

SPRING 2022

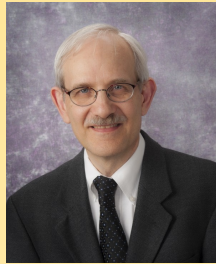
## IMPORTANT DATES

June 5-9, 2022  
ASMBS 2022 Annual  
Meeting

June 10, 2022  
National Metabolic and  
Bariatric Nurses Day

July 1, 2022  
CBN Exam Registration  
Deadline

July 8 – August 29, 2022  
CBN Exam Window



William Gourash, PhD CRNP RN

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRS

We at the CBN Certification have had a very busy 9 months since our last newsletter!



Jessie Moore, FNP-BC MSN

1. We would like to start this newsletter by again congratulating Karen Schulz, the winner of the 2021 Distinguished CBN award. With the virtual last annual meeting we were not able to appropriately honor her. Please see page 2.
2. The Distinguished CBN award for 2022 will be awarded at the June ASMBS Annual Meeting in Dallas TX. Invitations for nominations have been sent out. Please follow this link to make a nomination [Click here for more information on the award, including criteria and the nomination form](#). The nomination closure is 4-14-2022.
3. We have launched a 3<sup>rd</sup> CBN Practice Analysis with a 19-member Task Force headed by Melissa Rowan and Teresa Fraker and the Practice Analysis Subcommittee. The Practice Analysis survey has been sent out to all the Bariatric Nurses in the ASMBS and CBN databases. I urge you to complete the survey. Your experience and insight are needed to comprehensively define bariatric nursing. If you did not receive a link, please follow this link <https://www.research.net/r/CBN2022>. If you have a colleague who did not receive one, pass your link along. More about the Practice Analysis on Page 2.
4. The CBN Committee Leadership Council is composed of the leaders of the CBN subcommittees, the Integrated Health liaison, the chair, and co-chair. One of its functions is to develop a policy structure that will enable the CBN to become accredited by the ABSNC. Over the last year, with the help of the Accreditation subcommittee, the council has approved 11 new policies. One of these has been the retired bariatric nurse policy which we are operationalizing and will feature in our next newsletter.
5. We would like to introduce Veronica Cook, a bariatric program coordinator from Shreveport, Louisiana, who has volunteered to coordinate the CBN newsletter. Please see page 4.
6. 2022 is the 15<sup>th</sup> year of the CBN. Happy Birthday CBN! We have come a long way over these 15 years. We are looking for ideas as to how we should celebrate. Please send your thoughts to [CBN@ASMBS.ORG](mailto:CBN@ASMBS.ORG).

Finally, we would like to thank you – all CBNs – for your support for and for daily giving the best bariatric nursing care you are able. We thank all the CBN Committee members for their hours and hours of work that make the CBN Certification possible and very special. We would like to especially call out the Examination Development Subcommittee for their 2-day weekend review of examination items. Those that participated were Examination Development Subcommittee members Ruth Davis (Leader), Mara Berman, Carmela Pontillo, Maureen Quigley, Cheryl Holsworth, and “Experienced Item Writers” Heidi Bednarchuk, Evelyn Bowmaster, and Judy Tsurutani.

Thank you!

## THE DISTINGUISHED CBN AWARD



Each year, the Certified Bariatric Nurse (CBN) Committee awards the Distinguished CBN award. The award was developed to help recognize the contribution that CBN's make in the care of patients, families, communities and the profession of bariatric nursing. Nominations are solicited for a CBN who has made an extraordinary effort to promote the values of compassion, advocacy, research and education to be recognized with the award.



The winner of the 2021 Distinguished CBN Award is Karen Schulz, RN, MSN, CBN. Karen exemplifies leadership in all of the values of the CBN award. She has been involved with bariatric care her entire career, and has helped further the field through education, development of standardized approaches, national and state leadership, research and mentoring others in the field. Recently, during the Covid pandemic, Karen not only found time to steer her program at the Cleveland Clinic through uncharted waters, but also to share her insights in an article: *A Structured Approach for Safely Reintroducing Bariatric Surgery in a Covid-19 Environment* *Obes Surg.* 2020 Oct;30(10):4159-4164.

