

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 25, 2017  
Ashley West  
240-485-1856  
[awest@acnm.org](mailto:awest@acnm.org)

**LEADERS IN MIDWIFERY COMMUNITY RECOGNIZED AT ACNM'S 62ND ANNUAL MEETING & EXHIBITION IN CHICAGO, IL**

*American College of Nurse-Midwives Honors Leaders of Midwifery Community*

**Silver Spring, MD** – Midwives and other health care professionals were honored with awards in various categories on May 24, 2017 at the [American College of Nurse-Midwives \(ACNM\) 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting & Exhibition.](#)

**The 2017 Award Winners are:**

**Hattie Hemschemeyer Award**

The Hattie Hemschemeyer Award, named in honor of ACNM's first president and a pioneer of the profession, is ACNM's most prestigious award and is given annually to an ACNM member who has been certified for at least 10 years and has made continuous outstanding and/or historically significant contributions to midwifery, ACNM, and/or maternal child health.

Recipient:  
Frances T. Thacher, CNM, MS, FACNM

**Kitty Ernst Award**

The Kitty Ernst Award, affectionately known as the "Young Whippersnapper Award," is named after the College's fourth and youngest president, and one of its most dynamic living legends. The Kitty Ernst Award was established in 1998 to honor an ACNM member who has been certified for less than 10 years and has demonstrated innovative, creative endeavors in clinical practice, education, administration, or research relating to midwifery and women's health.

Recipient:  
Ann Marie Konkoly, CNM

**Distinguished Service Award**

This award recognizes a CNM/CM or other professional for an unusual and exemplary effort in the field of community service, innovation in midwifery practice, education, or research.

Recipients:  
Kathryn Schrag, CNM, FNP  
Mary Theresa Bradish, CNM  
Nadene Brunk, CNM, MSN

**Outstanding Preceptor Award**

Theresa Gay, CNM  
Lindsay Carleton, CNM  
Heather Lane, CNM  
Fern Jaffe, CNM  
Michelle Barcus, CNM, MSN  
Melody Shambley, CNM  
Jessica Brumley, CNM  
Jenny Allen, CNM  
Nikole Gettings, CNM  
Rachel Kay, CNM, MPH, MSN  
Susan Comte, CNM, MSN  
Stephanie Tillman, CNM  
Sarah Hakala MS, CNM  
Mary Anne Scherer, CNM, MSN, RN  
Kyanna Kuntz, CNM  
Kathy Leggitt, CNM, MS  
Susan Akins, CNM  
Julie King CNM  
Vanessa Wright, CNM, NP, MS  
Ana Delgado, CNM

**Excellence in Teaching Award**

Laura Zeidenstein, CNM, MSN, DNP, FACNM  
Kathy Herron, CNM  
Erin McMahon, CNM, EdD  
Dawn Durain, CNM, MS, PhD, FACNM  
Pamela Reis, CNM, PhD, NNP-BC  
Kate Woeber, CNM  
Kim Baraona, CNM, DNP, ARPN  
Anita Lenas, CNM, DNPc, MSN, FNP  
Jeremy Neal, CNM, PhD, RN  
Megan Arbour, CNM, MS, PhD, FACNM  
Lee Kirstin Roosevelt, CNM, PhD, MPH  
Lisa Hanson, CNM, PhD, FACNM  
Melissa Saftner, CNM, PhD  
Marie Hastings-Tolsma, CNM, PhD, FACNM  
Nancy Jo Reedy, CNM, MPH, FACNM  
Debra Penney, CNM, MPH  
Rebekah Kaplan, CNM

**Fellow Award**

Jill Allman, CNM, DMP  
Rebecca Bagley, CNM, DNP  
Margaret Beal, CNM, PhD  
Ruth Boone, CNM, DNP  
Debora Dole, CNM, PhD  
Kate Fouquier, CNM, PhD, RN  
Sherilyn Gibbs, CNM, DNP, RNC-OB  
Jennifer Jagger, CNM, MSN, WHNPRNC-OB  
Karen Jefferson, CM, LM  
Lucia Jenkusky, CNM, MS, C-EFM  
Susan Krause, CNM, MSN  
Mayri Leslie, CNM, MSN, EdD  
Carrie Neerland, CNM, MS, APRN  
Ann Forster Page, CNM, MS, APRN  
Dana Perlman, CNM, MSN  
Lesley Rathbun, CNM, FNP, MSN  
Pamela Reis, CNM, PhD, NNP-BC  
Melissa Saftner, CNM, PhD  
Melanie Summersille, CNM

