



American Board of
Perianesthesia Nursing
Certification, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ABPANC Elects New Members to the 2011 – 2012 Board of Directors

NEW YORK (May 24, 2011)—The American Board of Perianesthesia Nursing Certification, Inc. (ABPANC) announced today that the Board of Directors has elected new leadership for 2011 – 2012.

“The strength of our organization is built on the combined expertise of both experienced leaders and new ones who contribute their knowledge, dedication and passion for nursing to ABPANC and our certificant community,” Kathy Paskewitz, RN, CPAN®, current ABPANC President, said. “We are honored to welcome new volunteer leaders who embody the qualities our organization needs to achieve our future goals.”

Candidates for the ABPANC Board of Directors help to develop and guide the organization’s programs to achieve its vision of “Recognizing and respecting the unequaled excellence in the mark of the CPAN® and CAPA® credential, perianesthesia nurses will seek it, managers will require it, employers will support it and the public will demand it.”

Directors demonstrate a variety of leadership qualities including:

- Integrity
- Conceptual thinking
- Impact and influence
- Initiative
- Organizational commitment
- Teamwork and cooperation
- Customer Service orientation
- Excellent verbal, written and interpersonal skills
- Relationship Building

The ABPANC Board elected Deidre Cronin, BSN, RN, CPAN® to serve as President-Elect. Cronin earned the CPAN® certification in 1988 and the CAPA® certification in 1994. Her career spans more than 30 years, with 26 years of experience in a wide variety of clinical and administrative leadership positions including 16 years in the United States Navy Nurse Corps, from which she retired as a Lieutenant Commander. Cronin has become a strong supporter of professional development and active participation in professional organizations in the field of perianesthesia nursing.

“I have a broad range of nursing and leadership experience that I believe will be a valuable contribution to the ABPANC Board,” Cronin, who currently works at Suburban Hospital

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in Bethesda, MD, said. "I consider bedside nursing an honor and hope to share my passion for our field with current and future certificants."

In addition to the position of President-Elect, the Board also elected four new directors for 2011 – 2012 including Patricia Bouchard, RN, CAPA®, Annette Brancati, RN, CPAN®, Cheryl Coleman, BSN, RN, CPAN® and Laura Williams, RN, MS, CPAN®.

"We conduct an extensive process to select leaders who possess the competencies to be successful within our organizational culture," Paskewitz said. "These candidates exhibited not only their support of nursing certification but also their expertise as leaders to inspire the ABPANC certificant community into action."

Bouchard recently retired as manager of an ambulatory surgery center at Dartmouth Hitchcock in Manchester, NH. In this role, she worked to promote a safe, proficient environment of patient care based on standards, improve physician and staff relationships, increase productivity, and meet financial budgetary requirements.

"I believe my strength lies in problem solving and staff management through empowerment and clinical expertise in ambulatory perianesthesia nursing," Bouchard, who previously served two years of a three-year term on the ABPANC Board, said. "My goal is to contribute professionalism and quality to the ABPANC Board, promoting an atmosphere of excellence and recognizing the potential for personal growth."

Brancati is a Staff Nurse PACU at the Palmetto Health Baptist Hospital in Columbia, SC. She was one of the first nurses in her unit to earn the CPAN® credential and has since served as a leader to other nurses interested in certification. Approximately 68 percent of her fellow nurses are now certified.

"I am excited to donate my time, knowledge and energy to participate on the ABPANC Board of Directors," Brancati said. "Personally, I try to continue to learn something new every day, to be a strong leader and to be an advocate for certification and excellent patient care."

Coleman currently serves as Clinical Nurse IV at the Tuomey Healthcare System in Sumter, SC, where she has worked since 1983. A CPAN® certified nurse herself Coleman has demonstrated a strong commitment to specialty nursing certification. She is often asked the question, "Why should I get certified when I don't receive a financial reward?"

"My answer is always one that focuses on the patient," Coleman explained. "Earn certification because you want to provide the best care possible for your patients. Earn certification because you want to show you are at the top of your game."

Williams currently serves as the Manager of Perioperative Operations at Presbyterian Hospital in Charlotte, NC, a position she has held since 2010. She received her Bachelor's and Master's of Science in Nursing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1998 and 2008, respectively.

"I believe in what I do every day, and I believe that it matters," Williams, who is a strong supporter of certification, said. "Certification proves that I am competent do my job and shows the public I have gone the extra mile to care for their loved ones."

The new officers and directors will begin their terms on July 1, 2011.

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The American Board of Perianesthesia Nursing Certification, Inc., (ABPANC) is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1985 for the purpose of providing certification programs for qualified registered nurses caring for patients who have experienced sedation, analgesia, and anesthesia. APBANC sponsors the Certified Post Anesthesia Nurse (CPAN®) and the Certified Ambulatory Perianesthesia Nurse (CAPA®) programs. ABPANC's programs and services are focused on achieving its mission and vision. Currently there are nearly 10,000 CPAN® and CAPA® certified nurses.

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The CPAN® and CAPA® examination programs are accredited by the American Board of Nursing Specialties (ABNS).