

# **CANDIDATE PROFILE GUIDE**



**Learn more about the candidates for ANA-Illinois' Board of Directors, Nominating Committee, and ANA Representative to the ANA Membership Assembly.**

Cast your vote for the candidates who:

- Possess the best qualifications and strengths for the office
- Demonstrate innovative and effective service in professional associations, in their communities, and/or in work settings.
- Use leadership skills to persuade others to work toward desired outcomes.

AUGUST 3, 2021

## Introduction

The Candidate Profile Guide, which contains the candidate's self-reported profiles based on the response provided by the candidates in their consents to serves, is designed to introduce the members to the candidates for ANA-Illinois elective office. Members will have the opportunity to meet and learn more about the candidates during the Candidates Forum on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30p via Zoom. Registration details are available on the ANA-Illinois website.

The ANA-Illinois Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of candidates for the 2021 elections. Please note the candidates are listed in alphabetical order by last name.

## **ANA-ILLINOIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### PRESIDENT *(elect one)*

Elizabeth Aquino PhD, RN

### SECRETARY *(elect one)*

Beth Phelps DNP, APRN-FNP, ACNP

### DIRECTOR *(elect three)*

Susana Gonzalez MSN, MHA, RN, CNML

Elaine Hardy PhD, RN

Beth Phelps DNP, APRN-FNP, ACNP

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

### Nominating Committee *(elect two)*

Renaë Denise Hale DNP, RN, MHN-BC

## **ANA REPRESENTATIVES**

### ANA Representative to the ANA Membership Assembly *(elect two)*

Elaine Hardy PhD, RN

Susan Hovey PhD, RN

Casey Ketchum BSN, RN, CCRN



**PRESIDENT**

Elizabeth Aquino PhD, RN  
DePaul University, School of Nursing  
Associate Professor

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

I am honored to currently serve as the President of ANA-Illinois (2019-2021) and to seek re-election for a second term. I proudly represent ANA-Illinois when I speak at nursing schools, hospitals, and meetings about the work done by our association in Illinois. Under my term as ANA-Illinois President, we have initiated several new initiatives focused on membership engagement, new ways to support members, and advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). I am very proud to have helped initiate and support ANA-Illinois's work to promote DEI in nursing. The work began with a listening session in August 2020, followed by creating the Expert Panel Steering Committee and Advisory Group on DEI. As a result, there is now a designated DEI page on the ANA-Illinois website, the committee has created a webinar series of DEI related topics, and much more incredible work to come. I have encouraged that all decisions, programs, policies, and procedures are viewed with the lens to advance DEI; the ways in which ANA-Illinois upholds those values are posted on the website for membership transparency and association accountability. To further commit to our members, the membership task force was converted to a standing committee to focus on membership recruitment and retention. During the pandemic, we hosted frequent happy hours as an opportunity to connect, listen, and support our members. We recently launched virtual Nursing Hot Topic webinars that will focus on a variety of exciting topics that will help engage the interests of all members. We hosted our first Virtual Sip & Paint during nurses' month, where nurses in attendance used their creative skills to paint the caduceus nursing symbol. To focus on the health and well-being of nurses, we launched a few programs to support that work. We applied for and received funding to launch the RNconnect 2 Well-Being program in Illinois. This 12-week text messaging program provided well-being topics and resources to nurses and nursing students who opted to receive them. Illinois is one of 17 states selected to participate in the program. The Healthy Nurse Healthy Nation (HNN)-Illinois committee was created to share resources and be a support network to help members achieve personal wellness goals and share opportunities to engage in wellness activities. Additional opportunities for membership engagement include a newly created community engagement task force to support nurses interested in volunteering their time, knowledge, and skills within their communities. I'm excited to continue to advance this work.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA (national level).**

