Announcing the 2015 ACNM Fellows Inductees

Fellowship in the American College of Nurse-Midwives (FACNM) is an honor bestowed upon those midwives whose demonstrated leadership, clinical excellence, outstanding scholarship, and professional achievement have merited special recognition both within and outside of the midwifery profession. FACNM represents the commitment of ACNM to honor our own. In light of the vast wealth of expertise and collective wisdom represented within the body of fellows, its mission is to serve ACNM in a consultative and advisory capacity.

Kathleen J. Bailey
CNM, MA, MS
Kathleen Bailey’s midwifery endeavors have been focused on educating, guiding, and caring for mothers, babies, and families as well as elevating the profession of midwifery through teaching, service, and leadership. As a US Navy midwife, Kathleen served women and their families around the world. In her last Navy position, she was the Surgeon General’s consultant for CNMs and WHNPs, leading the Navy’s CNMs and WHNPs as well as guiding the Navy leadership on women’s health issues. Kathleen has been active in ACNM and has had key leadership positions in American Midwifery Certification Board. Currently, she serves as the American Midwifery Certification Board Treasurer.

Eileen Ehudin Beard
CNM, FNP, MS
In 1981, Eileen Ehudin Beard opened Maryland’s first birth center, the Baltimore Birth Center. She is also the co-founder of Special Beginnings Birth and Women’s Center. Her efforts as Legislative Chairperson resulted in Maryland gaining prescriptive authority. In 1991, Eileen received the Foundation for Nursing of Maryland Innovative Health Program Award. As a preceptor for more than 32 years, Eileen was well known for never declining a midwifery student. Throughout her career, she has provided individualized care for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Prior to working at ACNM as the Senior Practice Advisor, Eileen was a Governor appointee for the Maryland State Commission on Infant Mortality.

Phyllis Ann Clark
CNM, MPH
Phyllis Ann Clark has 43 years of experience in maternal/infant health including 19 years in full scope midwifery practice and 18 years in international health. She was the Senior Technical Advisor for the ACNM Department of Global Outreach for 11 ½ years (6 months as interim Director). She provided assistance in 17 countries in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. She is the co-author of Life Saving Skills for Midwives 4th Edition and author of Vacuum Assisted Birth in Midwifery Practice Handbook 3rd Edition. She is also a Life Saving Skills Master Trainer, Home Based Life Saving Skills trainer, and Helping Babies Breathe Master Trainer.
Anne M. Corrinet
CNM, MS

Anne Malley Corrinet has served as ACNM Region Representative and was the chair of the Clinical Practice Committee when guidelines were first developed for establishing practice in alternative birth sites. She was a member of the Education committee when Guidelines for Experimental Education Programs were developed, the first step in planning to educate non-nurses as midwives. She co-wrote the legislation legalizing CNM practice in Massachusetts. She founded the first midwifery private practice in Massachusetts and the first in-hospital birth center in Western Massachusetts. She was the founder of the Western Massachusetts local ACNM Chapter.

Kim J. Cox
CNM, PhD

Kim Cox has served the midwifery profession for more than 20 years as a practitioner, educator, scholar, and advocate. She is the author of numerous publications on midwifery and women’s health, an active researcher; a midwifery educator at the University of New Mexico, and a delegate to the Home Birth Summit. As an ACNM volunteer, Kim has served in multiple roles including JMWH peer reviewer, Chapter Chair in Florida, member of the Healthy Birth Initiative Task Force, and as an ACME Site Visitor. Among her passions are advocacy for VBAC and maintaining the choice of out-of-hospital birth for women.

Nivia Nieves Fisch
CNM, RN

Nivia Fisch was one of the first family nurse practitioners trained at the Martin Luther King Health Center in the Bronx. After moving to the Rio Grande Valley (Harlingen) Texas she worked at Su Clinica Familiar. At the urging of Sister Angela Murdaugh, she attended the University of Mississippi Nurse Midwifery Program. She returned to Su Clinica to work as a midwife and later became its director. She was the first CNM in South Texas to obtain hospital privileges. Her international work includes global projects in Honduras and Peru. As a past chair of the Midwives of Color Committee she continued to work to promote diversity.

Heather M. Clarke
CNM, DNP

Heather Clarke is a graduate of Columbia University. Over her 35-year career she cared for women in multiple clinical settings and started the first out of hospital birth center in Philadelphia. She worked in academia at 3 midwifery education programs. In the 1980s Heather served on the executive board of Region II, Chapter I as they battled to form the country’s first midwifery board. She was co-chair of the ACNM Student Issues Section and currently is the Chair of the Midwives of Color Committee. She represents ACNM on US MERA and on the CDC preconception clinical workgroup.

