



PAPN TEXAS

PSYCHIATRIC ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES OF TEXAS



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As we step into the final months of the year, we're energized by what lies ahead and proud of the progress we've made. Our recent elections were unanimously approved, and we're delighted to welcome our newly elected members—and extend an invitation to you to join us in leadership too. In this edition, you'll find the full election results and learn about exciting open roles within our organization. Let's finish this year strong and prepare together for a bright year ahead.

— Amy Owens Horelica, Communications Chair



PRESIDENT-ELECT INTRO

The Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurses of Texas (PAPN Texas) is honored to welcome **Dr. Michelle Hext, DNP, APRN, CPNP-BC, FNP-C, ENP-C, PMHNP-BC**, as our President-Elect. Dr. Hext brings exceptional depth of clinical expertise, academic leadership, and advocacy experience to the organization. Her commitment to advancing mental health care for children and families, alongside her broad multidisciplinary background, reflects the mission and vision of PAPN Texas in promoting excellence, collaboration, and compassionate care across the state.



Michelle Hext, DNP, APRN, CPNP-BC, FNP-C, ENP-C, PMHNP-BC
President-Elect

Dr. Michelle Hext earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice at The University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. She is a clinical assistant professor at The University of Texas at Tyler in the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program. She is a quadruple board certified in pediatrics, family practice, emergency trauma, and mental health. Dr. Hext is the owner and CEO of a thriving mental health practice where she provides medical and psychiatric care to children. Dr. Hext's experience includes pediatric and adult primary care, urgent care, emergency/trauma care, and psychiatry. She has been teaching at the collegiate level since 2017. She serves as a Legislative Ambassador for Texas Nurse Practitioners, Vice President of the Southeast Texas Nurse Practitioner Board, and on the Hardin County Child Protective Services Board. She has a passion for children, and her research interests center around pediatric mental health.

Dr. Hext's passion for advancing mental health care and supporting the next generation of nurse practitioners reflects the very heart of PAPN Texas. As she steps into the role of President-Elect, we are confident her leadership will continue to strengthen our community, foster collaboration, and inspire growth among our members. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Hext to the PAPN Texas Executive Board — we look forward to all the exciting progress ahead under her guidance.



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ELECTION RESULTS



We're thrilled to share exciting news from our recent bylaws vote and elections — all of which were unanimously approved by our membership! These updates strengthen our organization, streamline leadership, and support continued collaboration across our statewide community.

As part of these changes, PAPN Texas will move from six Regional Representatives to four Members-at-Large, creating broader representation and flexibility in responding to the needs of our members. Please join us in congratulating our newly elected Members-at-Large:

- Stella Logan – Term ending 2027
- Michelle Stewart – Term ending 2026
- Becky Spencer – Term ending 2027
- Toni Brent – Term ending 2026

In addition, the Vice President role has transitioned to a President-Elect position to support leadership continuity and mentorship. We are proud to welcome Dr. Michelle Hext, DNP, APRN, CPNP-BC, FNP-C, ENP-C, PMHNP-BC, as our new President-Elect. Dr. Hext brings deep clinical and academic experience, a passion for pediatric mental health, and a strong commitment to advancing psychiatric nursing across Texas.

We also extend our appreciation to Becky Spencer for her continued dedication; she will serve both as a Member-at-Large and on the Legislative Committee, supporting our advocacy efforts statewide.

These changes reflect the unity and momentum of our membership as we continue strengthening our profession and elevating psychiatric nursing across Texas.



GET INVOLVED

As we celebrate our recent election results and bylaw updates, we're also excited to share new opportunities for members to get involved in shaping the future of PAPN Texas! Our organization thrives on the dedication, creativity, and leadership of our members—and now is the perfect time to step forward and make a meaningful impact.

We currently have two open leadership positions:

- **Conference/Education Committee Chair** – Ideal for members passionate about continuing education and event planning. This role helps organize our annual conference and educational programming that keep members inspired and informed.
- **Nominations Committee Chair** – A vital position overseeing the nominations and election process. This leader helps identify and encourage emerging talent within our membership, ensuring a strong foundation for future leadership.

Serving in a leadership role is a rewarding way to grow professionally, collaborate with peers across the state, and contribute to advancing psychiatric nursing in Texas. If you're interested in learning more or would like to be considered for one of these positions, please reach out—we'd love to hear from you!

For more details or to express interest contact us at lisa.anderson@papntexas.org



First Year PMHNP Support

The 1st Year PMHNP Support Group meets by Zoom teleconferencing on the 2nd Thursday of each month. The general goals of the group are to: 1) provide support and encouragement for new PMHNPs, 2) discuss reasonable pay and workplace conditions, and 3) to network with colleagues.

ONGOING SUPPORT



Private Practice Support

Whether you're just starting to think about private practice or looking to scale, you're welcome here. Join us every third Thursday for real strategies, valuable insights, and supportive connection. No matter where you are in the journey, you don't have to do it alone!

Case Consultation

Case consultations are back and now happening every fourth Tuesday of the month!

Bring your urgent cases for insightful group discussion, and dive into relevant journal club articles with fellow professionals. It's a space for collaborative learning, fresh perspectives, and elevating patient care together.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Board Officers - Elected - Term Ends

President - Lisa Anderson - 2026

Past President - Sherry Grogan - 2025

President Elect - Michelle Hext - 2028

Secretary - Kaylie Dozier Joachim - 2026

Treasurer - Linzi Leighton - 2027

For more details or to express interest
contact us at lisa.anderson@papntexas.org

Representatives At Large - Elected - Terms Ends

Stella Logan - 2027

Meshel Stewert - 2026

Becky Spencer - 2027

Toni Brent - 2026

Board Appointed Positions

Communications Committee Chair - Amy Owens Horelica - 2026

Education Committee Chair - **OPEN**

Legislative Chair - Becky Spencer - 2026

Membership Committee Chair - Martina Gallagher - 2026

Nominations Committee Chair - **OPEN**

Student Representative - Katie Hanel - 2026

Conference Committee Chair - **OPEN**

Non Voting Attendees

First Year Practice Group Chair - Justin Cullers

Private Practice Group Chairs - Sherry Grogan

Case Consultation Chair - Wanda Hilliard



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