

Name: Barbara St. Marie, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN, FAANP, PhD

Current Title: Associate Professor

Affiliation: University of Iowa

Candidate for: MNRS Board of Directors, Member-at-Large



Dear Members of MNRS,

I am writing to seek your support as I run for a member position on the Board of Directors of the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS). I am very enthusiastic about contributing the leadership and direction of our excellent research society. Below I will share my qualifications, my vision, and my goals for the position.

**Qualification:** My life's work as a nurse has focused on pursuing excellence in clinical care, advancing our science, and educating the current and next generation of healthcare professionals caring for people in pain. My area of emphasis expanded to opioid misuse during my early years as a Nurse Practitioner with prescriptive authority in clinical practice. During that time, I began collecting research questions I knew needed answering as the opioid epidemic grew. I joined the University of Iowa, College of Nursing as a Post-Doctoral Fellow (2012-2014) in Pain and Associated Symptoms: Nurse Research training (NINR/NIH, T32 NR011147) and am currently an Associate Professor at Iowa holding certification as an Adult, Gerontology, and Primary Care Nurse Practitioner through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (2014039631). I am a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN) and a Fellow in the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP).

I have been a member of the MNRS since 2012 and my research contributions have been recognized with the Junior Researcher Award (2014) and the New Investigator's Award (2017) through the Symptom Science RIIG. I have also supported and mentored my students in dissemination of their research through presentations, posters, and in grant application submissions at MNRS and other professional associations.

From 2014-2016, I began my service to MNRS when I served as Chair of Pain and Symptom Management Research Interest Group and facilitated the name



change to Symptom Science Research Interest and Implementation Group (RIIG) and organized a Guaranteed Symposia. In 2019 to 2022, I was honored to serve on the MNRS Program Planning Committee (PPC) as a Host School Representative and as Chair of the Competitive Symposia Review Committee. In 2022, I became Chair-elect of the PPC, served as Chair of the PPC (2023-2024), and am now Past-Chair of the PPC. These leadership roles have prepared me for this next step to contribute as a Director of the MNRS.

Prior service on other Boards of Directors has developed my skills in addressing the strategic planning, financial management and member development priorities of import in a professional organization such as MNRS. I have served on Boards of Directors for the American Society for Pain Management Nursing (2013-2015) and the American Pain Society (2017-2019). Since 2017, I have been serving on Editorial Boards for two journals, Pain Medicine, and Pain Management Nursing and have been a NIH Scientific Grant Reviewer (2022-2024) and a National Research Reviewer for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Policy (2019). Of importance as a Board of Director is the ability to convey critical information that impacts policy and to that end I have testified before the FDA (2010), the National Academy of Medicine (formerly, Institute of Medicine; 2011), Congressional Briefing on behalf of nursing research and practice (2017), and recently (2024) met with the FDA and SAMHSA to discuss opioid education outcomes of physicians, nurse practitioners, and physicians associates.

Over the years, I have developed skills in leading organizations and positively impacting the nursing profession and look forward to serving the Midwest Nursing Research Society, carrying forward the Strategic Plan and ensuring that MNRS continues to thrive.

**Vision:** Recognizing the wide diversity of research and scholarship experiences of our membership, I envision targeting the unique member's values, work, and interest, ensuring inclusivity of all members. This includes upholding the strategic plan/goals of the Board that were recently revised, and prioritizing inclusivity and responsiveness by soliciting input from members on their values, interests, and needs. I also envision, MNRS having a "voice at the table" creating significant policy impact on a federal level that will protect post-doctoral training for nurses at the National Institutes of Health. As I've done in the past, I will also continue to work for and support MNRS and the annual meeting as a place to receive cutting-edge research and clinical expertise.

## Goals:

1. Expand knowledge and skills of nurses in developing and in using technologies that promote health equity and ease of access.

2. Implement communication and networking using digital strategies for information seeking, recruitment, engagement, and retention of nurses.

3. Listen to the members of MNRS for new opportunities to enhance equitable healthcare in areas that are underserved.