Nursing Shared Governance 2020 Elections

All LPNs, RNs and APRNs are encouraged to vote in the Nursing Shared Governance 2020 elections! Voting involves selecting your choice of candidate (or endorsing the only candidate) for the following roles:

- Chair of Nursing Shared Governance
- LPN Cabinet Representative
- Direct Care RN - Lebanon Cabinet Representative
- Direct Care RN - Community Group Practice Cabinet Representative
- APRN Cabinet Representative
- Nurse Manager Cabinet Representative

Learn more about the candidates on the intranet here.

Please vote by midnight online here on Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Chair of Nursing Shared Governance

The Chair of Nursing Practice Governance (NPG) partners with Chief Nursing Officer Karen Clements, RN, FACHE, to lead the Cabinet and represents the D-H nursing community as a whole in nursing and inter-professional bodies including the Board of Governors and Quality Committee. The Chair has a unique opportunity to influence decision-making, make a difference for all nurses and gain organizational-level experience, while maintaining the perspective of a direct care clinician.

The Chair serves for a three-year term, dedicating approximately 16-20 hours per month to the role.

Pamela Rice, BSN, RN, CPN, Clinical Nurse - Child Development, Pediatric Clinic, Lebanon

I am interested in the role of the Chair of Nurse Practice Governance because I feel my nursing experience and Practice Governance work would serve Dartmouth-Hitchcock Nurses well as they work and grow their careers at D-H.

I have been a nurse for 34 years in a variety of roles and settings and I have worked at DHMC for the past sixteen years. I have been a member of the Nurse Practice Governance Councils since 2013. I have enjoyed my Practice Governance work and feel like it enhances my practice and professional development allowing me to have my voice heard and to represent other colleagues. My experience has ranged from member to Co-Chair and now current Chair of the Nursing Recognition and Professional Development Council.
Throughout my years in Nursing Practice Governance I have been honored to work with extraordinary nurses on the development of the Professional Practice Model, Nursing dress code, nursing mission, vision and values statement, nursing recognition and awards both at D-H and in New Hampshire, and specialty certification. Our current council work includes developing a peer review program and planning for professional advancement opportunities for nurses. I am proud to work on such important issues for D-H nurses to support, recognize and enrich their practice.

I would be privileged to serve as Chair of Nursing Practice Governance and would continue to advocate and advance nursing with a strong voice collaborating with nurses and other disciplines here at D-H. I would like to see each nurse understand and feel a connection to our new Professional Practice Model and embrace the values of D-H nursing. I would like to work together to strengthen our practice governance structure to promote a strong D-H nursing community that fosters growth, professionalism and excellent patient care.

Watch Pam’s interview with Chief Nursing Officer Karen Clements, RN, FACHE
Candidates for LPN Cabinet Representative

The LPN representative serves for a two-year-term and participates in monthly Cabinet meetings. Candidates for LPN representative include:

- Jessica Kennedy, LPN, Urgent Care, Nashua
- Stephen Leets, LPN, Orthopaedics, Nashua
- Jennifer Varney, LPN, 5 West Neuroscience, Lebanon

Jessica Kennedy, LPN, Urgent Care, Nashua

I would like to be considered for this position to see what I can learn to improve about myself not only as an individual, but as a nurse and be able to bring this back to my department.

As an LPN in Urgent Care, I have taken the role of shift leader for the day including on weekends. I GREATLY enjoy being able to help my coworkers with their questions about how things are run in the department, or just answering general questions which have been passed down by the manager. I enjoy training others who are new to the department. I have attained special training, which is not required for the department, but helpful for patient care. I have attended yellow belt training, which allowed for us to have a better code response bag. I am slowly completing classes additional leadership classes in Halogen.

Stephen Leets, LPN, Orthopaedics, Nashua

I imagine that the decisions of the Governance Cabinet are ideally implemented to be advantageous and beneficial to employees and patients alike. As a 12 year employee of Dartmouth-Hitchcock, I know that it is part of my duty as an LPN to assist in guiding those decisions to help make D-H a health care destination that I can continue to be proud of, and where I would be confident to recommend to family and friends.

