Midwifery Works Presenters

Stephanie Boyd, BA

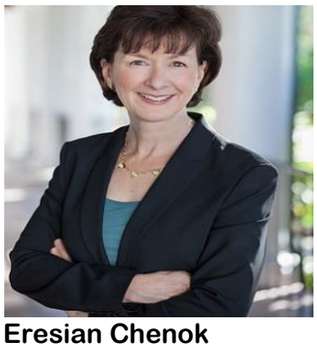
Stephanie Boyd, BA is the Social Media and Communications Manager for Frontier Nursing University (FNU). She has over 15 years working in higher education, with the last ten years serving in student recruitment and retention roles at FNU. In her current role, Stephanie creates compelling and dynamic content that builds and sustains awareness of Frontier Nursing University's mission and educational programs using key social media sites and communication campaigns.

Christie Bryant, CNM

Christie Bryant has practiced as a CNM in Denver for 24 years. She obtained her BS and MS from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. She has been a part of 3 CNM practice start-ups and is currently involved in the opening of Colorado's first hospital owned, free-standing birth center as the clinical coordinator. Her interests are focused on the business of midwifery and the development of profitable practices

Margaret Buxton, CNM, DNP

Margaret Buxton, CNM, DNP, is a Certified Nurse Midwife and graduate of the Vanderbilt Midwifery Program. She's the Clinical Director of the Nashville Baby+Company birth center, a freestanding birth center in collaboration with Vanderbilt Health. Margaret is a graduate of the Vanderbilt Midwifery Program. Her experience includes both full scope midwifery care and education. After spending the first two years of her career working on the Kellogg Birth Center Grant and as a CNM at the East End Birth Center in Nashville, she then taught for two years at the University of Washington in Seattle in the graduate and undergraduate Maternity Nursing specialty. In 2003, she joined the Vanderbilt Nurse Midwives and worked in both teaching at the Vanderbilt School of Nursing and practice at West End Women's Health Center, co-directing the practice from 2011 to 2014. Awards and degrees include the 2010 ACNM Foundation's Excellence in Teaching Award and the PRC Award for Clinical Excellence and Patient Satisfaction. In 2014 she received her doctorate from the University of Alabama Birmingham with a focus on prevention of cesarean birth and birth center care.



Kate Eresian Chenok

Kate Chenok has 25 years of experience as a leader and consultant in diverse healthcare settings. Her deep subject matter expertise includes value-based payment models, delivery system design and operations, product and business development, health information technology and the use of measurement and data to drive improvement. She has deep expertise in patient reported outcomes, registry design and operations, maternity and orthopedics care.

Leslie Cragin, CNM, PhD

Leslie Cragin, CNM, PhD has worked in academic and birth center collaborative practice settings and is retired from her work as Clinical Professor at UCSF Dept. Ob/Gyn. She served on the inter-association Midwifery Data Collaborative and was chair of the Division of Research's Data Section. She represents ACNM the Executive Committee of the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative. She was the chair of American College of Nurse-Midwives' (ACNM) Designing Data Task Force and is the ACNM representative to the ACOG convened Women's Health Registry Alliance. She is currently the Project Manager for ACNM's first multi-hospital QI Collaborative: The Healthy Birth Initiative: Reducing Primary Cesareans.

Susan DeJoy, CNM, PhD, FACNM

Susan DeJoy received a BS/Biology from SUNY Geneseo, a BS/Nursing from SUNY Downstate, an MSN/Midwifery from the University of Pennsylvania, and a PhD in Public Health/Epidemiology and Biostatistics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Until January 2017, she was Chief, Division of Midwifery and Community Health, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA. She is also Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Massachusetts Medical School; and senior faculty in the Baystate Midwifery Education Program. Dr. DeJoy has expertise in clinical and educational program development and implementation, having developed and maintained the Midwifery Education Program (1991), the Midwifery Triage Program (1999), and the Midwifery Ob Team (2004) at Baystate. She was elected to fellowship in the American College of Nurse-Midwives in 1997 and received the Dorothea Lange Pioneer Award in 2016.

