

# MINUTES



## MNRS Annual Business Meeting March 31, 2023 | 3:35 PM – 4:35 PM CDT

### I. Call to Order

MNRS President Dr. Kathleen Buckwalter called the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting to order at 3:37 PM CDT on Friday, March 31, 2023.

After a brief welcome to all members in attendance and noting the location of the agenda, K. Buckwalter introduced and thanked the MNRS Board of Directors, Founding Members, Past Presidents, MNRS Executive Office staff, and all committee chairs and volunteers. Information on the Research & Implementation Interests Groups and how MNRS members can join were provided. MNRS hosted a pre-conference Writer's Workshop, and the facilitators were acknowledged. It was reported that the MNRS increased its presence in 2022 at the CANS State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research with an exhibit booth and representation to promote collaboration and support MNRS members in attendance.

### II. President's Report

K. Buckwalter presented the 2022-2023 President's Report highlighting the year's accomplishments, including:

- MNRS membership has grown steadily, and leadership continues to focus on exploring and providing benefits, programming, and career development opportunities for members. This year 52% are regular members, 43% are students, and 4% represent retired and international members.
- There were five institutional memberships, four gold, and one silver.
- Priority has been placed on increasing inclusivity and expanding the participation of the many groups that make up MNRS.
- The Board of Directors completed a needs assessment of MNRS members and the nursing community last summer.
- MNRS developed and launched the new Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Honorific Award.
- The number of Leadership Academy participants was expanded to ensure DEI and DNP participation.
- At this year's conference, special meetings were organized and held with Retired Members and Deans, Associate Deans, and Directors to gather input and ideas for support and programming.
- The Translational Science RIIG was modified and relaunched to include implementation.
- The Implementation Workgroup drafted a Collaborative Partnership Proposal.
- The DEI Taskforce prepared a comprehensive report from the 2022 conference listening sessions with strengths, areas of improvement, and recommendations. The report was submitted to the MNRS Board of Directors to set priorities and charges for leadership, committees, and the Executive Office.

K. Buckwalter announced the continuation of the 2022-2023 MNRS Leadership Academy with a cohort of five scholars:

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#### MNRS Executive Office:

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- Mopelola Adeola
- Anne Fink
- Qiuhua Shen
- Juliana Souza-Talarico
- Jennifer Timm

The third cohort for 2023-2024 will launch in August 2024. Applications will launch in April 2023 and will be due in May 2023. All doctorally prepared members are encouraged to apply.

### III. **2023 Election Results**

Dr. Cindy Anderson, MNRS Board Past President and Nominating Committee Chair, announced the 2023-2024 election results. It was reported that ballots were sent to all members per Article IV, Section 3 of the MNRS Bylaws, and that the requirement regarding a voting quorum was met. The following MNRS Board of Director Members were elected:

- Diane Von Ah, Treasurer
- Masako Mayahara, Member-at-Large
- Carolyn Still, Member-At-Large

C. Anderson also announced that Dr. Jane von Gaudecker and Dr. McKenzie Wallace were elected by a majority of votes to the MNRS Nominating Committee.

### IV. **Financial Report**

Dr. Diane Von Ah, MNRS Board Treasurer, updated the membership on the organization's financial position, including a clean financial audit in 2022 and affirmation that the books, accounts, and procedures are in good order. In addition, D. Von Ah reported that the primary sources of revenue that support the functions of MNRS are membership fees, conference registration fees, conference sponsorship, and non-dues sales.

D. Von Ah and the MNRS Board of Directors recognized that MNRS revenue and expenditures have not always aligned for financial growth. The MNRS Board of Directors and Finance Committee researched these trends. They made some tough decisions on behalf of the financial security of MNRS, such as requiring the financial independence of the MNRS Foundation, raising MNRS membership dues, and transitioning to a new management firm. These significant decisions and numerous smaller cost-saving decisions provided a financially sound five years where revenue surpassed expenditures.

D. Von Ah reported that the Finance Committee is working towards the financial longevity of the organization by re-investing net income to pay back the investment accounts and developing an operating reserve to cover one year of annual budgetary expenses. Additionally, MNRS is financially able to steward funds to ensure strategic enhancements to the organization and membership benefits. The continued financial stability allows MNRS to focus on membership and engagement initiatives to enhance the MNRS member experience.

### V. **Western Journal of Nursing Research (WJNR) Report**

Dr. Todd Ruppap, WJNR Editor, shared that the Western Journal of Nursing Research is thriving. 545 new manuscripts were submitted in 2022, with an average time to first decision of 31 days. Accepted papers are published online less than a month after acceptance. It was also reported

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that MNRS leadership in WJNR is clear that the aim is to have editorial board members from every MNRS state. All authors who have published in the Journal were asked to stand and be recognized.

T. Ruppap recognized the 2022 MNRS Best Paper Winners- Gisele Tlusty, the lead author of the Best Student Paper, and Grant Pignatiello, the lead author of the Best Faculty Paper. It was also announced that the 2023 best paper contest has opened. Information about the contest can be found on the MNRS website or by contacting Dr. Bob Topp. Best paper award winners receive a prioritized review and publication process and a cash award from SAGE Publishing.

#### **VI. MNRS Foundation Report**

Dr. Mary Anthony, Foundation President, thanked the entire MNRS Board of Directors for working so collaboratively with the Foundation to foster the mutual goal in support of nursing research in the Midwest region.

M. Anthony introduced the members of the MNRS Foundation Board of Trustees for 2022-2023.

Officers:

- Helen Lach, President-Elect
- Marilyn Frenn, Secretary/Treasurer
- Diane Von Ah, Board Liaison

Trustees:

- Keela Herr
- Marcia Shade
- AkkeNeel Talsma
- Masako Mayahara
- Said Abusalem
- Lauren Pageau

M. Anthony shared that the Foundation Board of Trustees offered the second annual Let's Toast to Success stewardship event this past January when four previous awardees presented an update on their research funded by MNRS grants. One of the cornerstone achievements of the MNRS Foundation has been establishing an endowment fund with the sole purpose of providing perpetual support for our research funding objectives. M. Anthony recognized and thanked all who donated this year and corporate partnerships. Other ways to contribute were also shared, including the conference champagne reception, raffle, walk-a-thon, Legacy Circle, Named Grants, Honoring a Researcher, and In Memoriam.

#### **VII. Service Award Resolutions**

K. Buckwalter presented the 2023 MNRS service awards to Mary Anthony, Kamal Eldeirawi, and Kimberly Dillon-Belich for their countless hours contributed to the Society and expressed the Board's appreciation for their leadership. The University of Iowa School of Nursing was also awarded an MNRS service award as appreciation for being the 2023 Host School and for providing consistent support throughout the conference.

#### **VIII. New Business**

K. Buckwalter announced that the new strategic plan for 2023-2026 will be unveiled at the start of the next fiscal year in July. It was reported that every three years, the Board assembles a task force to evaluate and update the MNRS Strategic Plan, which is used to drive the future direction and work of the Society. The Strategic Plan task force was carefully chosen to ensure the diversity of

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the MNRS membership across demographics, geographic locations, programs of study, and career levels.

K. Buckwalter reported that the MNRS Board of Directors is working to evaluate membership pricing and make decisions that benefit the MNRS member in time for the next annual membership renewal in July.

K. Buckwalter invited the conference attendees and all members to join MNRS for the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference in Minneapolis, MN, from February 28 to March 2, 2024.

**IX. Adjournment**

K. Buckwalter adjourned the meeting at 4:45 PM CDT.

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