

## Candidates for 2019 NCAPA Board of Directors and Nominating Committee | Terms begin January 1, 2018

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### **President-Elect: 1-year term, followed by 1 year as President, and 1 year as Past-President**



Alisha DeTroye, PA-C

It is truly an honor to have been nominated for the position of President of NCAPA. I have been an active member of NCAPA since I was a student at Wake Forest PA Studies beginning in 2002. The past 10 years I have been actively involved as an NCAPA leader having served on various committees, task forces and the Board of Directors as well as a NC delegate for the AAPA House of Delegates. My passion outside of practicing as a PA in neuro-oncology is PA Leadership. NCAPA has helped me to grow professionally and personally and I want to ensure that each of you has a similar NCAPA experience.

I feel that we are at a pinnacle in our profession and it would be an honor to lead with you as NCAPA ensures that NC PAs are leaders in team-based care, practice to our full scope, and that PAs are recognized and reimbursed for the work that we do. NC has an advantage as the birthplace of the PA profession that our practice is recognized and respected. We have been able to succeed in achieving all six elements of AAPA's model state legislation, however we cannot be complacent with our advocacy efforts and public education. It is critical that NCAPA is present at the local, state and national level. One of my strengths as a PA leader is collaboration and I would strive to continue to build bridges with stakeholders to move our profession forward.

Additionally, having served for many years as the NCAPA regional chapters committee chair and a past President of PAPA, I have had the opportunity to travel the state and meet many PAs practicing in various settings from solo practices in rural areas to large academic medical centers in urban cities. NCAPA is the voice for all NC PAs. If elected President I will work to ensure that NCAPA is meeting your needs regardless of your practice setting, geographic area or time in your PA career. NCAPA needs to be relevant for students, early career PAs, mid-career PAs looking to change jobs for the first time or seasoned PAs moving towards retirement. It is important to me that each member has a voice and is able to see the relevance of NCAPA! Thank you for all you personally do for our profession and our patients. I hope that you will consider voting for me as President so that we can work together as NCAPA advocates, educates and innovates!

## Vice President: 2-year term



April Stouder, PA-C

My name is April Stouder and I am seeking your support for Vice President of NCAPA's Board of Directors. I have served the Academy for the past 4 years as a Director at-Large Board member, and am chair of the Educational Development Panel subcommittee, which is responsible for developing online and regional CME offerings such as the Joint Injection Workshop. For over 4 years, I served on the Professional Development Review Panel, which ensures the quality of our CME offerings at our two conferences. As I have worked with fellow committee members over the years, and gained experience as a Board member, my interest in further service within the Academy has grown. The Director at-Large position has allowed me to serve NCAPA, as well as my fellow physician assistant (PA) colleagues across the state, and I am grateful for the opportunity and feel ready to increase my level of service with an Executive Committee position.

I have been a practicing PA in North Carolina and NCAPA member since 2002. After graduating from PA school in 2000, I worked clinically in Virginia and Indiana and quickly realized what a positive and supportive environment North Carolina is for PAs in terms of practice legislation, professional respect from medical colleagues and patient acceptance of PA clinical care. We have the NCAPA and strong leadership from our fellow PAs to thank for that, and it is not something I have ever taken for granted in my clinical work here. I'm very proud to be a PA, and especially proud to serve North Carolinians!

I have worked clinically in adult hematology and oncology for most of my career, and particularly enjoy working with rural and underserved patients. I joined the faculty at the Duke University Physician Assistant Program in 2009, and continued to work in oncology in rural North Carolina until the end of 2017 when I transitioned to a volunteer position at TROSA Medical Clinic in Durham, which serves individuals in a residential substance abuse treatment program. My academic role at Duke has focused on the clinical year curriculum, establishing quality clinical training sites and helping to ensure that our future PAs are ready to care for patients. I moved into a leadership position as Associate Program Director in June 2018. It definitely takes a village to train medical learners, and I very much value the contributions of clinical preceptors across the state!

I serve on NCAPA's Government Affairs Committee, and advocate on behalf of PAs in North Carolina to ensure our practice laws and regulations reflect our abilities and that our profession remains highly visible in a changing healthcare landscape, both locally and nationally. I have participated in the PA Day event at the NC General Assembly each year since 2016, wearing my white coat and talking with legislators about the vital role PAs play in meeting the healthcare needs of our state residents. In March of 2018, I went to Capitol Hill to meet with my Senator and Representative to discuss reforms needed to improve PA practice across the country.

I am passionate about education and professional development for PAs and medical learners. Keeping PAs abreast of changes that might affect their clinical practice, providing quality CME opportunities, and responding to the informational needs of the constituency remain my top educational priorities.

NCAPA has been a tremendous resource to me as a practicing PA, and I am seeking an opportunity to be a resource for you as well. I appreciate your consideration as you cast your vote for Vice President.

## Secretary: 2-year term



John H. Cain, MSPAS, PA-C

Hello! My name is John Cain, and I am seeking your vote for Secretary of the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants (NCAPA).

