2002 and currently is GNA’s chief programs officer.
Brenda Nevidjon has had an extraordinary nursing career of leadership in both service and education in her specialization of oncology nursing and beyond. Currently a professor at the Duke University School of Nursing, she has integrated her passion for oncology nursing and leadership development into a career that has influenced individuals and organizations nationally and internationally.

Nevidjon’s career is distinguished by her charting new territory as the first nurse and first woman to be chief operating officer of Duke University Hospital from 1996-2000, developing and managing the first oncology unit at Duke University Medical Center from 1978-1981, and participating in the inaugural class of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellows program. Through diverse clinical and administrative experiences in Canada, Switzerland, and the United States, she has devoted her energy to bridging practice settings and academic environments to advance patient care, create innovative work environments, promote scholarship in practitioners, and develop leaders.

She also has helped develop and has led professional nursing organizations at the local, national, and international levels. She has contributed substantively to the Oncology Nursing Society and advanced the design and development of what today is the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology and the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows Alumni Association. She is a member of the North Carolina Nurses Association.

Nevidjon has contributed extensively to nursing literature and is regarded as a mentor for nurses to develop their power and voice through publication. Her publications are diverse, including two volumes of oncology nurses’ narratives, as well as books, articles, and chapters on oncology topics. She also has published articles and book chapters on administrative topics, such as the role of advanced practice registered nurses and the nursing shortage. She is a frequently invited speaker for oncology nurses and has advanced leadership development through consultations and programs nationally and internationally in Cyprus, the Middle East, Singapore, and China.
A passion for evidence-based nursing practice has motivated Kathleen M. Vollman to improve care for critically ill patients, educate and empower nurses, and effect positive change in the nursing community. Known for her clinical expertise, innovation, and leadership, Vollman has led a multifaceted career as clinical nurse specialist (CNS), educator, consultant, and entrepreneur.

During her work as a frontline RN in critical care, Vollman discovered the benefits of prone positioning for patients with severe lung injury but recognized the need for a safe turning device. As part of her graduate school research at California State University, Long Beach, she developed a prone positioning device, studied its benefit, patented the technology, and educated nurses nationally and internationally on the science of positioning to improve breathing. She made a significant impact as a CNS for the medical ICUs at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, where she and her colleagues developed and implemented many evidence-based care processes that helped create an empowered work culture. These included a mobility program, oral care to reduce preventable lung infections, and care practices and products to prevent skin breakdown. The results included significant reductions in health-care acquired infections and pressure ulcers, as well as low employee turnover rates and higher employee satisfaction. The model for culture change has been replicated in nursing units in the United States and internationally. Other accomplishments include a wound care program and the creation of a healing environment for patients and workers in the ICU.

Active in professional associations, including the American Nurses Association, National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists, American Association of Critical-Care Nurses, and the Registered Nurses Association in Michigan, she is currently president of the Michigan Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists. Vollman started her consulting company in 2003, which focuses on creating an empowered work environment for nurses through the acquisition of greater skills and knowledge.
Mary Ann Christopher, MSN, RN, FAAN
New Jersey State Nurses Association

Mary Ann Christopher has dedicated her career to advancing the nation’s public health. The hallmark of her leadership has been a steadfast commitment to ensuring that the most vulnerable have access to health care services. Through collaboration with the academic, governmental, and private sectors, Christopher has helped to shape public policy such that the health care safety net is not only sustained, but strengthened.

Christopher’s greatest contribution has been to foster the concept of “community as client” and advance her philosophy of care, “neighborhood nursing.” As president and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) Health Group, Christopher spearheaded the development of a unique continuum of services, including a Federally Qualified Health Center, community-based prevention programs, and clinics for the poor. Christopher’s dedication to building school-based nurse practitioner programs has supported the business case for nursing, a tenet promoted by the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce in its focus on the nursing workforce shortage.

With funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Christopher developed a system of nurse-centered, mobile-outreach clinics at homeless shelters, transitional housing, and other congregate living sites for the deinstitutionalized mentally ill, elderly, and at-risk families. The program has been replicated in other areas, influenced public policy, and serves as a model for federally funded supportive housing. In addition, as a fellow of the Public Health Leadership Institute, she developed systems of care for populations across the lifespan.

Christopher has also been a vigorous advocate for the role of nursing in the emergency response system. She formalized linkages with the American Red Cross and the emergency response system in New Jersey that were replicated by VNA staff in Texas and Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina.

Christopher now serves as president and CEO of the nation’s largest not-for-profit home and community-based health care organization, the Visiting Nurse Service of New York.