

From the Director

By: Terri Schmitt PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP

Gratitude, as defined by Merriam-Webster Dictionary, is the state of being grateful. Then, in all capital letters Merriam-Webster's notes "THANKFULNESS". Gratitude sums up how I feel today about being with NPACE and the work the organization has done in the last year. Last month, I had the honor of reviewing all of the 'give-back' in free continuing education, faculty seats, and student-centric products that NPACE provided thus far in 2022. This give-back I am thankful for and has enhanced my own NP practice.

This month I am grateful we completed the last of our 2022 conferences in Boston and opened registration for our first two conferences of 2023 in Savannah and Denver. The Boston event was one of the high points of the year for me, where NPACE got to celebrate both Veterans' Day and NP Week with nurse practitioners from across the nation. We were able to read the Massachusetts governor's proclamation of NP week with our board of directors President, Karen Windle.

Besides the above, I am incredibly grateful for the NPACE staff and the board of directors. Throughout the year they work tirelessly to pull off events, create new ideas, execute projects, and help take NPACE to new places and in new directions. With the hard work of staff, we now have new grant funded education, new on-demand skill recordings, and new partnerships, such as our partnership with NONPF, to help serve nurse practitioners in a variety of places.

I am also grateful to our speakers who generously share their knowledge and talent with NPACE and all of you. Each of them brings their unique passions, talents, and knowledge to tens of thousands of NPs through NPACE. Without our talented speakers, the education we bring you would not be possible. Last but not least, I am grateful for you. Each of you invested in NPACE in some way. You have come to a conference either virtual or in-person, you have used an on-demand product to expand your skills and knowledge base, you have participated in our needs assessment, volunteered as a content expert, or even joined us on social media. Your commitment to learning, to your patients, and to the profession is why we continue to show up and do what we do every day. We are grateful for you!

If you have not been with us to an in-person event in a while, check out our first two events at npace.org, and give back to yourself with connection, learning, and time away. If you need specific knowledge regarding a disease topic, pharmacology hours for recertification, or even knowledge in learning new skills, check out our learning center at learn.npace.org. As always, we need input into what we do. For a chance to win a free seat at a 2023 conference, take some time to give your thoughts at our current needs assessment.

To every NP reading this, I am grateful for you, for your service in healthcare every day. Happy Belated NP week!