Ana Delgado, CNM

Ana Delgado, CNM is an Associate Clinical Professor in the UCSF Department of OB/GYN. Ana splits her time between clinical practice and administration at Zuckerberg San Francisco General (ZSFG). She acts as the Assistant Director of Inpatient Obstetrics, primarily responsible for quality improvement and systems change, and as Director or Inpatient Services for the Nurse Midwives of ZSFG. Recently Ana was named Co-Director for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for the department, recognizing her commitment to health equity. Ana has worked in a variety of settings, autonomous private practice midwifery service, private practice collaborative practice, and academic collaborative practice.

Diana L. Dowdy CNM, DNP, RDMS

Diana Dowdy, CNM, DNP, RDMS, is a Certified Nurse-Midwife and a Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer. She holds a Master's Degree in Nursing from Emory University in Atlanta, GA (1980) and a Doctor of Nursing Practice Degree from the University of Alabama in Huntsville (2010). She has worked for the past 38 years in both clinical and academic settings. She has practiced full scope midwifery, worked in public health in South Georgia, served as adjunct faculty and clinical preceptor for both midwifery and nurse practitioner students. She became a Registered Diagnostic Sonographer in OB/GYN in 2000 and has performed basic ultrasound (both for private practice and for research clinical trials), saline sonohysterography, and 3D/4D ultrasound. She has provided numerous presentations on ultrasound at the local level, providing continuing educational programs for the Tennessee Valley Ultrasound Society. She published the article, *Keepsake ultrasound; Taking another look*, in the Journal of Radiology Nursing in 2015. She serves as the Chair of the Midwife Exam Assessment Committee with the ARDMS (American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers) and sits on the ACNM Ultrasound Education Committee. She is on faculty at Vanderbilt University School of nursing, teaching and precepting graduate midwifery and WHNP students. She wrote the curriculum for the Women's Point of Care Ultrasound course in Nashville, approved by ACNM for 17 credit hours.

Alexis B. Dunn, PhD, CNM

Alexis B. Dunn, PhD, CNM is a research assistant professor at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, where she conducts research investigating the relationships between health behaviors, inflammatory mechanisms, and adverse pregnancy outcomes among high risk populations. She is a certified nurse midwife who works in a variety of professional roles within the academic, hospital, and outpatient clinical setting. She currently serves in both a research and teaching capacity within the school of nursing, through which she is able to share her passion for clinical excellence as it relates to primary care, perinatal, and postpartum care of women. Dr. Dunn is actively involved as the current Vice President of the GA Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives, in which she actively participates on several committees focused on improving the health of women and families in Georgia. Specifically, her dissertation study focused on exploring the relationships reproductive tract infection, the vaginal microbiome, and complement activation in early pregnancy as a risk factor for preterm birth (PTB) among African American (AA) women. She has received funding for her research and support for her professional development from the National Institutes of Health, the American College of Nurse Midwives, and the Southern Nursing Research Society. She has also published in a variety of peer-reviewed journals including the Journal of Midwifery and Women's Health, Biological Research for Nursing, and Nursing Research.

Mari-Carmen Farmer, CNM

Mari-Carmen Farmer is a Certified Nurse-Midwife who has been engaged in the field of childbirth and maternal wellness for over 20 years. She is an AmeriCorps alum, a long-time doula and childbirth educator, and has a strong background in designing and facilitating trainings, retreats, and healing circles. She has also been facilitating prenatal care groups based on the Centering Pregnancy model since 2006, a skill she has applied to caring for diverse client populations in both English and Spanish. She is currently in full scope practice in Philadelphia and is in the process of designing a group prenatal care program that will integrate patient care and broaden the depth of resident exposure to the midwifery model of care during the antepartum period.

Rebecca A. Fay, DNP, APRN, CNM, WHNP-BC, FACNM

Rebecca practiced full-scope midwifery for 18 years in the Boston, MA area. After retiring from clinical practice and moving to Arkansas, she was instrumental in developing and operationalizing the Arkansas Affiliate. Her Capstone Project *Implementing Strategies for Full Operation of the Arkansas Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives* guided the affiliate's development. While serving as the affiliate president, the Arkansas Affiliate was awarded the Region IV American College of Nurse-Midwives Exemplary Affiliate Award at the 2017 ACNM Annual Meeting. Rebecca served on the Government Affairs Committee, currently is the secretary of the Membership & Marketing Committee and is a member of the Affiliate Development and Support Committee. Rebecca recently relocated to her home town in Missouri and is an Assistant Professor at Frontier Nursing University.