**Public Policy Award**

Karen Jefferson, LM, CM  
Susan Rooks, CNM, MPH

**Media Award**

Lisa Yarger  
*Lovie: The Story of a Southern Midwife and an Unlikely Friendship (University of North Carolina Press)*

**Best Book of the Year Award**

Sharon Schindler Rising CNM, MSN, FACNM  
Charlotte Houde Quimby CNM, MSN, FACNM  
*The Centering Pregnancy Model: The Power of Group Health Care*

**ACNM Video Contest Award**

Amy Rogers, SNM  
Mary Dunn, SNM  
Kiley Hewett, SNM

**Exemplary Affiliate Award**

Region 1 Rhode Island  
Region 2 Pennsylvania  
Region 3 South Carolina  
Region 4 Arkansas  
Region 5 South Dakota  
Region 6 Texas  
Region 7 Alaska

**Best Podium Presentation Award**

Elizabeth Jesse, CNM, PhD

*The Role of Mediators in Reducing Antepartum Depressive Symptoms in Rural Low Income Women Receiving a Culturally Tailored Cognitive Behavioral Intervention*

**Best Research Poster Award**

Kimberly Trout, CNM, PhD, APRN

*Carbohydrate Restriction or Social Determinants? Impact on Outcomes in Pregnancies Affected by Gestational Diabetes*

**Best DOGH Podium Award**

Patricia L. Riley, CNM, PhD, FACNM, FAAN

*Nurse and Midwifery Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Towards Viral Load Testing in Managing HIV-Infected Patients in East, Central and Southern Africa.*

**Best Research Article of the Year Award**

Marit L. Bovbjerg, PhD, MS

Melissa Cheyney, PhD, CPM, LDM

Courtney Everson, MA, PhD

*Maternal and Newborn Outcomes Following Waterbirth: The Midwives Alliance of North America Statistics Project, 2004 to 2009 Cohort*

**Best Review Article of the Year**

Cheri Van Hoover, CNM, MS

Lisa Holt, RN, MSN, MS

*Midwifing the End of Life: Expanding the Scope of Modern Midwifery Practice to Reclaim Palliative Care*

**Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health Mary Ann Shah New Author Award**

Jyeshtha Wren Serbin, CNM, WHNP-BC, MS

*The Impact of Racism and Midwifery's Lack of Racial Diversity: A Literature Review*

**Immunization Champion Award**

Nicole Rouhana, PhD, FACNM, FNP-BC

Niessa Meier, CNM, DNP

Noelle Jacobsen, DNP, CNM

DeAnn Brown, CNM

## **2017 Awards and Scholarships –The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.**

### **Dorothea M. Lang Pioneer Award**

This award honors midwifery's "unsung heroes" who have demonstrated pioneering vision and innovative leadership. Award winners are exceptional CNMs or CMs who are members of ACNM, have been certified for at least 10 years, and have not previously received the Hattie Hemschemeyer Award. The Lang Award is aptly named for Dorothea M. Lang, CNM, MPH, FACNM – past-president of ACNM and the A.C.N.M. Foundation, whose visionary leadership has advanced the profession of midwifery in countless ways.

