

2023 Board Nominations Slate Board of Directors



Carol Wallman, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC

DNP, Regis University, Denver, CO

MSN, University of Colorado

NNP Certificate, University of Colorado, and the Children’s Hospital
of Denver, CO

BSN, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Current Position

Associate Professor and Coordinator of the NNP Program
Loretta Heights School of Nursing
Regis University, Denver, CO

NCC Certification

Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP-BC) since 1989

NCC Involvement

NCC NNP Content Team Member
NCC Board of Directors (2020–present)
President of NCC Board of Directors (2022–present)

Candidate Statement

I am respectfully putting my name forward as a candidate for continuation as President of the Board of Directors for the National Certification Corporation, (NCC) effective January 2023. I have learned a great deal during this first year of service as President and would be honored to continuing to serve in this role. My support for the mission, vision, and values of NCC have only strengthened during the past year and I would be honored to continue.

As I stated in my initial candidate statement, my relationship with NCC began in 1989 when I was first certified as a neonatal nurse practitioner. I maintain my certification to this date and have been actively involved with NCC since 2014. First, I was a member of the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Certification Exam Content Expert Team, followed by appointment to the NCC Board of Directors in 2020. My appreciation for the impact NCC has on elevating professional practice and patient outcomes has escalated throughout my career.

In addition to my service to NCC, I have been involved in a variety of professional leadership positions. Each has provided me with opportunities to grow in my leadership abilities. These opportunities have included serving on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN), multiple national committees and task forces, the Nurse in Washington Internship program and, serving as the nurse liaison to the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Fetus and Newborn for six years. I enjoyed the interprofessional nature of

this particular liaison role and took an active role in the development of many position statements including the classification and definition of the late preterm infant.

Additionally, my scholarship of application has centered around perinatal substance use disorders and the impact on the fetus and newborn. This has led to multiple regional, national, and international podium presentations, policy development and position statements. I have served on an interprofessional statewide Substance Exposed Newborn Steering Committee in the Colorado Attorney General's Office for several years.

Currently, I am an Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Program at Regis University in Denver, Colorado. I have the support of my employer to commit the necessary time to actively serve in the role of President for NCC.

In summary, I believe my years of professional experience and my commitment to the NCC mission, vision, and values position me well to serve NCC as President. I would be honored to do so.





Tonnyann T. Swinton DNP, NPD-BC, RNC-OB C-EFM, C-ONQS

DNP University of Alabama, Mobile, AL
MSN University of Alabama, Mobile, AL
BSN New York University, New York, NY

Current Position

Division Vice President Clinical Education, Center for Clinical Advancement
HCA Healthcare, Central West Texas Division
Pearland, TX

NCC Certification

Inpatient Obstetric Nurse (RNC-OB) since 2004
Electronic Fetal Monitoring (C-EFM) since 2006
Obstetric and Neonatal Quality and Safety (C-ONQS) since 2021

NCC Involvement

Inpatient Obstetric Nursing Content Team
NCC Board of Directors (2020–present)

Candidate Statement

Please accept this letter as a demonstration of my continued interest in serving on the National Certification Corporation (NCC) board of directors. I believe both my professional and personal values align well with the vision of the NCC of a healthcare system transformed by professionals who are certified.

As my attached resume reflects the experience in clinical sphere of clinical professional development and certification support is varied. My passions include clinical competency and professional development, patient safety, and evidence-based practice to enhance or design education initiatives. Over the past 26 years, I have practiced in a wide variety of clinical environments ranging from low risk to high risk obstetric academic medical centers.

Currently, I serve as the Vice President for Clinical Education supporting St. David's and HCA Healthcare. I have integrated my passions, strong verbal and written communication skills, detail-oriented approach to administrative duties, and the ability to manage multiple tasks concurrently to lead a team of more than 50 clinical educators across nine hospitals across central and west Texas. I have also had the opportunity to influence the profession of nursing by working in national committees in a number of volunteer capacities.

