

## **Press Release**

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## Foundation of the NSNA Appoints New Trustee to the Board of Trustees

**Brooklyn, New York – February 11, 2021** – The Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association Inc. (FNSNA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Shirley Quarles, EdD, RN, FAAN to the position of Trustee on the Board of Trustees.

For over 45 years, Dr. Quarles has served our country and made extraordinary impacts on the nursing profession through prominent leadership positions in the military, public, and private sectors. In 1975 she received a Bachelor of Nursing Science degree from North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University. Five years later, she earned a Master of Education degree in Community Health Education from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. Dr. Quarles continued her education at North Carolina State University where she earned a Doctor of Education degree in Higher Education Administration in 1997. During her time of service in the US Army, she also earned a Master's Degree in Strategic Leadership. She has completed post-doctoral studies at Emory University in Nursing Research Clinical Intervention.

Dr. Quarles comes from a family with a history of dedicated service to our great country. Therefore, it is no coincidence that she was commissioned in the US Army. During her 28 years of service, she continued to champion the causes of educational advancement and healthcare policy. She conducted many research studies that include, but are not limited to, the promotion of advanced education among Army Reserve nurses with Associate degrees, and medical readiness among Army Reserve soldiers. Additionally, she has worked tirelessly for former prisoners of war and women veterans through her Congressional appointments as a member of the National Advisory Committee for the US Secretary of Veterans Affairs. In recognition of her commitment to public service, to the nursing profession, and to her fellow soldiers, Dr. Quarles is the recipient of various military awards including the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Global War Terrorism Medal. In 2001, Dr. Quarles was promoted to the rank of Colonel for the US Army Hospital in Augusta, Georgia which is the largest hospital in the US Army Reserves.

Dr. Quarles has never been one to shy away from hard work and continued professional development. At Georgia Health Sciences University she created community partnerships that supported faculty and student recruitment, developed orientation programs for faculty, and

implemented program evaluation processes that have been successfully applied to other institutions. Her service on the President's Diversity Workgroup culminated in the establishment of the University Office for Diversity Inclusion. Her important contributions to the academic community did not go unnoticed. In 2011-2012 she was nominated by the University President, and was subsequently selected as a Fellow for the American Council on Education (ACE) program.

Today Dr. Quarles is retired but continues to give back to the nursing profession through various service commitments. "It is a privilege to serve on the Board of Trustees for the Foundation of the NSNA. It affords me the opportunity to work with a group of professionals to promote the educational development of nursing students to become successful licensed registered nurses at all levels," says Dr. Quarles of her recent appointment. Dr. Carol Weingarten reflected on this new appointment with excitement. "Dr. Shirley Quarles brings to the Board outstanding experience as a leader in nursing education and in the United States Army Nurse Corps Reserve. She is an advocate for nursing students and faculty, as well as active-duty military members, veterans, and their families. The FNSNA Board is delighted to welcome her as a Trustee."

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The Foundation of the National Student Nurses' Association (FNSNA) Inc., was created in 1969 to honor Frances Tompkins, the Associations' first Executive Director. Organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, the Foundation awards scholarships to qualified nursing students. Contributions to the FNSNA are tax deductible. Since 1974, the FNSNA has awarded over \$5 million in scholarships to undergraduate nursing students. The Foundation is organized as a 501 C3 charitable foundation.