Diana R. Jolles
CNM, MSN

Diana Jolles began as a National Health Service Corp Scholar at Holy Family Services Birth Center where she was mentored in quality improvement and public health innovation. In 2008, she was recognized as the ACNM Kitty Ernst “Young Whippersnapper,” largely for her development of the Denver Health Medical Center inpatient midwifery service and her directorship of the Family Health and Birth Center in Washington, DC. As faculty for Frontier Nursing University, Jolles teaches innovation, quality, and health care finance. As a scholar, her research includes evaluation of childbearing Medicaid beneficiaries and the American Association of Birth Center Perinatal Data Registry.

MaryJane Lewitt
CNM, PhD

Dr. MaryJane Lewitt has over 20 years of experience in clinical practice, nursing/nurse-midwifery education, and legislative/policy work. She is the co-coordinator of the Nurse-Midwifery program at Emory University. Dr. Lewitt received the ACNM Kitty Ernst Award in 2000 and graduated from the John F. Kennedy School of Government and Leadership at Harvard in 2004. She has participated both nationally and locally in ACNM since 1994, beginning as the inaugural chair of the Student Committee. Currently, she is chair of the Maternity System and Quality/Safety sub-committee of the ACNM Healthy Birth Initiative and Chair of the Coalition of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses of Georgia.

Michael M. McCann
CNM, MS

Michael McCann received his BSN from Duquesne University in 1978, and worked as an L&D nurse at University of Chicago until 1980. He then served as an undergraduate Teaching Assistant in the Maternal-Child Nursing program at University of Illinois and transitioned into the Nurse-Midwifery program. He took his Boards in 1981 and started work as a staff CNM at Grady Memorial Hospital with the NHS Commissioned Corp until 1985. Since then he has worked at Wellstar Cobb Hospital for 30 years. During this time he has served in various leadership positions in the state and most recently served on the national level as the Region III Representative on the ACNM board for the last 5 years.

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“It is so rewarding to have my work recognized by such valued colleagues: I am proud and grateful to be a Fellow.”

—Susan Huser, CNM, FACNM

Ruth Mielke
CNM, MS, PhD
Ruth is a proud graduate of the University of Minnesota. She founded the first nurse-midwifery practice in an LA private hospital which continues to be the largest full-scope midwifery practice offering water birth and collaborative management of higher risk women. She also co-founded a collaborative practice providing full-scope care in 2 private community hospitals. Ruth is a past president of the California Nurse Midwives Association and currently the Southern Regional representative. She is a contributor/reviewer for the *Journal of Midwifery & Women’s Health* and the *Californian Journal of Health Promotion*. She serves as an Advisory Board member/presenter for Los Angeles Best Babies Network.

Kathleen A. Moriarty
CNM, CAFCI, PhD
Katie Moriarty is director of Nurse-Family Partnership at Detroit Wayne County Health Authority. They recently launched a community nurse-midwifery team that strategically targets high risk geocodes along with home visitation. Previously, Katie was associate director, Nurse-Midwifery Education Program at University of Michigan. She was the first midwife to attend and obtain certification by Acupuncture Canada, and then modeled an Integrative Healthcare and Complementary Therapies Clinic in Pregnancy and Reproductive Women’s Health. She has practiced in all birth settings, has widely disseminated on integrative health care and pregnancy, and writes a Modern Day Midwife blog for PBS Call the Midwife. She is Region IV Representative, on the ACNM Board of Directors.

Michelle Munroe
CNM, DNP
Michelle Munroe earned her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Nursing degrees from the University of Maryland at Baltimore and her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree from Frontier Nursing University. She was instrumental in launching the Uniformed Services Chapter of ACNM which transitioned to the Uniformed Services Affiliate. Michelle has deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and has served in multiple leadership roles. She currently is the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs in the Graduate School of Nursing at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences and is a Consultant to the Army Surgeon General.

Leissa Roberts
CNM, DNP
Dr. Leissa Roberts has been faculty at the University of Utah College of Nursing since 1993. She is also the Assistant Dean of Faculty Practice. The Midwifery practice is owned and operated by the College and has existed for over 35 years. Dr. Roberts is the primary author of the Coping With Labor Algorithm®, a tool which replaces the 0-10 Numeric Rating System for pain evaluation and documentation of laboring woman. The Coping Algorithm has been translated into Spanish, French, and Danish. Dr. Roberts was the first nurse in Utah to be recognized as a Health Care Hero, and has received this honor twice. She received the American Association of Nurse Practitioners State Advocate Award for Excellence in 2013. She was the recipient of the National Perinatal Association’s 2013 Individual Contribution to Maternal Child Health Award.