I am a physician assistant at the Diabetes and Endocrinology Center of Wake Forest Baptist Health in Winston-Salem. Through my work, I treat patients with both Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes and other endocrine disorders while also serving as preceptor for Wake Forest PA students and podiatry fellows during their endocrinology clerkships. In addition, I am the current President of the Piedmont Association of Physician Assistants (PAPA), the NCAPA Regional Chapter serving the Piedmont Triad.

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Centre College, I received my graduate education in public health and physician assistant studies at the University of Kentucky. In 2010, I began my career as a PA in family medicine at a federally-qualified community health center (FQHC) in rural Appalachia. There I found my niche in diabetes care as part of a HRSA-supportive collaborative between our FQHC and in-house 340b pharmacy. When my supervising physician left the practice after my first 12 months in practice, I fell victim to a Kentucky law at the time that required 18 months of direct supervision for new PAs. I was able to transition from the rural clinic to an urban diabetes center thanks to the success of the collaborative, but my practice was hindered by other state laws affecting Kentucky's PAs including the still-present lack of prescriptive authority for controlled substances and the now modified 100% co-signature requirement.

Frustrated by the regulatory environment for PAs in Kentucky and disheartened following visits with key state legislators, I decided to look for employment opportunities in more PA friendly states. This led to me relocating from the Bluegrass State to North Carolina in late 2014. Because of my prior experiences, I made a commitment moving forward to be an active voice for my profession and sought opportunities to become involved with the professional organizations who best serve the interests of PAs.

Besides being a fellow member of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, I have been actively involved locally with PAPA since moving to Winston-Salem first as a member, then Treasurer, and now in my second term as President. It has been an honor to lead PAPA, and thanks to the collective efforts of our PAPA Board of Directors and members we have continued to meet the educational needs of PAs in the Piedmont Triad with twice monthly educational offerings. We have continued to host a robust fall CME seminar annually and implement *PAPA Fights Hunger*, a community service initiative launched in October 2017 in partnership with our local food bank to celebrate our profession's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Through *PAPA Fights Hunger*, which will continue this October, PAPA members host food drives during PA Week to combat food insecurity in Northwest North Carolina. My leadership role with PAPA has also afforded me the opportunity to serve on the NCAPA Regional Chapters Committee, allowing me to work closely with fellow regional chapter leaders to share ideas and best practices while supporting each other's efforts. It is that spirit of working together to support and advocate for our profession in North Carolina and beyond that I will continue if elected NCAPA Secretary.

I appreciate your consideration.

## Four Candidates for Director-at-Large: Two-year terms, 2 open positions



Aleece Fosnight, MSPAS, PA-C, CSC, CSE

Over the past eight years, I have had the pleasure of being on the board for the Association of PAs in OBGYN (APAOG), first as our student representative, then as our research/development chair, and now as our current president for the last 4 years. It has been such an honor to work at the organizational level for PAs, centered in the heart of where action takes place. We have had major accomplishments over the past several years including increased women's health topics at our national AAPA conferences, a women's health focused PA Clinic's Journal edition, standardization of scope of practice and delineation of privileges for PAs practicing in women's health, and increased women's health PA representation on national committees and task force teams. Leading my APAOG team has been a privilege and honor to see them grow both professionally and personally, ensuring a seat at the table for PAs in the women's health world.

As I transition from my current role, I look local, representing PAs at the state level as vital for both the PA profession and optimal team practice focused on the patient. Being able to listen to our current and future PAs in North Carolina will help us lead all PAs throughout our country. My goals for the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants over the next two years is to improve legislative requirements for PAs by restructuring supervising physician regulations to promote team-based care as best practice through moving the PA profession towards a more independent practice model. I want to continue to strive to provide the best, cutting-edge, and leading CME opportunities at the NCAPA annual conference, especially topics on business and marketing for the PA. We have a growing PA program representation throughout the state of North Carolina and want to make sure that we are supporting those programs through preceptorship avenues, best practice guidelines, and experiential learning opportunities. This holds true for PA residency programs that have been founded in North Carolina and supporting those endeavors with postgraduate learning resources.

Mother Teresa quoted, "I alone cannot change the world but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples." I am ready to cast my stone across the great state of North Carolina and make positive changes for our PA profession as a team. Through my professional roles in leadership positions at the local and national levels, I believe these experiences have prepared me to become your Director-At-Large for NCAPA and I am committed to making changes that will have a positive impact on our profession. It would be an honor to be given the privilege to serve in a leadership role with NCAPA.

Thank you for this opportunity.