I was recently appointed to serve as a subject matter expert on the research workgroup for the ANA's National Commission to Address Racism; the workgroup begins its work in July 2021. In 2020 I was selected to participate in the American Nurses Advocacy Institute (ANI); however, due to the pandemic, it was delayed to 2021. I will begin the institute training in October 2021. As President of ANA-Illinois, I have had participated in the annual ANA Membership Assembly meetings and special meetings, Quarterly President/ED calls, and open ANA board meetings to share information with the ANA-Illinois Board.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA or other nursing organizations at the state or national level (e.g., ISAPN, IANNA, NAHN, AONL).**

I served as Past President (2017-2019) of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN)-Illinois, which allowed me to learn the intricacies of running a mission-driven non-profit organization that included: constant and transparent communication with all members and leadership at the national level, establishing and maintaining partnerships with hospitals and nursing schools to increase visibility, enhancing fundraising, boosting social media presence, and creating professional & leadership development opportunities for all members. Under my leadership as President of NAHN-Illinois, the growth of the chapter's operating budget and membership more than doubled; the Illinois chapter grew to the largest of 49 NAHN national chapters. My previous service on the NAHN education committee provided me with the experience of conference planning and developing educational programming relevant to nursing and conference attendees. I served on the NAHN Policy & Advocacy Committee, where I advocated on issues that impact nursing and the communities we serve, in addition to working on policy statements and white papers. While serving as NAHN Treasurer I ensured accurate financial reporting and budget tracking, provided financial updates to the board of directors and membership, served as chair of the finance committee, advised on financial strategy and fundraising, and enforced financial policies and procedures. Additionally, I made recommendations for ensuring the association creates more robust internal controls and financial management policies. I also served as Treasurer for the Zeta Sigma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society (2012-2017) and Board of Director for the National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurses Association (2019-2020).

**Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

I am currently participating in the Illinois Women's Institute for Leadership Training Academy Class of 2021; the training includes state and federal government training and media training that provides public speaking and interview training. Over the past several years, I have had opportunities to engage with the media for interviews on camera and print. I have contributed to topics featured on WGN News, Fox 32 News, Univision, Minority Nurse Magazine, DePaul University Newline and Magazine, and others. Before the pandemic, I advocated for nursing issues in Springfield and D.C. with nursing groups including ANA, ANA-Illinois, and NAHN. During the pandemic I was able to virtually advocate on behalf of nursing. Annually I actively participate in Student Nurse Political Action Day and Nurse Lobby Day/Nurses Day at the Capitol. I've written letters to legislators to support nursing legislation and have had many firsthand opportunities to discuss nursing issues with state elected officials.

**Describe your experiences in fiduciary responsibility. - ONLY FOR CONSENTING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS - President, Secretary, & Director**

My fiduciary responsibility experiences have included serving as Treasurer for NAHN and the Zeta Sigma Chapter of STTI Honor Society of Nursing. I was directly responsible for overseeing the organizations' budgets and financial reporting, in addition to ensuring ethical financial practices were being followed, holding board members accountable for any conflicts of interests, and protecting the organization against fraud. Additionally, through my board service as current President of ANA-Illinois, Board of Trustee for Edward-Elmhurst Health System and Board of Director for Alivio Medical Center, it is also my

responsibility to uphold fiduciary responsibilities, approve annual budgets, and ensure resources are being used appropriately.

**Describe a situation where you influenced others to take action within your workplace, your community, or in a professional nursing organization.**

One example of how I influenced others to take action within my workplace was at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic when there was a critical shortage of PPE. I identified an opportunity for DePaul University School of Nursing to take action. Since the university closed campus, students were no longer using PPE supplies in the simulation lab. After speaking to my director and the Dean's office, we quickly received the approval to collect and donate PPE supplies to some of our clinical partners experiencing a critical shortage of supplies. This work quickly encouraged other departments such as chemistry and biology to donate their lab supplies to support donation efforts. Once supplies were collected, I personally delivered the supplies to several hospitals. I also encouraged other schools/colleges of nursing to donate their unused PPE supplies to their local hospitals. Additionally, a team of DePaul faculty and students helped manufacture over 100,000 face shields using 3D printers; I assisted with coordinating distribution to hospitals and medical facilities in need of PPE and raising funds to purchase more supplies to make the face shields.

