

2020-2021 Committees and Task Forces

Award for Excellence Selection Panel

Initiatives

1. Score the Award for Excellence applications.
 2. Present the recipient's name to the Chair of the Awards Committee who will present it to the AORN Board of Directors.
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Awards Committee

Purpose

Promote excellence in perioperative nursing through recognition of individual members and groups (i.e. chapters) who have demonstrated excellence in service.

Initiatives

1. Review current individual awards to determine if the categories are still relevant, the online award application process, and the scoring mechanism and provide recommendation for change to the Board, including the dates applications open. (Add specific criteria to point allocation per category for awards when making changes).
2. Promote Individual Awards Process in *Periop Today* and on AORN Facebook to increase awareness/participation.
3. Award for Excellence applications are scored by the Award for Excellence Selection Panel. The Award for Excellence Selection Panel makes their recommendation to the Awards Committee for selection.
4. Follow-up on those who completed and did not complete submissions to identify opportunities to improve the process. Make recommendations on value of individual awards to the association's membership.
5. Review online award application process to make it more user-friendly for nominators and nominees.
6. Promote Chapter Awards Process in coordination with Chapter Relations.
7. Score Chapter Award submissions and select recipients.

Bylaws Committee

Purpose

Sustain, clarify, review, update and prepare revisions, additions or deletions of the Bylaws to be presented to the House of Delegates.

Initiatives

1. Explore face-to-face requirement for House of Delegates meetings and consider language changes to address future extenuating circumstances that may prevent face-to-face meetings.
 2. Prepare Bylaws change to eliminate the Nomination by Petition policy in accordance with Nominating Committee recommendation.
 3. Review, research and deliberate bylaw change proposals submitted by individual AORN member(s); prepare recommendations for AORN Board of Directors.
 4. Address other bylaws changes as may be directed by the Board of Directors.
 5. Submit bylaws changes for action by the House of Delegates during the 2021 AORN Congress.
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Clinical Nursing Practice Committee

Purpose

Review new and existing clinical nursing practice issues and develop strategies to assist perioperative nurses to implement successful practices.

Initiatives

1. Revise the Healthy Perioperative Practice Environment Position Statement.
 2. Revise the Allied Health Care Providers and Support Personnel in the Perioperative Practice Setting Position Statement.
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Continuing Education Approval Committee

Degree required: Must have BSN or MSN or higher to apply

Purpose

Utilize a peer review process to review applications from constituents and non-constituents using the ANCC criteria.

Initiatives

1. Peer review continuing nursing education applications from constituents and non-constituents using ANCC criteria.
 2. Using ANCC criteria, provide feedback to applicants in a timely manner.
 3. Provide customer support regarding the approval process.
 4. Identify and suggest topics to AORN staff for webinars and to the AORN Journal from topics being requested.
 5. Conduct performance improvement activities and make revisions in processes as appropriate.
 - a. Evaluate the effectiveness of the overall approval unit.
 - Consumers (i.e. applicants)
 - CEAC Members (aka nurse peer reviewers)- inter rater reliability
 - Nurses attending an approved activity
 - b. Evaluate user feedback for the online application.
 - c. Incorporate changes to the ANCC criteria to the application process, as required.
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Fellowship Selection Committee

Purpose

Identify and select members as AORN Fellows.

Initiatives

1. Promote Fellowship Level of membership in Periop Today and on AORN Facebook to increase awareness / participation.
2. Review online application process to ensure a user-friendly experience for applicants.
3. Implement the selection of the inaugural class of fellows.
4. Monitor the process for necessary revision of selection of fellows for subsequent years.

Global Relations Committee

Purpose

In collaboration with international colleagues, identify potential education sessions for a global education track at AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo 2021.

Initiatives

1. Review needs assessments of international participants and members
 - a. Discuss “hot” international topics and feedback from 2020 attendees
 - b. Recommend speakers for global track who will represent the 2021 theme
 - c. Review proposals submitted by international attendees.
 - d. Ensure two clinical practice areas are addressed, i.e. exploring the use of checklists, cultures of safety, or other important issues.
 2. Assist in the development of a letter of invitation that includes the conference theme and new activities that will be sent to the international nursing association.
 3. Members of the committee attending the AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo network with global attendees.
 4. Members attending the conference to serve as hosts and moderators for the global track sessions.
 5. Provide any feedback from global attendees through an electronic survey following the AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo concludes.
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Global Surgical Conference Education Committee

Purpose

To serve in an advisory capacity to the AORN staff when planning educational programs for the AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo.

Initiatives

1. Encourage potential presenters to submit proposals.

2. Review education needs assessment and feedback from the 2019 AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo.
 3. Identify key categories of desired/requested content from peers at the local level and needs assessment.
 4. Utilize a micro-volunteer team to review proposals submitted, score, and provide feedback regarding appropriateness related to gap analysis and AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo theme.
 5. Refine proposal review and evaluation process from feedback received. (Education will provide a webinar on how to evaluate the proposals).
 6. Encourage peers to submit Research, Concept, Innovation, Clinical Improvement poster abstracts for the 2021 AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo. (Utilize *Periop Today*, AORN Facebook, etc.)
 7. Utilize a micro-volunteer team to review posters. (The Research Committee will provide a training webinar on how to do abstracts).
 8. Provide feedback regarding poster abstracts by evaluating their alignment to the AORN Mission, Vision, Values, and "AORN *Guidelines for Perioperative Practice*".
 9. Utilize the poster evaluation tool to select the Outstanding Clinical, Research, Innovation, and Improvement/Innovation submitted for the 2021 AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo.
 10. Evaluate the virtual poster review process and provide feedback.
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Guidelines Advisory Board

Degree required: Masters prepared

Purpose

Reviewing, obtaining, and providing input, and arriving at consensus on relevant, evidence-based guidelines for perioperative practice.

