GVNA Election Slate 2021

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**Statement from Michelle Y. Smith for GVNA Secretary 2021-2023**

I enjoy being an active member of the Legislative Committee and believe running for the secretary position of GVNA would be an opportunity to expand my involvement in this professional organization. This is my first time running for a secretary position and would be excited to take on the responsibility of this role.

Professional background: I have been a Nurse since 2012, when I graduated from SUNY Brockport with my BSN. I worked for 5 years at Strong Memorial Hospital on the Cardiac Care Unit and Ambulatory Neurology until graduating with my FNP degree from the University of Rochester in 2017. I have worked as a Nurse Practitioner at Highland Family Medicine, and now currently at URMC Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in the clinic and operating room, where I am currently undergoing training as an RN First Assist in the OR.

**Statement from Pam Smith for GVNA Communications Liaison 2021-2023**

I have enjoyed being an active member of the GVNA Board of Directors for the past 4 years, serving as Secretary. I would like to continue my involvement in GVNA as the Communications Director. Over the past decade, mechanisms for communicating have changed dramatically. GVNA has numerous options for communicating with current members and reaching out to new potential members. If elected, I would like to work with the Board to determine the most efficient and effective ways to use technology to increase GVNA's presence in the community of registered professional nurses in the greater Rochester area and beyond. I would be excited to take on this challenge.

Professional background: I graduated from SUNY Upstate Medical Center in 1977 as a member of their last associate degree class. I received my BSN from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, my MS from SUNY Buffalo's CNS program, and my DNP from the University of Rochester. I have worked in critical care, staff development, information technology, and until recently was the director of the RN-BS program at St. John Fisher College. In March 2020 I stepped down as program director but continue to teach as an adjunct faculty member in the RN-BS program, coordinating the Evidence-Based Practice course. I have a second MS in Library and Information Science, so the EBP course allows me to combine my knowledge of information science with nursing practice to help guide students in their own journey toward evidence based practice.

**Statement from Laura Markwick for GVNA Program Chairperson 2021-2023**

I believe that education is life long, and in integral part of a professional career. I have worked on the Programs Committee for many years and enjoy organizing quality events for nurses. I would be honored to continue in this role, working with the Programs Committee to provide education that will inform our members and nonmembers alike.

Professional background: Laura is a Family Nurse Practitioner with a private practice in Rochester, NY. She received her BS in nursing from the University of Vermont and her MS and DNP from St John Fisher College. She has worked as an Assistant Professor of Nursing at St John Fisher College for many years and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Buffalo. She is active on several professional organizations, including AANP, The NPA of NY, and GVNA. Laura has served GVNA in the past in several different roles, including President and Programs Chair.

**Statement from Thomas Bonfiglio for GVNA Director-at-Large 2021-2023**

I have worked in and around health care for over 30 years, first as a hospital orderly at age 16. My career has taken a winding path, from direct patient care roles in emergency medical services (EMS) to executive management, including international assignments. In 2019, I made the important decision to restart my clinical career through the Accelerated Bachelor’s Program for Non-nurses at University of Rochester. Since becoming licensed in 2020, I have been working in the Emergency Department at SMH. Throughout my years in EMS, I participated in numerous regulatory and non-profit boards related to emergency services and public safety. I am passionate about not only what we do in a hands-on capacity but how we are viewed and how we interact with each other professionally, with our health care colleagues, the government and the community at large. I believe that I can leverage my past experiences to support my new profession but first, I am seeking the opportunity to listen and learn. Serving as a GVNA Director-at-Large will allow me to acclimate myself to the issues facing Nursing locally, regionally, and nationally; it will also augment my participation as a recently appointed member of ANA-NY’s legislative committee. If appointed, I hope to contribute thoughtfully and in accordance with the Association’s Mission to “foster high standards of nursing practice and promote the professional and educational advancement of nurses throughout the seven-county region of greater Rochester.” Thank you for your consideration.