Recipients:

Rosemary J. Mann, CNM, MSN, JD, PhD

Susan J. Leibel, MSN, MPH

### **Therese Dondero Memorial Lecture**

Timothy R.B. Johnson, Jr., MD, FACOG, University of Michigan

### **Louis M Hellman MD Midwifery Partnership Award**

Jessica Illuzzi, MD, MS, Yale University

### **A.C.N.M. Foundation Fellowship for Graduate Education**

Karen Trister Grace, PhD, MSN, CNM, Johns Hopkins University SON

### **Carrington-Hsia-Nieves Doctoral Scholarship for Midwives of Color**

Venay Uecke, CNM, MSN (University of New Mexico – Fall 2016)

### **Jeanne Raisler Award for International Midwifery**

Jennifer Neczypor, RN, SNM, Vanderbilt University

### **W. Newton Long Award**

Adria Goodness, MN, CNM, PMHNP-BC

Michelle Collins, CNM, PhD, FACNM

Wreatha Carner, CNM, MN, DNP

### **Basic Midwifery Scholarships:**

#### **GlaxoSmithKline TUMS Consumer Health Care Scholarship**

Heidi Carter, SNM (Frontier Nursing University)

#### **Midwives of Color-Watson Scholarship**

Jeanine Valrie-Logan, SNM (Frontier Nursing University)

Karen Ojeda, SNM (Frontier Nursing University)

Tenzing Sherpa, SNM (Case Western Reserve University)

#### **The Edith B. Wonnell CNM Scholarship**

Mari Upshaw, SNM (University of New Mexico)

#### **Christine Nuger CNM Memorial Scholarship**

Rebecca Palmer, SNM (Vanderbilt University)

**A.C.N.M. Foundation Memorial Scholarship**

Kathryn Dirks, SNM (Emory University)  
Christine Higgins, SNM (Emory University)  
Chloe Campbell, SM (SUNY Downstate- Direct Entry)

**Texas Midwifery Creation Scholarship**

Lauren Olvera, SNM (Baylor University) – In memory of Nivia Nieves Fisch, CNM, FACNM  
Rebekah Randall, SNM (Texas Tech University) – In honor of Sr. Angela Murdaugh, CNM, FACNM

**Varney Participant Award**

Paris Maloof-Bury, SNM (Frontier Nursing University)  
Heidi Carter, SNM (Frontier Nursing University)

**Midwifery Legacies Project 20th Century Student Interview Awards**

1st Place: Rebecca Palmer, SNM (Vanderbilt University)  
2nd Place: Phoebe Lithgow, SNM (University of Pennsylvania)  
3rd Place: Chelsea Biegler, SNM (Vanderbilt University)

*Honorable Mentions:*

Katherine Tan, SNM (Vanderbilt University)  
Rebecca Smiddy, SNM (Georgetown University)  
Rebekah Randall, SNM (Texas Tech University)  
Alexandra Speros, SNM (Vanderbilt University)

**The A.C.N.M. Foundation Staff Appreciation Award**

Ashley West, ACNM Communication and Marketing Specialist

**Thacher-MBN Leadership Development Awards: Fall 2016**

Mary Lou Kopas, CNM, MN  
Darlaine Laviolette, CNM, MSN  
Erin McMahon, CNM, MSN, EdD  
Jennifer Steir, CNM, MSN  
C. Nichole Wardlaw, CNM, MEd, MSN

**Thacher Community Grants:**

Kelly Roberts, CNM, MSN (Fall, 2016)  
Erin Morelli, CNM, MSN (Fall, 2016)

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The American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) is the professional association that represents certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) and certified midwives (CMs) in the United States. ACNM promotes excellence in midwifery education, clinical practice, and research. With roots dating to 1929, our members are primary care providers for women throughout the lifespan, with a special emphasis on pregnancy, childbirth, and gynecologic and reproductive health. ACNM provides research, administers and promotes continuing education programs, establishes clinical practice standards, and creates liaisons with state and federal agencies and members of Congress to increase the visibility and recognition of midwifery care.

American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM)  
8403 Colesville Road, Ste. 1550,  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Phone: (240) 485-1800  
Fax: (240) 485-1818  
[www.midwife.org](http://www.midwife.org)

The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization, was incorporated in 1967 as the philanthropic arm of ACNM with a mission to promote excellence in health care for women, newborns, and families worldwide through the support of midwifery. The Foundation collaborates closely with ACNM by supporting midwifery education, research, practice, and leadership activities that advance the provision of high quality maternal, newborn, and well-woman health care services. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.  
PO Box 380272  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02238-0272  
Phone (240) 485-1850 Fax: (617) 876-5822  
[www.midwife.org/ACNM-Foundation](http://www.midwife.org/ACNM-Foundation)