Initiatives

Review and critique draft documents, provide input, review public comments, and arrive at consensus on the following guidelines:

- Laser Safety
- Pneumatic Tourniquet Safety
- Safe Use of Electrosurgical Devices
- Care and Cleaning of Surgical Instruments

- Local Anesthesia
 - Specimen Management
 - Patient Skin Antisepsis
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National Committee on Education

Purpose

Develop educational materials to meet the needs of AORN members.

Initiatives

1. Consider submitting an abstract for a poster or oral presentation at the 2021 AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo.
 2. Explore a ratio of educators to number of staff to use for position justification and benchmarking.
 3. Review and update the Bariatrics Tool Kit.
 4. Develop a position statement to promote the value of the clinical educator in perioperative services.
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National Legislative Forum

Purpose

This group is a membership assembly convened via monthly conference call by AORN Government Affairs staff to coordinate and support AORN's health policy initiatives. The National Legislative Forum is open to all AORN members with an interest in health policy and legislative affairs.

Initiatives

1. Continue to strengthen and expand state-level relationships
2. Advance RN Circulator legislation
3. Protect perioperative nursing scope of practice
4. Seek reimbursement parity for RNFAs
5. Advocate for safe work environments (smoke evacuation and safe patient handling)
6. Provide advocacy training to AORN members

7. Ensure perioperative nursing voice in federal reform efforts
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Nursing Research Committee

Purpose

To serve as a resource and consultant to AORN regarding perioperative research.

Initiatives

1. Review all research studies submitted for funding by the AORN Foundation.
 2. Review and revise as needed the AORN nursing research priorities.
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Recruitment and Retention of Perioperative Nurses Task Force

Purpose

Identify creative methods to recruit and retain nurses to the perioperative specialty.

Initiatives

1. Explore creative methods of recruitment of novice and experienced nurses to the perioperative specialty.
 2. Develop resources to assist educators and managers/directors in recruitment and retention.
 3. Develop a template for succession planning for key management positions in the operating room.
 4. Develop options for utilizing retired or soon to be retired perioperative nurses in facilities.
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Scholarship Committee

Please note: As a member of the Scholarship Committee, you are not eligible to apply for grants or scholarships from AORN.

Purpose

Evaluate and identify qualified AORN Scholarship recipients.

Initiatives

1. Review and score applications and award Academic scholarships consistent with criteria specified by donor.
 2. Review and score applications for Professional Development Grants, including:
 - a. ORX grants.
 - b. CNOR/CSSM grants
 - c. Expo grants
 3. Highlight current and past scholarship recipients and their accomplishments (i.e., Periop Today, AORN Global Surgical Conference & Expo, etc.)
 4. The chair will be the signer of the campaign letters to engage past recipients.
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Task Force to Define the Role of DNP's in Perioperative Services

Purpose

The role of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) prepared nurse has not been clearly articulated or widely explored for perioperative services and therefore the value DNP nurses bring to the practice settings is largely unknown. The knowledge gap includes practicing nurses considering advancing their education to the DNP degree and the institution considering hiring a DNP.

Initiatives

1. Explore and define how the role of the DNP prepared nurse is being operationalized in perioperative services compared to other clinical nurse leaders, advance practice nurses (APRN) MSN, MBA and PhD.
2. What is the suggested placement of the DNP in a Clinical Ladder?
3. Identify the role of the DNP in relationship to, but not exclusively, with responsibility in: evidence-based practice, quality improvement, systems leader, coaching and mentoring.
4. Identify if there is flexibility in this role that is not identified with other advance practice roles in perioperative services.

Expected outcome:

1. White paper to assist perioperative DNP prepared nurses to actualize the DNP role.
 2. Provide direction (assist) to healthcare organizations on how to effectively utilize DNP prepared nurses in perioperative services.
 3. Job description for DNP in perioperative services.
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Workplace Civility Task Force

Purpose:

Workplace incivility remains an issue of significant concern in nursing. Working together with other nursing associations AORN can engage in creating solutions to this issue. This task force will be a joint effort with ASPAN to review the issue of workplace incivility, review and revise relevant position statements and provide direction for the work to address this issue.

Initiatives:

1. Review the relevant AANA, AORN & ASPAN position statements related to workplace civility issues.
2. Create and disseminate a joint statement on Nurse Civility in the perioperative and perianesthesia workspace.
3. Recommend and revision to these position statements to each of the Board of Directors.
4. Determine what member resources are necessary to support a healthy workplace and decrease the incidence and impact of incivility.
5. Develop a joint white paper for publication in the AANA, AORN & ASPAN journals on the issue of workplace civility and its impact on nurses and patients.
6. Submit proposals for presentation to the AANA annual congress, the AORN annual expo and the ASPAN annual conference on the work of the task force.