The CBN Committee would like to thank Karen for her efforts over the years, and to recognize her as the 2021 Distinguished CBN. Karen received her award in a Zoom ceremony last summer.

## Updating the CBN Practice Analysis

The Certified Bariatric Nurse (CBN) certification was established in 2007 to acknowledge the specialized skill set and knowledge of registered nurses working with metabolic and bariatric surgery patients. The CBN certification program is required to periodically review and update the practice-related activities and knowledge that defines and describes the specialty of bariatric nursing. This is done through a national survey completed by currently licensed registered nurses involved with the nursing care of metabolic and bariatric surgery patients. The results of this survey will be used to validate and update (as needed) the clinical practice activities and knowledge required to attain specialty certification as a bariatric nurse.

The CBN Practice Analysis Subcommittee members organized the development of a task force of 19 bariatric nurses with representation from all regions across the US, all aspects of bariatric nursing, and spanning the range of levels of bariatric nursing experience. The task force chair is Melissa Rowan with Teresa Fraker as the co-chair with assistance from subcommittee members Susan Dugan and Linda Neumann-Potash.

The 2022 bariatric nursing practice analysis survey has been deployed to all ASMBS nursing membership. The survey takes approximately 30-40 minutes to complete. **Your input is extremely important.** The survey is not exclusively for nurses who are members of ASMBS and can be taken by any currently licensed registered nurse (RN) involved in the care of metabolic and bariatric surgery patients (Continued on next page).



## Special Message from the Third CBN Practice Analysis Task Force

If you have not completed the Practice Analysis Survey yet, please do!  
Weigh in on Bariatric Nursing!!!!

Please share the survey link far and wide among your colleagues and organization.

<https://www.research.net/r/CBN2022>

The survey is set to “close” on **Friday, 4/15/2022**, so please act soon!!

### Task Force Members



Melissa Rowan



Teresa Fraker



Sue Dugan



Linda Neumann-Potash



Kellie Armstrong



Kim Cole



Latonya Fore



Jeanne Sanders



Angela Munro



Bill Gourash



Jessie Moore



Maria Immonen



Ana Shaffer



Karen Roy



Cheryl Holsworth



Carmela Pontillo



Veronica Cook



John Karl



Nicole Wright

## **CBN NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR**



Veronica Cook, RN, MSN CBN is a Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Center Program Coordinator at the Christus Highland Medical Center, in Shreveport, Louisiana. She has joined the CBN Committee to help with coordinating the Newsletter. We welcome her help and creativity to further develop our newsletter. Please feel free to email her any thoughts you might have regarding the newsletter at [cbn@asmbs.org](mailto:cbn@asmbs.org).



### Welcome Class of July 2021

### **Our Newest Certified Bariatric Nurses!**

B. Allen	S. Flach	C. Loudermilk	D. Rios
D. Archer	D. Fox	A. Mathews	C. Roadhouse
A. Bacunawa	M. Garcia	S. Mcdowell	J. Rosati
H. Bailey	S. Gormley	S. Menees	G. Rossi
A. Baird	M. Gregson	D. Miyamoto	C. Sherman
T. Barnette	J. Group	C. Moritz	E. Silva
A. Bell	R. Hicks	S. Mouzon	L. Stevenson
K. Blair	H. Hitt	E. Nappi	S. Tanner
K. Blake	C. Ho	E. Nielsen	R. Tatum
C. Bourque	S. Ingram	R. Norris	D. Vawter
M. Brandt	K. Johnson	K. Overton	H. Waugh
R. Burgan	I. Kritz	K. Porter	M. Weeks
T. Carr	W. Lai	V. Raulerson	T. Williams
G. Collins	R. Lattin	I. Renken	K. Wohlgemuth
K. Evanosky	L. Layman	S. Rhyne	A. Zimmerman
A. Fay	P. Lopez	K. Rieser	

## HOW DO I BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN CBN?

There are several ways to be a more involved CBN.