**Based on the purpose statement above from the ANA-Illinois bylaws, briefly explain how you would describe the value of ANA-Illinois to potential members.**

ANA-Illinois is an association that represents over 180,000 registered nurses in the State of Illinois. We continue to build on the ANA mission and advance the nursing profession in Illinois. We are a trusted source on nursing regulation and policy and advocate for nurses across all specialties and practice settings. If you have an interest in impacting the nursing profession, getting more actively involved in advocacy efforts, seeking professional development opportunities, and a nursing network that is committed to supporting and advancing the profession...join ANA-Illinois.

**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**

As ANA-Illinois President, I have worked diligently to engage with members to promote and inspire more active involvement, to focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion within the association and in nursing, enhancing professional development opportunities, and to increase ANA-Illinois visibility both statewide and nationally. I look forward to continuing to enhance ANA-Illinois initiatives and bringing new ideas that will strengthen the association. I promise to continue serving you and keeping the ANA mission and Illinois membership needs at the forefront of my decision-making and upholding the values of ethical leadership, integrity, consistency, and transparency. It would be an honor to have your vote of confidence to serve another term as ANA-Illinois President. #VoteForLiz #LizforPresident



## **SECRETARY**

Beth Phelps DNP, APRN-FNP, ACNP  
Springfield Clinic & University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing  
APRN – Full Practice Authority | Assistant Clinical Professor

### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

I have had no prior active involvement or participation with the ANA-Illinois

### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA (national level).**

I have no prior active involvement with the ANA on a national level.

### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA or other nursing organizations at the state or national level (e.g., ISAPN, IANNA, NAHN, AONL).**

I have not served on any other state nursing boards or associations. I have served previously as a board member for the American Cancer Society in Illinois. During my tenure, I served as director of the Western and Southern regions for a period of 4 years. Most recently, I served on the board of the Alzheimer's Disease Advisory Counsel for the Illinois Department of Public Health. I have also assisted with several grant review committees under both of those organizations over the years as well.

### **Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

I was very privileged to work at Southern Illinois University and become the Director of the Lung Cancer Program for Dr. Stephen Hazelrigg. In that capacity as a nurse practitioner, I was responsible for developing numerous programs and working the media. We had the "Winston" cigarette spokesmodel come in and speak to local high school students about the dangers of smoking. I was on a televised panel for the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding smoking and lung cancer. During my tenure, the American Lung Association and my team worked together to promote Smoke Free Illinois legislation. I was able to secure grant funding for a study for a lung cancer support group through the American Cancer Society. Findings from that study were published.

### **Describe your experiences in fiduciary responsibility. - ONLY FOR CONSENTING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS – Officer or Director positions.**

Over the years, I have served in many roles that required taking on a fiduciary responsibility.

While serving on the American Cancer Society Regional Board I was responsible for overseeing:

1. Development of regional medical programs.
2. Outreach to regional areas.
3. Yearly grant application review

While serving on the Illinois Department of Public Health's Alzheimer Disease Advisory Council I was responsible for:

1. Assisting to develop yearly program plans
2. Yearly grant application review

As a faculty student advisor at University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing I currently:

1. Advise students
2. Oversee Doctoral Students DNP projects
3. Direct and oversee clinical placement of Adult/Gero Acute Care DNP students in the Peoria, Springfield, and Champaign-Urbana campuses.

As a member of Springfield Clinic's Advance Practice Advisory Council, I currently:

1. Conduct quarterly peer review chart audits
2. Review policy changes and revisions
3. Update Advance Practitioners as needed and provide assistance with answering questions

As a member of Springfield Clinic's Research Committee:

1. I am the first non-physician to sit on the committee
2. Review all proposed research studies and give approval or reject as a committee

As a preceptor and mentor:

1. Mentor students in my clinic each semester at Springfield Clinic
2. Teach suturing, splinting, and reading Xray skills to new NP/PAs

**Describe a situation where you influenced others to take action within your workplace, your community, or in a professional nursing organization.**

I have always worked hard to be a positive influence for change in my environment. My previous work with Smoke Free Illinois is a good example of that commitment. As an educator, I have always tried to find a way to encourage my students to engage in policy and partnership for positive change. Each of us has a role to play and we can influence the wheels that turn. My husband works for the Office of State Guardianship as an Attorney. He often has to testify at the Illinois State Legislature regarding various issues affecting clients. He has always stressed to me how easy it is to show up and have your voice heard. I think if people understood that more people would lend their voices.