Cynthia B. Flynn, CNM, PhD, FACNM

Cynthia B. Flynn, PhD, MSN, FACNM. Dr. Flynn received her BA from the University of Washington, her MSN and CNM from Yale University, and her MA and PhD from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She has practiced full-scope midwifery at home, in birth centers in three states, in hospitals and abroad, both in independent practice and as an employee of a group practice. Her consulting with midwifery practices throughout the country has included the preparation of Performance Improvement Plans and other aspects of employee management. Her prior experience included a position with Houser, Martin and Morris, an executive recruitment firm, which included human resources support for its clients. She has served as CEO of four corporations, with management responsibility for up to 40 staff.

Mamie Guidera, CNM, MSN, FACNM

Mamie Guidera CNM, MSN, FACNM is on faculty at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, and in clinical practice at the Latina Community Health Services in Philadelphia. She has been the chair-person of the Professional Liability Section (PLS) of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM). She has done extensive research, writing, and presentations on Adverse Outcomes in Midwifery Practice and Midwives and litigation. She is committed to "making midwives" both locally and globally. She has participated in Midwifery education in the U.S., Guatemala, Honduras, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Mexico.

Elizabeth Hill-Karbowksi, PhD, CNM, FACNM

Elizabeth Hill-Karbowski, CNM, PhD, FACNM joined the ACNM national office in May of 2018 as the Director of Midwifery Practice, Education, and Global Outreach (MPEGO). The span of her career includes full scope CNM practice, involvement in multidisciplinary education, consultation, leadership, and management. Dr. Hill-Karbowski is a 2016-2017 Duke-Johnson & Johnson Nurse Leadership Fellow, and the immediate past President of the Wisconsin Affiliate. She currently serves on the ACNM Bylaws committee, and as the Education Director of the ACNM Foundation. Areas of clinical interest include vaginal birth after cesarean, cesarean reduction, and multidisciplinary education.

Jane Houston, CNM,MSN, DNP,FACNM

Jane Houston CNM, MSN, DNP, FACNM serves as the Clinical Director for the Midwifery and Women's Health program at Frontier Nursing University. As a midwife of 28 years, she has cared for over 2000 babies and mothers on four continents. She has lived and worked in Scotland, Zimbabwe and New Zealand before coming to the U.S. in 1996 to continue her midwifery journey. She holds Master's and DNP degrees from the University of Florida. She is passionate about increasing the quality of midwifery care to rural and underserved populations via excellent education. Dr. Houston has been a member of ACNM since 1998 and Chair of local affiliate 3-16 in Florida for the past 7 years. She has received the Excellence in Teaching Award and the Jeanne Raisler award from ACNM. She also sits of the Education Policy Advisory Board. She is a member of AANP, NLN and the Honor Society Sigma Theta Tau. She is a Fellow of ACNM.

Barbara Hughes, CNM, MS, MBA, FACNM, NE-BC

Barbara Hughes holds a BS and MS in Nursing from University of Colorado, School of Nursing and a Master's in Business Administration from University of Colorado Executive MBA program. She has practiced as a CNM in private, hospital based, academic and public health settings for 33 years. In addition, she is board certified as a nurse executive through NCC. Barbara is the founding consultant for Wilson Hughes Consulting, a Healthcare Practice and Management Consulting business in Denver.

Peter Johnson, PhD, CNM, FACNM

Peter Johnson, PhD, CNM, FACNM leads the global learning team in supporting the education and training dimensions of Jhpiego's projects around the world. This includes developing strategic approaches to training and pre-service education, overseeing trainer development, instructional design and monitoring and evaluation of training efforts. As an expert nurse and midwife, Dr. Johnson also leads Jhpiego's nurses and midwives in efforts to strengthen the global nursing and midwifery workforce.

