Nursing Economic$ Foundation
Announces 2019 Scholarship Recipients
$20,000 Awarded to Four Nursing Students

The Board of Trustees of the Nursing Economic$ Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2019 Scholarship Awards: Angela Han, MSN, RN; Lauren Carfley Karcher, BSN, RN, IBCLC; Kathleen Sweeney, MS, RN, ACNS-BC, AOCNS, NE-BC; and Kyla F. Woodward, MN, RN.

Angela Han, MSN, RN, the recipient of the Robert V. Piemonte Scholarship, presented in honor of Dr. Piemonte, is a registered nurse at the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore in Bronx, NY. She earned a Bachelor’s degree in Biology from the City College of New York and a Master of Science in Nursing from the Columbia University School of Nursing in New York. She is currently pursuing a DNP in Pediatric Primary Care at Columbia University.

Ms. Han desires to help change the landscape regarding healthcare disparities and systemic inequalities. “I feel a deep responsibility and conviction to not only continue learning but to also proactively work to change such concerns, beginning in my practice as a student and eventually as a pediatric nurse practitioner. I hope to be able to serve the underserved and overlooked – particularly, minorities and people with disabilities.” She plans to work in both pediatric primary care and pediatric hematology/oncology and better serve her patients by building long-lasting relationships with their families.

Upon receiving the news that she was to receive an Anthony J. Jannetti/Nursing Economic$ Foundation Scholarship award, Ms. Han said, “this scholarship will provide me with the freedom to pursue my various interests and to practice where and how I want, providing care for those that most need it. I feel empowered and encouraged to further pursue my goals and plans despite the challenges of pursuing a degree to become a pediatric nurse practitioner while working full time as a nurse.” She further stated, “I am so grateful and honored to have been selected for this scholarship. This is not an opportunity I take lightly.”

Lauren Carfley Karcher, BSN, RN, IBCLC, before beginning her DNP program as a full-time student, was a registered nurse lactation consultant in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the University of Colorado Hospital. She received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, NC. She is currently studying at the University of Washington, Seattle, and working toward a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree.

When asked about her career plans, she responded, “Pursuing a meaningful connection with those I serve is the underpinning of my life’s work in nursing. The authentic, meaningful connection with people embodies why I cherish nursing practice and exemplifies one reason I am eager to deepen this partnership with patients and families as a doctorally prepared family nurse practitioner and inspire and shape the next generation of nurses as practicing clinical faculty.” She continued, “I recently relocated my young family of five out-of-state for my dream graduate nursing program. Every dollar of the Anthony J. Jannetti/Nursing Economic$ Foundation Scholarship funding lessens the student loans I’ll incur and truly makes my dreams a tangible reality.”

After Ms. Karcher was told that she would receive a $5,000 scholarship, she said, “I was elated and honored when I was notified of the Anthony J. Jannetti/Nursing Economic$ Foundation Scholarship award! I commit to uphold and exemplify the standards of excellence, innovation, professionalism, and integrity that the donors expect from scholarship recipients.”

Kathleen Sweeney, MS, RN, ACNS-BC, AOCNS, NE-BC, the recipient of the Connie R. Curran Scholarship, sponsored by Friends of Connie R. Curran, is Director, Hematology and Transplant Services, Froedtert Hospital and the Medical College of Wisconsin Cancer Center, Milwaukee. She earned a Bachelor of Science, Nursing, at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and her Master of Science degree at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Presently she is pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

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“I am beginning my third semester of DNP classes with a focus on leadership,” said Ms. Sweeney. When I am finished with school, I see myself in a nursing executive role within a hospital. I will continue to champion the importance of nursing care in the ambulatory setting and top of license work for those nurses.” She continued, “The best ambulatory care depends on a team that includes physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, medical assistants, and support staff. The art of leadership is finding the right mix of staff to provide high-quality care to patients in a cost-effective way. I think there is an art to leadership that isn’t often taught in school; nurses should learn this as well as the economics of health care. A part of my long-term goal is to teach nursing in a part-time capacity.”

When notified that she was to receive an Anthony J. Jannetti/Nursing Economic$ Foundation Scholarship, Ms. Sweeney said, “I was so excited when the Foundation Executive Director called to tell me I was one of the scholarship recipients. The scholarship I received was in memory of former Nursing Economic$ Editor Connie R. Curran, EdD, RN, FAAN. My clinical focus is oncology, so I hope I can honor her memory through my work.”

Kyla F. Woodward, MN, RN, is a full-time student pursuing her PhD at the University of Washington School of Nursing in Seattle. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Seattle Pacific University and obtained her Master’s degree at the University of Washington. When asked about her career plans, Ms. Woodward said, “Upon earning my PhD, my goal is to become academic faculty focused on both teaching and performing research about the nursing workforce. I am developing a research trajectory for my dissertation and career. The Anthony J. Jannetti/Nursing Economic$ Foundation Scholarship is vital to supporting my studies and enabling me to build skills for my future work. My passion is to prepare and support nurses as a backbone of our nation’s health, and I am thrilled to have the Foundation’s support for my doctoral preparation.”

Ms. Woodward said, “I was incredibly grateful,” upon receiving the news that she had been selected as a scholarship recipient. “I know there is a lot of competition for financial support of doctoral work, so receiving the scholarship has felt like confirmation that I am on the right path and will be able to be successful in my endeavors,” she stated. “I enjoyed hearing about the Foundation’s desire to support the development of academic faculty in nursing.”

Since its establishment, the Nursing Economic$ Foundation has promoted the advanced education and research activities of nurse executives who are pursuing graduate-level degrees. With the 2019 scholarships, the Foundation has awarded $440,000 to future nurse executives toward tuition for their degrees.

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