**Based on the purpose statement above from the ANA-Illinois bylaws, briefly explain how you would describe the value of ANA-Illinois to potential members.**

The ANA-Illinois is an organization developed by nurses for nurses. The three goals of the organization are to ensure that the standards to become a nurse are high in Illinois, everyone has access to high quality nursing care in Illinois, and nurses have access to continuing education so they can stay up-to-date and current in best practices. The Illinois ANA works to remove barriers to these goals by representing nurses across the state, in Springfield, and nationally.

**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**



I work as a Nurse Practitioner at Springfield Clinic and at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing, Springfield Campus. I am an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and have been certified since 2004. I am finishing up a dual certification in Family Practice at the end of April. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and give back. Thank you for your consideration.

**DIRECTOR**

Susana Gonzalez MSN, MHA, RN, CNML  
ASI Home Care, DePaul University & Morton College  
Nurse Educator | Adjunct Faculty

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

My name is Susana Gonzalez MHA, MSN, RN, CNML. I believe as nurses we are a powerful workforce. ANA-Illinois provides a platform to allow our voices to be heard and helps advance the nursing profession. I would like to assist ANA-Illinois with its endeavors to identify and encourage strong leaders who want to be a member of ANA-Illinois. I feel grateful and have a sense of readiness to offer my service to the Board of Directors for ANA-Illinois. My career in nursing has provided me with opportunities I never thought possible. Sharing these experiences to help others is an honor. I will facilitate communication between ANA-Illinois members, the board, colleagues, and health care stakeholders. I will be a presence in the community to promote ANA-Illinois' vision. I commit to promote enriching the lives of our membership through promotion of learning and professional advancement. I have served for two terms as the president of the Illinois Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses from 2013-2017. Under my leadership we developed and led countless of collaborative initiatives that today continue to serve our community with a servant leadership presence and spirit. The Illinois chapter has been active and visible with ANA-Illinois as a strong affiliate, and I served on the Illinois Healthcare Action Coalition. In addition, we were active on the Illinois Coalition of Nursing Organizations. I am active on the Illinois Organization of Nurse Leader's policy committee. At the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, I have served on the Board of Directors and co-chaired the Policy Committee and Membership Recruitment and Retention Committee. Life is about timing and purpose and this for me is the right time to serve ANA-Illinois as a board member. I bring to the table years of experiences, skills, and knowledge and strong ethical leadership. I can dedicate time and energy to the Board of Directors and role model the vision of ANA-Illinois. I value the leadership and respect their membership; I have supported many of their initiatives. I am committed to mentor a new generation of healthcare professionals. I believe as a member of ANA-Illinois we are the role models. I pledge my commitment to serve in this capacity and to work hard to facilitate and expand opportunities at all levels for the membership. I welcome the opportunity to help the organization realize its mission, vision, and purpose in conjunction with the esteemed executive leadership.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA (national level).**

I have attended general assemblies and value the leadership role of ANA Enterprise. I look to their leadership to emulate what ANA-Illinois could be working on as well. I have participated in several of their bylaws forums in the past as well to learn how to help other organizations I serve on. I love following their professional issues forum as well.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA or other nursing organizations at the state or national level (e.g., ISAPN, IANNA, NAHN, AONL).**

I served as president of the national association of Hispanic nurses -Illinois chapter for two terms, under my leadership we became an affiliate of ANA-IL and still are a strong affiliate. I collaborate with the CCBNA and PNAI in many collaborative endeavors. I was active with the Illinois Healthcare action coalition and Illinois coalition of Nursing Organizations. I also serve on policy and advocacy committee for the Illinois Organization of Nurse leaders. For the Illinois Nurses Foundation, I have served on Forty under forty committee as an advisor for five years and every year nominated individuals to be recognized. I have also served on the National Association of Hispanic Nurses board and chaired Policy & Advocacy, Awards, and membership committees in the past.

**Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

I have been active on legislative committee with ANA-Illinois and the Illinois organization of nurse leaders, National association of Hispanic nurses and been active as speaker and presenter at many times in all these organizations. I have served on multiple elected official's legislative advocacy committees and worked on issues that concern nursing and public health and safety. I have attended years of Nurse lobby day and as past dean of a university participated with SNAI to bring students to Springfield year after year

**Describe your experiences in fiduciary responsibility. - ONLY FOR CONSENTING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS - Officer or Director positions.**

I have a strong commitment to service and have experience serving on several boards of directors, ANA-Illinois, National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Chicago Bilingual Nurse consortium, and the Illinois Nurses Foundation. I have strong fiduciary skills, knowledge, and experience as president of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses-ILLINOIS chapter for four years. I am confident and strong with my fiduciary role as a member of the boards. I work hard to review statements and discuss and vote accordingly on budget concerns. I am also confident in my role to donate and manage money as a member of the board.

**Describe a situation where you influenced others to take action within your workplace, your community, or in a professional nursing organization.**

In a past as a director of nursing I was an active leader through our Magnet journey for the facility. It took six years to get Magnet during which time my staff was the most active and visible at councils and several chaired the councils with my supportive work. I had the most staff who were ADN (60% in my dept. and encouraged and supported staff to obtain BSN completion to get to 90% for my department at that time.

**Based on the purpose statement above from the ANA-Illinois bylaws, briefly explain how you would describe the value of ANA-Illinois to potential members.**

I believe being part of a key nursing organization like ANA-Illinois that strives to lead our workforce is important to be a member. Nurses should strive to emulate high standards in their careers and commit to their roles. I have personally committed to my profession and my volunteer work is important to participate in the organization. I work hard to keep my word when stepping up to serve & follow through with productive work. All nurses should develop themselves professionally and personally

throughout their lives and live it to their full potential and I believe ANA-Illinois works hard to be inclusive of all nurses during their careers.

**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**

I am a current board member for ANA-Illinois and consent to serve for another term if our memberships votes for me to do so. I believe I am a strong positive representative of our nursing profession and continue to emulate what good nurse leadership is. I enjoy mentoring and inspiring the next generation of nursing from ADN level to MSN level as adjunct and encourage my students to be active from the beginning to be a part of their professional organization. I hope I get the opportunity to continue to serve ANA-Illinois.



**DIRECTOR**

Elaine Hardy PhD, RN  
University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing  
Clinical Assistant Professor

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

I was elected to the Board of Directors and served from 2015-2017. I represented ANA-IL at the Asian American Pacific Islanders Scholarship luncheon during my tenure as a board member. I am an active member of ANA-IL and have attended several events including Nurses Day at the Capitol.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA (national level).**

My involvement with ANA has been through voting and being aware of issues that we support or refute. I have also financially supported the ANA-PAC to further the ANA agenda.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA or other nursing organizations at the state or national level (e.g., ISAPN, IANNA, NAHN, AONL).**

I am the founding member of the Black Nurses Association of Central Illinois, and have served as Treasurer and now as President. I am a member of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Chicago Chapter and have been an abstract reviewer for the National conference. I have presented at several National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) conferences as well as moderated the Violence Prevention ad hoc committee of NBNA. I am a member of Sigma and served as the Vice-President of the Xi Pi chapter.

**Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

I have experience with public speaking and have worked with the media in giving insight on vaccine hesitancy. I have been asked to present to student groups and as a guest speaker for the Northwest Indiana Black Nurses Association. I have been asked to speak on racial discrimination as well as asked to speak on racial discrimination. I have been appointed as Director of Policy at UIC, CON and have drafted response letters supporting specific policies.