Irma Jordan, DNP, APRN,FNP/PMH-BC, FAANP

Irma Jordan, DNP, APRN, FNP/PMH-BC, FAANP is a graduate of University of Tennessee Health Science Center and is dually certified as a family nurse practitioner and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner. She has greater than 15 years of FNP experience, served as a graduate student preceptor for over 50 students, and has served as faculty since 2007. Dr. Jordan is currently the Clinical Director of the Family Nursing and Psychiatric Mental Health Programs at Frontier Nursing University. Her roles as clinician, preceptor, and faculty managing student clinical rotations make her uniquely qualified to address preceptor and student needs in the clinical area. Dr. Jordan was recognized for her contributions and commitment to the nurse practitioner profession by The American Academy of Nurses Practitioner, including the 2014 NP Excellence Award for the state of TN in 2014, and inducted as Fellow in the Academy in 2012.

Christina Kocis, CNM, DNP, FACNM

Chris Kocis has been a staff midwife in the Stony Brook Midwifery practice since 1998 and its Division Director since 2006. Chris had twenty years of nursing experience prior to graduating with the first class of midwives from the Stony Brook Pathways Midwifery Program in 1997. In 2009, Chris graduated from Stony Brook with a Doctorate in Nursing Practice. She also served as president of the Long Island Midwives, Inc., and president of the Midwifery Business Network. Chris has a special interest in evidenced based practice as it relates to maternal and newborn health and access to midwifery care.

Anna Louiso, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Anna Louiso, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC is a graduate of University of Louisville (BSN, 1999), Spalding University in Louisville (MSN, 2002), and Frontier Nursing University (DNP, 2015). She is certified as a family nurse practitioner. She has 17 years of nursing experience, served as a direct graduate student preceptor for over 20 students, and has served as faculty since 2015. Dr. Louiso is currently regional clinical faculty for the state of Florida in the Family Nursing Program at Frontier Nursing University. Her roles as clinician, preceptor, and faculty managing student clinical rotations make her uniquely qualified to address preceptor and student needs in the clinical area. She is an active member of the American Nurses Association, Kentucky Nurses Association, American Association of Nurse Practitioners, National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty, and Sigma Theta Tau.

Lisa Kane Low, CNM, PhD, FACNM

Lisa Kane Low received her bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Michigan, her MS degree in midwifery from the University of Illinois in Chicago, post masters certificate in teaching midwifery from University of Pennsylvania and finally her doctoral degree in Nursing and a certificate in Women's Studies from the University of Michigan. Lisa is Associate Dean for the Practice and Professional Graduate Programs, and Associate Professor of Nursing and Women's Studies at the University of Michigan. She has been active in ACNM for nearly 30 years. Prior to her term as President, she was the chair of the Division of Standards and Practice and leads the Healthy Birth Initiative subcommittee. She served as ACNM's President from 2016-2018

Heather L. Maurer, MA

Heather L. Maurer, MA is ACME's first executive director and is celebrating her fifth anniversary with the agency. Heather directs and manages all aspects of ACME's operations, board relations, and stakeholder outreach. She oversees and directs strategic partnerships and collaborates with alliance organizations to drive mission of ACME. Heather holds a Master's in public communications and is currently completing a certificate in nonprofit management from John's Hopkins University.

Gretchen G. Mettler, PhD, CNM. FACNM

Gretchen Mettler, CNM, PhD, FACNM; Chair BOR; day job: Retired from being an Assistant Professor and Director of the Nurse Midwife Education Program at Case Western Reserve University July 1, 2018. She is now practicing 3 days a week at the Student Health Service of Case Western Reserve University. Gretchen has been a site visitor since 1998 and have served on the BOR since 2012. PhD in Curriculum and Instruction. She is the mother of a 27-year-old daughter. For fun she reads SERs - just kidding. Dr. Gretchen has 4 cats and 2 dogs and love to spend time gardening and reading. On clear nights, when the viewing time is right she enjoys watching the International Space Station fly over as well as picking out Mars, Saturn, Venus and Jupiter.

Mary Kay Miller, MSN, CNM, APRN, FACNM

Mary Kay Miller, MSN, CNM, APRN, FACNM has a career that has spanned clinical practice, education, public service, activism, and political involvement. She founded a freestanding birth center and served as administrator for multiple successful practices. She was active in the ACNM's Florida Gulf Coast Chapter immediately upon graduation in 2000, has served as Florida Affiliate President for the past nine years, and is the ACNM representative to Florida ACOG District XII. She carved a gateway for engagement between Licensed Midwives and CNMs and is prominent in legislative and lobbying efforts nationally with the Political Action Committee and in Florida. She tirelessly educates and advocates while offering safe, passionate access to birthing options.