Combined I believe that my exceptional skills and knowledge will continue to serve well to support the NCC's initiatives to provide certification examinations that are in line with national perinatal and neonatal priorities.



CYNTHIA F. KRENING, MS, RNC-OB, C-EFM

MSN, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver, CO
BSN, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO

Current Position

Perinatal Clinical Nurse Specialist
St. Joseph Hospital, Denver, CO

NCC Certification

Inpatient Obstetric Nursing (RNC-OB), 1988 – Present
Electronic Fetal Monitoring (C-EFM), 1998 – Present

NCC Involvement

Electronic Fetal Monitoring Content Team
Inpatient Obstetric Nursing Content Team

Candidate Statement

Cyndy received her Inpatient Obstetrics certification from NCC in 1988, and her sub-certification in Electronic Fetal Monitoring in 1998. She served on the NCC content team for Inpatient OB from 1991-2004, learning much about the rigor and quality of NCC certification exams. Additionally, she served on the Electronic Fetal Monitor content team from 2000-2004, and rejoined the team in 2018, where she is currently serving. Cyndy is known for her promotion of evidence-based care of perinatal patients, and brings that knowledge base to her work with NCC. She is passionate about certification, which elevates clinical practice through validation of knowledge within our specialties. She values the mission and vision of the National Certification Corporation, which is a leader within the certification marketplace, maintaining numerous nursing specialty exams with integrity over time. Cyndy continually nurtures newer nurses to consider certification as the next step in their professional growth as well as provides ongoing continuing education opportunities to incumbent nurses maintaining their certification through education.

Cyndy Krening, holds a BSN and a master’s degree as a perinatal clinical nurse specialist. She has worked in the inpatient obstetric setting for 40 years in both tertiary teaching, and community hospitals as an L&D staff nurse, charge nurse, manager, outreach coordinator, high-risk OB flight nurse and perinatal clinical nurse specialist. Cyndy currently works as a perinatal CNS at Saint Joseph Hospital, a large, busy teaching hospital in urban Denver.

Cyndy has been active in AWHONN locally and nationally many of the 37 years she’s been a member, serving on the national education, practice, public policy and section advisory committees, as the Colorado section chair, and two terms on the national Board of Directors. She was the AWHONN 2021 President. Cyndy has contributed to AWHONN publications, position statements and books, and has been a speaker at many AWHONN state conferences and annual conventions. Cyndy is published, on the editorial board of The Journal of Perinatal and Neonatal Nursing, and has served on the Colorado Maternal Mortality committee for over 20 years.





SUSAN A. HOFFMAN, BSN, RNC-MNN, RNC-OB

BS, York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA
BA, Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, PA

Current Position

Clinical Manager of Family Birthplace
Carroll Hospital Center
Westminster, MD

NCC Certification

Maternal Newborn Nursing (RNC-MNN), 2012 – Present
Inpatient Obstetric Nursing (RNC-OB), 2021 - Present

NCC Involvement

Maternal Newborn Nursing Content Team

Candidate Statement

I am writing because I would like to be considered to serve on the NCC board. Certification in Maternal Newborn Nursing and Inpatient Obstetrics has opened doors for me. I first learned about NCC because I wanted to advance on our clinical ladder, and certification was required. Studying and passing each test has given me more knowledge and confidence in my nursing skills. As a result, I have had opportunities I wouldn't have otherwise had. I have served on the MNN content writing team since 2017. I helped create a poster on skin-to-skin care in the OR, and I was able to take it to the Pennsylvania State and national AWHONN conventions. I participated in the Sigma Theta Tau Leadership program and presented a poster at their national convention. As a bedside nurse at a community hospital, I never would have thought that I would have such amazing opportunities to learn, grow, and help advance the nursing profession.