Jason Hrdina, PA-C

My name is Jason Hrdina, and I am currently running for the Director At Large position for the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants. I graduated from the University of New Mexico School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program in August 2008. I am currently a Clinical Assistant Professor and the Clinical Coordinator for the University of North Carolina School of Medicine Physician Assistant Program. I am also a Physician Assistant in emergency medicine at the University of North Carolina Hospitals, practicing in both academic and community hospital settings. I been active duty military for 18 years and have recently transferred over to the Army Reserves. I have worked in multiple

specialties while in the military to include primary care, aerospace medicine, forward surgical teams and emergency medicine. I have held multiple leadership positions while in the military, to include being the Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Fast Track at Womack Army Medicine Center Emergency Room. I have been an active member of NCAPA for three years and have held a position on the Education Developmental Committee.

My current qualifications and achievements include the Certificate of Added Qualification for Emergency Medicine. I have been a Chair or Co-chair of multiple hospital subcommittees since becoming a physician assistant. I am also the Chair of the UNC PA structured clinical practice experience and UNC liaison and council member of NC PA Veterans Initiative. I started my medical career as a Combat Medic in the Air Force 18 years ago. I subsequently attended and graduated from the University of New Mexico Physician Assistant Program.

I have been actively involved in the advancement of the role of the PA in my current medical practice and in the state of North Carolina. I see the value of Physician Assistants in our current medical environment, and I wish to see our field grow in responsibilities and respect in the state of North Carolina. I am a big proponent of optimal team practice and find that team-based care is the best practice for our patients. I want to ensure PA laws and regulations are matching current and emerging practice environments. The value of membership in organizations such as the AAPA and NCAPA are extremely valuable for all Physician Assistants given the current climate in the changing medical arena. These organizations fight for our rights and for the recognition and value of Physician Assistants to our country's leaders. I wish to ensure the safety of our profession and see the advancement of our role in medicine.

I ask for your support in my current endeavors and appreciate your vote for myself as the Director At Large of the North Carolina Academy of Physician Assistants.



### Wanda Hancock, PA-C

Since moving back to North Carolina in 2008, I have been a member and actively involved in NCAPA. Although at times I was challenged by work and family issues, I found NCAPA to be a source of support, never a burden. I want to continue to support my professional organization by sitting on the Board of Directors and appreciate the nomination to run for the position of Director at Large.

I bring to the table experience, passion, and concern. Now that I do not work full time, I have the time to devote also, so that I can be a better leader. NCAPA has long been revered as the premiere state chapter among all others. I am proud to be a part of that. The eastern area of NCAPA has not been organized since 2009, I would like to lead the effort to bring together those talented PAs who live in that part of the state. I

believe that they can gain tremendously from NCAPA, as NCAPA can gain from the experiences of the PAs in this area.

It has been an honor to give back to an organization that has given me so much, and I wish to continue to do that if elected to the Director at Large position.



### Charlene M. Morris, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA

Please vote for me, Charlene Morris, for the NCAPA Director at Large.

My love, my specialty and fervor, is for Rural Family Medicine. From that broad practice, I have worked and grown to appreciate babies, children, adolescents--adults and the aging population. It is there, I can appreciate and share the expansive spectrum of our world, lives and healthcare.

Having moved to North Carolina in 1990, I immediately joined NCAPA. To this day, I appreciate the significant work that established NC PAs have accomplished. Prescriptive rights, expansive practice parameters and an excellent relationship with our state physicians and medical board have made living and practicing in NC what I have named PA heaven.

After much consideration I feel it a natural action to work with the NCAPA Board of Directors. Text, call or e-mail me with any recommendations, questions and concerns at [cvmprac@yahoo.com](mailto:cvmprac@yahoo.com), 252-474-8199. I look forward to working and meeting with you!

Physician Assistant Charlene Morris has been practicing for over 38 years. She has a strong interest in Rural Family Medicine and has been involved with leadership in several areas throughout her career. Charlene has authored and edited several publications and books and has developed presentations and CME programs that promote the PA profession.

**One Candidate for Nominating Committee Member-at-Large, 2-year term, one open position**



Amy Ford, PA-C

My name is Amy Ford and I am running for a position on the Nominating Committee as a Member-at-Large. I have worked as a PA in NC for the past 8 years. For my first 4 years of practice, my career was in primary care at 2 local area community health centers. Most recently, I have worked in psychiatry and I presently serve the psychiatric needs of cancer patients at the University of North Carolina. I have called North Carolina home for the past 22 years, first attending Wake Forest University to earn a Bachelor's degree in psychology and later receiving my MHS/PA degree from Duke University. As such, PA practice in NC is especially important to me.

Our state was the birthplace of PA practice and we have 2 of the top 10 PA programs in our state, with Duke leading the group. Maintaining the excellent quality and also furthering PA education especially in NC is vitally important to me. In our rapidly changing health care environment, it is imperative to me that NC PA's are recognized as vitally important team members. Optimal team practice, NC legislation addressing the opioid crisis and possible name changes are all topics that are important and relevant to daily NC PA practice. It is vital to stay involved as we move forward in our challenging and evolving healthcare environment and the best way to do so is with local involvement by excellent PA's. As a member of the Nominating Committee, I will be able to have a hand in enabling our state organization to identify PA's with a passion for leading the NCAPA to make the changes that will be needed in the future.