Jennifer Varney, LPN, 5 West Neuroscience, Lebanon

I have enjoyed getting to know everyone on 5 West Neuro and helping to create the LPN role within the unit. There have been ups and downs, but moving forward I am excited to see what comes next. I am excited to help continue to advance this role on my unit as well as in other units in the hospital and changing the stigma that LPNs are not nurses in the hospital, as I have found some RNs don’t consider us nurses too. I am excited to continue to show how valuable LPN are to the hospital and how we can help make their life easier in this era of COVID and shortage of nurses.
Candidates for Direct Care RN – Lebanon Cabinet Representative

The Direct Care RN – Lebanon representative serves for a two-year-term and participates in monthly Cabinet meetings.

Adam Stillman, BSN, RN, Clinical Nurse, ICCU/CSCU and System Staffing Office, Lebanon

Now in my fourth year as an RN at DHMC, I believe that we should strive to improve the care of our patients. However, the care of the staff is equally important in ensuring Nurses are able to provide adequate care. As the current elected RN member of the NPG Cabinet, we have made great strides to improving RN health, provide opportunities to relax and have fun as well as extend the activities to alternative shifts, such as night and weekend staff members. If elected again, I will continue these goals as well as look to expand the healthy opportunities, bring nurses together socially, as well as encourage a stronger team atmosphere at D-H.

Candidates for Direct Care RN – CGP Cabinet Representative

The Direct Care RN – Community Group Practice representative serves for a two-year-term and participates in monthly Cabinet meetings.

Julie Percy, RN-BC, Care Coordinator, Primary Care, Concord

I am interested in becoming a member of the Nursing Practice Governance Cabinet because I am passionate about ambulatory nurses and new graduate nurses. I am interested in advocating for an ambulatory new graduate nurse onboarding program modeled after the inpatient onboarding program. I would like to encourage early career employees to advance their education in nursing and to grow their career at D-H in the ambulatory setting. I would like to encourage the organization to consider a comprehensive ambulatory onboarding program for new grads, which includes intensive inpatient rounds at our hospital in Lebanon and time to orient and train in ambulatory nursing in our community group practice locations. This is just one example of my passion and energy to become more involved with our organization to increase patient and employee satisfaction.
Candidates for APRN Cabinet Representative

The APRN representative serves for a two-year-term and participates in monthly Cabinet meetings.

**Lindsay Benton, APRN, Pediatric Primary Care, Concord**

I am a hard-working nurse practitioner who is dedicated to advocating for children and families, which I have been doing since becoming an RN 8 years ago. I would love to take my passion for advocacy and apply it to D-H's amazing team of nurses to help advance nursing practice within our system and provide what is needed to all the nurses who work so hard to care for our patients and families. I see, every day, the true meaning of the art and science of nursing and I am motivated to use this to help drive positive change within Dartmouth-Hitchcock for all of the nurses that work here. I am very interested in making a difference for the amazing D-H nurses!

Candidates for Nurse Manager Cabinet Representative

The Nurse Manager representative serves for a two-year-term and participates in monthly Cabinet meetings.

**Ivy Park, BSN, RN-BC, OCN, Unit Nurse Manager, Hem-Oncology Inpatient Unit, Lebanon**

Hello, I am Anna “Ivy” Parks and I am the Unit Nurse Manager of 1 West Hematology-Oncology Inpatient Unit and Hematology Cellular Therapy. My passion for the Nursing Practice Governance Council and past experiences in nursing has led me to apply for the Nurse Manager Representative position in the Nursing Practice Governance Cabinet.

In the last 18+ years of my nursing career, I worked in Medicine, General Surgery, Surgical Oncology, Hematology, Oncology, and Stem Cell Transplant. I have spent 3+ years in a nursing leadership role. I was also an active member of the Nursing Excellence Committee and have given assistance in The DAISY Award, LNA of the Year, and the creation of our previous Professional Practice Model. I have always supported the Practice Area Council, Safety and Quality, Patient Outcomes, Nursing Certification and Nursing Education.

Earning a seat as a Nurse Manager Representative will allow me to actively participate in Acute Care Council activities and be a bridge to the dynamic D-H Leadership Team. This will ensure a smooth flow of information and avenue for future collaborative efforts. It will be an honor to be able to serve my fellow D-H nurses in a broader scope. I humbly solicit your support. Thank you so much for your interest.