Wade Neiman, MD

Dr. Wade A Neiman, MD, is an Obstetrics/Gynecology specialist in Lynchburg, Virginia. He attended and graduated from Hahnemann University College of Medicine in 1984, having over 34 years of diverse experience, especially in Obstetrics/Gynecology. He is affiliated with many hospitals including Centra Health Inc. Dr. Wade A Neiman also cooperates with other doctors and physicians in medical groups including Women's Health Services of Central Virginia Inc. He is married with two children and lives in Lynchburg, VA

Tonya Nicholson, DNP, CNM, WHNP-BC, FACNM

Tonya Nicholson, DNP, CNM, WHNP- BC, CNE, FACNM is the Associate Dean of Midwifery and Women's Health for Frontier Nursing University. She has a rich history with FNU as a 1999 graduate for midwifery, the first DNP graduate in 2009, and a WHNP graduate in 2011. Tonya served the women of central Florida in full scope practice from 2000-2006 where she also directed the midwifery service. In 2006, she joined the Frontier faculty and then became the Program Director in 2010 and the Associate Dean in 2015. Tonya currently practices part time in her hometown of Dublin, GA. She has a variety of teaching experience, but the majority has been focused on the prenatal period and in clinical courses. Tonya is very interested in communication and civility at the individual and institutional levels and focuses most of her scholarship in this area

Katie Page, CNM

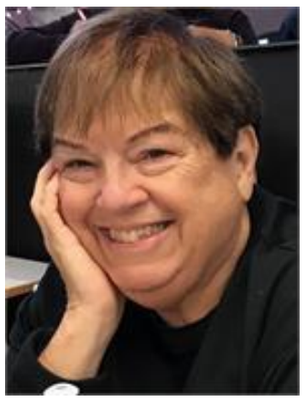
Katie Page, CNM has been in clinical practice in Lynchburg, Virginia since 2013. She completed her midwifery training in 2009 at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. She is the in-coming chair of the Professional Liability Section, a committee she has served with for the past 6 years. She also serves as the Data Center Co-Lead for the ACNM Healthy Birth Initiative: Reducing Primary Cesarean Collaborative and is the lead on her hospital's collaborative team. Since 2016, she has been the Chair of the Virginia Affiliate Education Committee. In her community, Katie partners with a local non-profit to host a workshop for pregnant couples and birth workers to teach them tools for labor comfort, as well as regularly participating on panels related to women's health and birth care.

Karen Perdion, CNM, MSN

As a member of the Nurse Midwifery Service, Karen Perdion provides family-centered maternity care, along with well-woman care, family planning, and other services. She can deliver babies in our holistic, in-hospital birth center or in a traditional labor and delivery environment, depending on the desires and needs of her patients. As a nurse midwife, she is able to follow her patients through their entire pregnancy, rather than the short time she saw them as a labor and delivery nurse. She enjoys getting to know her patients and feels privileged to share one of the most important times of their lives.

Brenda S. Quatrochi, CNM, MSN

Brenda Quatrochi, MSN, CNM completed her midwifery training at the University of Colorado College of Nursing in 1998. She joined Denver Health soon after graduating with a position providing out-patient care at an outlying clinic. In 2007 she became part of the growing full-scope practice. She began her leadership journey in 2009 when she became the lead midwife of an 11-midwife practice. Since that time, the practice has grown to 34 midwives providing full-scope care at 4 community clinics and 24-7 labor and delivery and triage services for a midwifery service attending approximately 1,500 deliveries annually. She has broadened of the scope of the midwifery service to include family practice, pelvic floor dysfunction, and mental health.