**Describe your experiences in fiduciary responsibility. - ONLY FOR CONSENTING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS – Officer or Director**

Having served as a Board of Director for ANA-IL, I have acted responsibly with the finances and financial information. As the treasurer of the Black Nurses Association of Central Illinois, I have maintained financial transparency and accountability.

**Describe a situation where you influenced others to take action within your workplace, your community, or in a professional nursing organization.**

While a faculty member at ISU, I influenced a change in the curriculum. By presenting the need for a skills course to be introduced earlier in the curriculum allowing students to be more comfortable with

equipment prior to starting any clinical courses. This was received with approval by faculty and administration and became an approved course in the program.

**Based on the purpose statement above from the ANA-Illinois bylaws, briefly explain how you would describe the value of ANA-Illinois to potential members.**

I would describe the value of the ANA-IL to potential members as the voice for nurses, representing the nurses and nursing students of Illinois. Improving health standards and availability of health care services for people in Illinois through policy and practices that foster high standards of nursing, while promoting the personal and professional development of nurses through a variety of opportunities.

**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**

As nurses advocate for their patients, I would like to advocate for those nurses by being a member of the ANA-IL Board of Directors. Nurses are busy and oftentimes feel as if they are not "political," but ANA-IL is the voice for policy and practice changes and I would like to be there for the nurses and nursing students of Illinois.



**DIRECTOR**

Beth Phelps DNP, APRN-FNP, ACNP  
Springfield Clinic & University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing  
APRN – Full Practice Authority | Assistant Clinical Professor

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

I have had no prior active involvement or participation with the ANA-Illinois

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**Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

I was very privileged to work at Southern Illinois University and become the Director of the Lung Cancer Program for Dr. Stephen Hazelrigg. In that capacity as a nurse practitioner, I was responsible for developing numerous programs and working the media. We had the "Winston" cigarette spokesmodel come in and speak to local high school students about the dangers of smoking. I was on a televised panel for the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding smoking and lung cancer. During my tenure, the American Lung Association and my team worked together to promote Smoke Free Illinois legislation. I was able to secure grant funding for a study for a lung cancer support group through the American Cancer Society. Findings from that study were published.

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**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**



I work as a Nurse Practitioner at Springfield Clinic and at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing, Springfield Campus. I am an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner and have been certified since 2004. I am finishing up a dual certification in Family Practice at the end of April. I look forward to the opportunity to serve and give back. Thank you for your consideration.



### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Renae Denise Hale DNP, RN, MHN-BC  
University of Illinois College of Nursing  
Visiting Clinical Instructor

#### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

I have not had the opportunity to hold an appointed or elected position in the two years I have been a member.

#### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA (national level).**

I served as a mentor in the Connection Program for National ANA, providing mentorship for a master's prepared new Nurse Manager (2020-2021).

#### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA or other nursing organizations at the state or national level (e.g., ISAPN, IANNA, NAHN, AONL).**

Although I have not been actively involved in other state nurses' associations, I am an active member of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (2011- present).

#### **Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

1.Public Speaking: In addition to my teaching responsibilities at the University of Illinois Chicago, I have provided numerous educational presentations for health care organizations. Nationally I have presented at the annual APNA conference (2019).

2.Working with the media: I have not had the opportunity to work with the media.

3.Working with legislatures: In the past, I participated in Student Nurse Political action day as faculty liaison. During my time as a Hospice Director, I participated in a call to action at the state capital in Springfield Illinois to advocate for hospice services.

#### **Describe a situation where you influenced others to take action within your workplace, your community, or in a professional nursing organization.**

During my time as a Chief Nursing Officer (2011 -2017) at a free-standing behavioral health hospital for children and adolescents, I led the implementation and evaluation of a major shift in the culture and philosophy of patient care, aligning with Trauma-Informed Care. This important shift in approach to patient care resulted in a significant reduction of the use of seclusion and physical holds by 40%.