Here are some tips from your CBN chairs!

- ❖ Be an integrated health ASMBS member, if you are not already a member. Membership price decreased this year to \$25!
- ❖ You can volunteer on one of the CBN subcommittees.
- ❖ You can go to bariatric focused conferences, many are coming up!
- ❖ You can volunteer to be a CBN Item Writer. Training is provided.

If any of these options appeal to you, please email the CBN manager at [cbn@asmbs.org](mailto:cbn@asmbs.org).

## \*Second Annual\* BARIATRIC NURSING COURSE

At the ASMBS 2022  
Annual Meeting

Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am – 12:00pm

The course directors are Laura Boyer, FNP-C; Ginny Ledbetter, MSN APRN ACNS-BC; and Karen Schulz, MSN, CNS.

Please check back when the annual meeting schedule is finalized

<https://asmbsmeeting.com/schedule/>

Credits available.

## CBN EXAMINATION REVIEW COURSE

The Examination Preparation Subcommittee will be administrating the following CBN Examination preparation courses:

May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at the Florida, Puerto Rico, and Caribbean ASMBS State Chapter annual meeting in Puerto Rico.

June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at the ASMBS Annual Meeting in Dallas Texas.

Additionally, there is the online version of the review course.

Please check the CBN Section of the ASMBS website: <https://asmbs.org/professional-education/cbn/cbn-online-review-course>.

Pass on the word to those in your facilities looking to prepare for the CBN Certification examination.

## The 2022 Distinguished CBN Award



You are invited to make a nomination!!!! The Sixth Distinguished CBN award will be presented to recognize a CBN who has made an extraordinary effort to promote the values of the CBN: Compassion, Advocacy, Research and Education. Cast your nomination by April 14<sup>th</sup>!

The award will be given during the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the ASMBS from June 5-9<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

[Click here for more information on the award, including criteria and the nomination form.](#)





A structured approach for safely reintroducing bariatric surgery in a COVID-19 environment. Daigle CR, Augustin T, Wilson R, **Schulz K**, Fathalizadeh A, Laktash A, Bauman M, Bencsath KP, Cha W, Rodriguez J, & Aminian A. Obesity Surgery 2020 30: 4159-64.

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11695-020-04733-8>

Seip RL, Lee S, McLaughlin T, Staff I, Nsereko A, Thompson S, Santana C, Tishler DS, & Pappasavvas P. Utility of a novel scale to assess readiness for discharge after bariatric surgery. World Journal of Surgery 2022 46: 172 – 179.

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00268-021-06324-9>

### Certified Bariatric Nurse Certification Committee

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William F. Gourash,

**CO-CHAIR**

Jessie M. Moore

**IHEC LIAISON**

Karen Flanders

**ACCREDITATION**

Sharon Hillgartner (leader)\*

Payal Sharma

Karen Groller

**PRACTICE ANALYSIS**

Susan Dugan (leader)\*

Teresa Fraker

Linda Neumann-Potash

Melissa Rowan

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Narelle Story

Veronica Cook (Newsletter)

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Cheryl Holsworth

Mara Berman

Carmela Pontillo

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Karen Flanders

Laura Boyer

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Ron Permenter (leader)\*

Nicole Forryan

Marcela Montemayor

**FINANCE**

William Gourash (leader)

Tracy Martinez

Bobbie Lou Price

Jessie Moore

**OTHER DISCIPLINE**

**CREDENTIALING**

William Gourash

Jessie Moore

**INTERNATIONAL (new)**

\* Members of the Leadership Council

This Newsletter was developed by the CBN Committee and produced by the CBN Manager and the CBN Newsletter Coordinator

