

ENRS Candidate Statements

President-Elect

Susan DeSanto-Mayeda

It would be an honor to serve as the president-elect for the Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS). Since becoming an active member as a PhD student over 25 years ago, I have grown as a nurse scientist in large part because of this organization.

My goals for ENRS as president-elect are to expand upon its strong legacy and mission by: continuing to grow the diversity of our members across academic, clinical and community settings – promoting inclusivity and belonging; fostering partnerships and programs amongst members, RIGs and other organizations to facilitate collaborations to advance nursing science; work with leadership and RIGs to create varied opportunities for engagement of all members throughout the year, and recruit and retain emerging and seasoned nurse scientists.

As a member, I have been a co-chair for the Family/Community-Based Participatory RIG for over 10 years, have mentored new RIG chairs, led ENRS workshops and symposiums, served on the conference planning committee for over 5 conferences, and was recognized for my palliative care research with the Suzanne Feetham Nurse Scientist Family Research Award.

I have been in academia for over 30 years and a Nurse Scientist within a major Medical Center for 15 years. I have held multiple leadership roles, received sustained federal and foundational research funding, mentored and collaborated with novice and experienced researchers, and forged interprofessional research and educational relationships.

Anne Mitchell

I am excited to run for president-elect of ENRS, where I treasure my time growing with the organization over the past 15 years. It has been an honor to serve in these capacities: Membership Committee and chair (2018-2021), Organizational Committee member (2021-2023), Secretary (2023-2025), and planning committees for four conferences. I have served and will continue to serve ENRS because I believe in its value.

As I continue to envision an organization dedicated to the career growth for all its members, my leadership goals include:

- Collaboration: Design dual memberships with other regional nursing science societies to leverage collaborative opportunities
- Growth: Expand the network of health system nurse scientists to ENRS
- Connection: Bridge membership interests with other nursing organizations.
- Engagement: Build the ENRS brand to align areas of inquiry with foundation research funding sources to benefit our membership.
- Mentorship: Leverage the wealth of research among our experienced nurse scientists.

I would appreciate your vote for me. I value the contributions of all ENRS members—from BSN students presenting posters to the most experienced nurse scientists. As ENRS nears its fourth decade, we all contribute to the ENRS vision statement to be the premier organization for the advancement of nursing science.

Esma Paljevic

As a candidate for President-Elect of the Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS), my goal is to lead with a collaborative, inclusive, and strategic vision that supports ENRS's mission to empower a diverse community of scholars dedicated to advancing nursing science. I bring over two decades of academic leadership, including my current roles as Associate Dean of Nursing, Interim Co-Dean of a College of Health Professions, and Principal Investigator on a \$2.2 million HRSA Nursing Workforce Diversity grant.

My qualifications reflect a deep commitment to health equity, mentorship, and building research capacity. I have successfully led interdisciplinary initiatives, supported faculty and student scholarship, and fostered environments where diverse researchers can thrive. As President-Elect, I will prioritize member engagement, cultivate emerging nurse scientists, and strengthen partnerships that expand the reach and impact of nursing research. I am committed to ensuring ENRS continues to be a dynamic and inclusive force in shaping the future of nursing science.

Fay Wright

I am honored to put my name forward for the ENRS President-elect position. From the moment I joined as a doctoral student, then co-chair of the Precision Health RIG, member of the Communications Committee, and recently as the Board Member at Large for the Communications Committee, I benefited professionally and personally from the opportunities and collaborations I've experienced as a member of ENRS. I have historical knowledge and respect for our past. I also recognize the unique opportunities in this moment and the complex, contemporary challenges on our horizon. I am a

transformational leader grounded in authenticity, relationship-building, and action-focused collaboration. I aim to facilitate engagement and represent the amazing perspectives and ideas of the ENRS membership. ENRS has enormous potential to connect nurse scientists and share challenges and solutions for research in academic and clinical settings. My experience as an academic researcher and a clinically-based nurse scientist enables me to lead ENRS in fulfilling its mission “to empower a diverse community of scholars dedicated to advancing nursing science.” As president-elect, I would work with the board to support ENRS in fulfilling its mission and maximizing the voice of nursing science.