Nancy Jo Reedy, CNM, MPH, FACNM

Nancy Jo Reedy received a BSN from University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, nurse- midwifery education at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and an MPH from the University of Illinois in Chicago, Illinois. Ms. Reedy founded and directed midwifery practices focused on care of vulnerable and underserved women for over 40 years. She founded six practices during her career, in addition she moved two practices and closed two others. She has published in the areas of service provision and care of at risk women. She was a founding member of the Practice Directors Network and a contributor to the administrative manuals published by the Practice Directors Network and ACNM. She retired from full time clinical practice in 2012 and now teaches midwifery as a member of the faculty of Georgetown University in DC. She has served on the Board of Directors for the American College of Nurse-Midwives and the Board of Trustees for the ACNM Foundation including serving as the President of the Foundation. In 2007, Ms. Reedy received the Hattie Hemschemeyer Award given by the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

Amy Romano, MBA, MSN, CNM

Amy Romano, MBA MSN, CNM holds a Master's Degree in Nurse-Midwifery and a Master's in Business Administration from Yale University. She leads program development and innovation for Baby+Company, a multi-state network of maternity and wellness centers. She previously was Project Director for the Transforming Maternity Care Partnership, a national multi-stakeholder initiative to achieve a consensus vision for high-quality, high-value maternity care, convened by Childbirth Connection. A frequent presenter and author of many peer-reviewed articles, her co-authored book, Optimal Care in Childbirth, was selected as Book of the Year by the American College of Nurse-Midwives in 2013.

Jessica G. Schwarz, CNM, MSN

Jessica G. Schwarz, MSN, CNM, is a certified nurse midwife and advanced practice provider team lead for the Center for Fetal Diagnosis and Treatment at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Joan Slager, CNM, CPC, DNP, FACNM

Joan Slager graduated from the Frontier School of Midwifery and Family Nursing with a Certificate in Midwifery in 1991 and obtained her MSN from Case Western Reserve University in 1993. She received her DNP from Oakland University in 2008. She co-founded Bronson Women's Service, Michigan's largest midwifery practice in 1993 and was the practice director there for over 23 years. In 2017 Dr. Slager joined Frontier Nursing University as the Director of the DNP Program and is currently the Interim Dean of Nursing. She has served as Chair of the Business Section of ACNM's Division of Standards and Practice, Chair of that Division, and is currently the Treasurer on the ACNM Board of Directors. She has lectured extensively on various topics of Midwifery Business and is the editor of the 3rd and 4th editions of the Administrative Manual for Midwifery Practices.

Eileen Thrower, CNM, PhD, FACNM

Eileen Thrower graduated from the midwifery program at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University in 1991. She completed her Ph.D. in nursing at Georgia Baptist College of Nursing of Mercer University in 2016. Her dissertation research involved oral histories of nurse-midwives in Georgia during the 1970s and 1980s. She is an Assistant Professor at Frontier Nursing University, teaching in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program there. She practiced full-scope midwifery in Georgia for 25 years prior to transitioning into an academic role.

E. Brie Thumm, CNM, PhD,RN, MBA

Elisabeth Brie Thumm, PhD, CNM, RN, MBA is a certified nurse-midwife and a women's health systems researcher. She has been practicing midwifery in various settings, including Planned Parenthood, the New York City Health and Hospital Corporation, and Denver Health, since 2001 after completing her MSN at Yale School of Nursing. She earned her MBA in Healthcare administration from Baruch College in 2007. In 2017 she earned her PhD from the University of Colorado College of Nursing where she conducted a national study of the relationship between burnout, patient outcomes and workforce stability. Currently, she serves as the Maternal Health Clinical Consultant for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, holds an Adjunct Assistant Professor appointment at the University of Colorado College of Nursing, and continues to practice midwifery at Denver Health Medical Center.

Kate Woeber, CNM, PHD, MPH

Kate Woeber PhD, CNM, MPH has a BS in Human Development and Family Studies from Cornell University, a BSN from D'Youville College, dual master's degrees (MSN and MPH) from Emory University, and a PhD from Emory University. She has been a CNM practicing in Atlanta since 1999, having worked in both private practice and academic practice settings. She has been employed at Emory since 2004, teaching in both undergraduate and graduate programs, and primarily in clinical courses related to women's health and midwifery. She is the president-elect of ACNM's Georgia Affiliate, and will become Emory's midwifery program director in June 2018. She has presented her research related to this topic to students, to APRN preceptors, to her ACNM Affiliate, and at the ACNM Annual Meetings (2017 and 2018 poster presentations), and has a related article accepted for publication in the Journal of Midwifery & Women's Health entitled "The effect of prior work experiences on the preparation and employment of early career midwives".