Nicole Anne Rouhana
CNM, FNP-BC, PhD
A 1990 alumnus of the nurse-midwifery program at University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Dr. Rouhana is recognized as a Fellow of the National Rural Health Association. Her focus on rural and vulnerable populations improved health care outcomes among the underserved. Dr. Rouhana served as director of Nurse-Midwifery and WHNP programs at Stony Brook University. Her awards include A.C.N.M. Foundation Excellence in Teaching Award in 2006, 2008, and 2011; Deans Excellence Award for Teaching; Kappa Gamma Excellence in Education Award; March of Dimes Nursing Excellence Award; and NYS March of Dimes Dolgin Award. Her ACNM service includes DOR, DOME, and DOE as Section Chair of Continuing Education.
Máiri Breen Rothman
CNM, MSN

Máiri Breen Rothman has been a midwife since 1996, in every possible setting. Her work on midwifery legislation earned her the 2010 ACNM Policy Award. She has helped to start 2 birth centers, and currently co-directs a home birth service, M.A.M.A.S., Inc., winner of 2014 ACNM National Best Practice Award. She has taught students from numerous programs and was recently given Georgetown’s 2015 Midwifery Advocate Award. She is Region II Representative to the ACNM board and a member of the Home Birth Section. Máiri has led Heart of Midwifery at the Annual Meeting since 2001. She has collaborated with a midwives association in rural El Salvador since 2005, and hopes to help them get to ICM in Toronto in 2017.

Nell Tharpe
CNM, CRNFA, MS

Nell Tharpe is from East Boothbay, Maine. She obtained her Certificate in Nurse-Midwifery from the State University of New York and received her Master of Science degree in Midwifery from Philadelphia University. Nell’s extensive clinical experience includes full scope midwifery, including both physiologic birth and surgical first assisting. Nell is the original author of *Clinical Practice Guidelines for Midwifery and Women’s Health*, and she is the lead author of the ACNM Handbook *The Midwife as Surgical First Assistant*. Nell currently teaches as adjunct faculty at Philadelphia University and she functions as an independent perinatal and women’s health consultant.

Kim P. Shaughnessy
CNM, MS, BSN, Commander, Nurse Corps, United States Navy

Kim Shaughnessy earned her BSN from Villanova University, and her MS from Georgetown. She was a founding member of the ACNM Uniformed Services Affiliate. Kim has held a variety of assignments within the Military Health System, serving in several leadership roles including department head, assistant director, and director of surgical services. As the department head in Okinawa, she coordinated the local response plan for pregnant evacuees and their families coming from Yokosuka after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami. She is currently the Department Chief for Obstetrics and Gynecology at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital.

Melissa Ann Willmarth-Stec
CNM, RN, APRN, DNP

Dr. Melissa (Missi) Willmarth-Stec is an associate professor and the program director for the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program at the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing. She has been a practicing nurse-midwife for 10 years and currently serves as chair of the ACNM Division of Education. She has been instrumental in the redevelopment of the onsite and online student exam preparation courses as well as the ACNM Exam Prep workbook. Dr. Willmarth-Stec was the 2011 Kitty Ernst award winner and was most recently named a 2015 Apple Distinguished Educator. In early 2016, she will take her midwifery skills abroad to South Africa where she will achieve a personal and professional goal by serving the most underserved women and children through the Topsy organization.

Tanya Tanner
CNM, RN, MBA, PhD

Dr. Tanner is secretary of the American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB), member of the AMCB Certificate Maintenance Committee, chair of the ACNM Division of Standards and Documents Section of the ACNM Division of Standards and Practice, and chair of ACNM’s Healthy Birth Initiative. She is the past 2-term ACNM treasurer, has served on the ACNM Finance and Audit committee for 10 years, and has served as chapter chair, secretary, and research committee chair. She is on the faculty at Frontier Nursing University and has been clinically practicing since 1996. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, Phi Kappa Phi, and is a past recipient of the Colorado State Nightingale Award.

Laura Zeidenstein
CNM, DNP

Laura Zeidenstein received her MS from Yale (1988) and DNP from Columbia (2005). Dr. Zeidenstein has worked in New York City throughout her midwifery career in out of hospital birth centers, public health service, and private practice. She has been a key participant in Midwifery of Manhattan since it opened in 2003. She is a former editor of the *Journal of Midwifery & Women’s Health*. Dr. Zeidenstein has served as program director of the Columbia University Nurse-Midwifery Education Program since 2002. Dr. Zeidenstein is project director of a collaborative MCH project between Columbia University School of Nursing and a NGO public health system in Bangladesh. In 2015 she produced an educational video, “Filling the Gap: Safe and Effective Training for Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) in Low Resource Countries.”