



Name: Masako Mayahara, PhD, RN, FAAN, CHPN, FPCN

Current Title: Associate Professor

Affiliation: Washington University

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

Personal Statement:

I am writing to express my interest in applying for the position of At-Large Board Member for Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS). If I am elected, this will be my second term on the board of directors. I believe my past MNRS board experience and my leadership abilities would be valuable to the Board and contribute to advancing the mission and vision of the organization as we adapt to the evolving healthcare landscape.

Since joining the board, I have been actively involved in both board and committee meetings. I currently serve as the chair of the Leadership Academy, where my experience has allowed me to contribute meaningfully to this new program aimed at fostering the next generations of MNRS leaders. This program has been successful and the events the fellows hosted at the annual conference were attended by approximately 300 members.

Beyond MNRS, I have held leadership positions such as secretary, treasurer, and currently as the President-elect of the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association and Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation, as well as an editorial board member for the Journal of Hospice and Palliative Nursing. My work as a board member includes collaborating with interdisciplinary leaders in hospice and palliative care on philanthropic efforts to address the diverse healthcare needs of communities, particularly focusing on equitable access to quality hospice and palliative care. I also served as a board chairperson of a hospice agency at a large healthcare system. As a board chairperson, I was required to think strategically and work collaboratively with other leaders.

I am a federally funded researcher specializing in hospice pain and symptom management. As both a primary investigator and co-investigator, I have led interdisciplinary teams in grants totaling \$10 million. Based on my contributions in the field of hospice and palliative care, I received mid-career investigator

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awards from the End-of-life and Palliative Care and Symptom Science research interest groups. I currently serve on the expert panel on end-of-life and palliative care at the American Academy of Nursing.

I am an experienced educator and mentor for faculty and students. As an associate chair of Community, Systems and Mental Health Nursing at Rush University College of Nursing and Professor of Nursing at Goldfarb School of Nursing, I have provided research and clinical scholarship support for over 30 faculty in my department. I have contributed to furthering nursing science by personally mentoring PhD, DPN and post-doc fellows. As proof of my commitment and dedication, the majority of my mentees received awards for their work, including second place at the MNRS DNP student poster competition. I am also a visiting scholar at St. Luke International University in Tokyo, Japan, where I help international students and faculty present their research projects at nursing research conferences in the U.S.

My leadership experience in clinical practice, education, research, and advocacy gives me insight into the unique challenges faced by nurse scientists today and strategies to engage future generations of nurse scientists. If I am elected, I am prepared to use this experience to continue to shape the future of MNRS. One of my goals is to deeply understand the financial health of the organization. This is because during the opioid crisis, I experienced a bankruptcy of a professional organization, so I know firsthand how fragile these organizations can be during crises. Also, through my business and leadership experience, I am familiar with assessing the financial health of professional organizations and strategically allocating the funds to grow the organization. I plan to pursue the treasurer position in the future.

I am also interested in strategizing how to engage alumni members. We have many long-term members who are retiring but they have knowledge and experience that should be valued and appreciated. I believe documenting the legacy of alumni members' contributions to MNRS will inspire current and future members.

I believe that I possess the ability to communicate effectively with many different groups, applying active listening skills and making effective decisions weighing multiple factors, including data and budgetary implications. Our current and past leaders have positioned our organization well to navigate the changing landscape of healthcare practice and regulation. I would feel honored to carry on their great work in the role of MNRS Board Member-at-Large.

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