#### **Based on the purpose statement above from the ANA-Illinois bylaws, briefly explain how you would describe the value of ANA-Illinois to potential members.**

ANA-Illinois provides an outlet for professional nurses to develop leadership skills, legislative opportunities, professional networking and lifelong learning to support high standards of nursing practice.

**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**

To have the opportunity to serve on the Nominating Committee would be an honor and privilege to support safe and effective nursing care to protect our profession and promote quality patient care.



### **ANA REPRESENTATIVE**

Elaine Hardy PhD, RN  
University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing  
Clinical Assistant Professor

#### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

I was elected to the Board of Directors and served from 2015-2017. I represented ANA-IL at the Asian American Pacific Islanders Scholarship luncheon during my tenure as a board member. I am an active member of ANA-IL and have attended several events including Nurses Day at the Capitol.

#### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA (national level).**

My involvement with ANA has been through voting and being aware of issues that we support or refute. I have also financially supported the ANA-PAC to further the ANA agenda.

#### **Describe any prior active involvement or participation with other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA or other nursing organizations at the state or national level (e.g., ISAPN, IANNA, NAHN, AONL).**

I am the founding member of the Black Nurses Association of Central Illinois, and have served as Treasurer and now as President. I am a member of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Chicago Chapter and have been an abstract reviewer for the National conference. I have presented at several National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) conferences as well as moderated the Violence Prevention ad hoc committee of NBNA. I am a member of Sigma and served as the Vice-President of the Xi Pi chapter.

#### **Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

I have experience with public speaking and have worked with the media in giving insight on vaccine hesitancy. I have been asked to present to student groups and as a guest speaker for the Northwest Indiana Black Nurses Association. I have been asked to speak on racial discrimination as well as asked to speak on racial discrimination. I have been appointed as Director of Policy at UIC, CON and have drafted response letters supporting specific policies.

#### **Describe a situation where you influenced others to take action within your workplace, your community, or in a professional nursing organization.**

While a faculty member at ISU, I influenced a change in the curriculum. By presenting the need for a skills course to be introduced earlier in the curriculum allowing students to be more comfortable with equipment prior to starting any clinical courses. This was received with approval by faculty and administration and became an approved course in the program.

#### **Based on the purpose statement above from the ANA-Illinois bylaws, briefly explain how you would describe the value of ANA-Illinois to potential members.**

I would describe the value of the ANA-IL to potential members as the voice for nurses, representing the nurses and nursing students of Illinois. Improving health standards and availability of health care

services for people in Illinois through policy and practices that foster high standards of nursing, while promoting the personal and professional development of nurses through a variety of opportunities.

**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**

As nurses advocate for their patients, I would like to advocate for those nurses by being a member of the ANA-IL Board of Directors. Nurses are busy and oftentimes feel as if they are not "political," but ANA-IL is the voice for policy and practice changes and I would like to be there for the nurses and nursing students of Illinois.



**ANA REPRESENTATIVE**

Susan Hovey PhD, RN  
University of Illinois College of Nursing Springfield Campus  
Clinical Assistant Professor, Associate Director

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

This is the first time I have pursued active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois. Although I have not been actively involved, I have spent the majority of my career following the guidance provided by ANA-Illinois on legal and regulatory issues, scope of practice, licensure, and credentialing.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA (national level).**

I have not been involved or participated with ANA on a national level.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA or other nursing organizations at the state or national level (e.g., ISAPN, IANNA, NAHN, AONL).**

I have not been involved or participated with any other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA at the state or national level.

**Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

As a professor and researcher, I have presented my research at local, state, and national conferences. I am comfortable with public speaking. In the past, I have been interviewed by the media and my interviews have aired on local television. I have met with and feel comfortable meeting with legislators to discuss policies that affect nursing or healthcare.