If you would consider me for the board, here is what I can offer. First, I am representative of the nurses who take the NCC exams. While I am the Clinical Manager of Family Birthplace at Carroll Hospital, I was a bedside nurse until July 2021. I don't have my master's, I am not in education, but I am committed to providing the best nursing care to our maternity patients. I believe that I could bring a different voice to the board, one that embodies the nurses most likely to become certified.

In addition to having 2 certifications, I plan to take the Electronic Fetal Monitoring Test in the next month. I value becoming certified, and I encourage those around me to do the same. Certification validates the skills nurse have, and I believe anyone committed to providing great patient care in the obstetrical setting should obtain at least one certification.

Becoming certified has opened doors for me, and I would like to serve on the board out of gratitude for the opportunities I have had. I would like the chance to be a part of helping open doors for other highly qualified nurse.





Eric Stanley Peeples, M.D., Ph.D., C-NNIC

Ph.D., Clinical & Translational Research, University of Nebraska Medical Center,
Omaha, NE
MD, Creighton University, Omaha, NE
BS, Creighton University, Omaha, NE

Current Position

Associate Professor, University of Nebraska Medical Center
Medical Director, Neonatal Neuroscience ICU, Children’s Hospital & Medical Center
Attending Neonatologist, Children’s Hospital & Medical Center
Omaha, NE

NCC Certification

Neonatal Neuro-Intensive Care (C-NNIC), 2020 – Present

NCC Involvement

Author and Editor – Handbook of Neonatal Neurology

Candidate Statement

I am very honored and thrilled to be considered for a position on the NCC Board of Directors. As you may already know, I have been working with the NCC in various roles since 2018 when I initially assisted one of my colleagues with writing potential questions for the development of the C-NNIC examination. I was then in the first cohort to take the C-NNIC examination in 2020, and most recently I wrote the chapter on hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy for the Neurological Care of the Neonate Handbook and have since stepped in as one of the editors for the book as well. I can honestly say that I have enjoyed every interaction that I have had with the NCC so far and am very excited to be able to expand my interactions as a member of the board.

In my current position at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and Children’s Hospital and Medical Center, most of my clinical and research efforts focus on the care of newborns with brain injury. Both my research and clinical role as the medical director for our Neonatal Neuroscience ICU have provided me with considerable experience in neonatal transport and the care of both the extremely low birth weight and neuro-intensive care populations; all of which should be directly relevant to several of the current NCC examination offerings.

I hope that my experience and passion for quality improvement and peer education will add to the great multidisciplinary expertise already represented on the board. I very much look forward to the opportunity to continue serving the NCC in its mission to elevate clinical practice through certification and validation of subspecialty knowledge. Please let me know if there is anything further that I can provide in support of this letter.

Certified Nurse Representative to the Nominating Committee



Jean Salera-Vieria, DNP, PNS, APRN-CNS, RNC-OB, C-EFM, C-ONQS

DNP Rhode Island College, Providence, RI
Post-MS Certificate, PNS, University of Washington, Seattle, WA,
MSN, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI
BSN, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI
BA in Social Work, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH

Current Position

Director, Clinical Program Development
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN)
1800 M Street, NW, Suite 740S, Washington, DC 20036
Adjunct Faculty Rhode Island College
Providence, RI

NCC Certification

Inpatient Obstetric Nursing (RNC-OB), 2002–Present
Electronic Fetal Monitoring (C-EFM), 2002–Present
Obstetric and Neonatal Quality and Safety (C-ONQS), 2020 – Present

NCC Involvement

Nominations Committee
Inpatient Obstetric Content Team
NCC Board of Directors (2014–2019)
Served on the Policy Review Committee

Candidate Statement

Thank you for the opportunity to continue working with the NCC Board of Directors through the work of the Nominating Committee. I am interested in continuing to serve as member of the Nominating Committee and ask for your consideration to continue in this role. Work with the Nominating Committee provides a venue to continue to bring forth high quality Board members, which helps to shape the future work of NCC.