**Describe a situation where you influenced others to take action within your workplace, your community, or in a professional nursing organization.**

In a small, rural community, there was a need for services to assist older people to live independently. I initially met with the village board to discuss my concerns. The village had a community center which could be rented out for functions but was not open to the public. After meeting with members of the community to gather support, I circulated a petition asking the village board to allow the community center to be opened during the day for use by seniors. The board voted to open the community center up to seniors. Initially, it provided a safe place for seniors to gather and socialize. Later, services at the community center grew to include a meals on wheels program and provided a place for annual flu vaccinations.

**Based on the purpose statement above from the ANA-Illinois bylaws, briefly explain how you would describe the value of ANA-Illinois to potential members.**

ANA-Illinois is an advocate for nurses, healthcare services, and the patients we serve. As a respected organization, they work for nurses by lobbying for legislation that supports nurses and healthcare

services for all people in Illinois. Their interests are not only to foster high standards of nursing, but to promote the personal and professional development of nurses.

**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**

I have been a nurse for over 35 years and teaching for over 25 years. I have had leadership roles as a nurse and an educator. One of my career goals has been to serve within an organization that positively impacts the life of nurses and the public. I feel like my experiences have prepared me to now serve in this role.



**ANA REPRESENTATIVE**

Casey Ketchum BSN, RN, CCRN  
University of Chicago Medicine  
Clinical Nurse Associate

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA-Illinois (including prior elected or appointed positions in ANA-Illinois).**

I've participated in the Illinois 40 under 40 Emerging Nurse Leaders Awards and was a 2017 nominee recipient. I've attended the Power of Nursing Leadership conference as a guest with ANA and as a guest with the Leadership team at the University of Chicago. Additionally, I was 2019 Sage Award Recipient. I've campaigned with my nursing cohort attending events for representative Lauren Underwood and Aldermanic candidate Alex Acevedo. I've also attended policy develop training lectures offered through ANA, as well as practice and policy meetings. I'm a strong advocate for ANA- Illinois and encourage my mentees to become active members of ANA as professional nurses. I also worked with ANA-Illinois to write an op-ed to be published along with the campaign and introduction of the Illinois staffing bill.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with ANA (national level).**

I've participated in ANA Hill Day in Washington, D.C. several years now. I attended such events without grants or academic funding. Additionally, I've contributed monetarily to The Nurses Political Action Committee (Nurses-PAC) and attended charitable events. I also, volunteered with ANA at the National States Legislatures conference.

**Describe any prior active involvement or participation with other state nurses associations affiliated with ANA or other nursing organizations at the state or national level (e.g., ISAPN, IANNA, NAHN, AONL).**

I participated in the Nurse in Washington Internship through- (NOA) Nurse Organizations Alliance.

**Describe any experiences you have had with public speaking, working with the media, working with legislators, and/or testifying in the legislature or other policy-making governmental bodies.**

I'm a University of Chicago Ethics Fellowship Alumni, this fellow required academic research and several public speaking obligations. Additionally, I do ethics lectures for the nursing orientation and onboarding.

**Describe a situation where you influenced others to take action within your workplace, your community, or in a professional nursing organization.**

I organize annual stroke education & blood pressure screenings with the University of Chicago NICU nurses and the congregate dining sites with Meals on Wheels of America. Additionally, I'm an active board member with Meals on Wheels of America- Community Nutrition Network of Northern Illinois. I'm an Epic training, electronic health records education champion in my current place of employment.

**Based on the purpose statement above from the ANA-Illinois bylaws, briefly explain how you would describe the value of ANA-Illinois to potential members.**

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Illinois has roughly 123,000 nurses. Nurses represent a large sector of the health care profession. Therefore, I believe we have the man power and professional



obligation to ensure our patient populations receive, high quality, equitable and evidenced based care. I firmly believe nurse driven initiatives and skills have the potential to improve the dismally poor health status of the American population and the resources and support of ANA is critical to that endeavor. The professional and personal encouragement of ANA has been so crucial to my nursing practice and I hope to continue that legacy by serving as a board member.

**Is there anything else that you would like to share with members as part of the ballot?**

I appreciate all the hard work and efforts put forth by the ANA staff and I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve.