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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CCNE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ELECTS 2021 OFFICERS

Elizabeth Ritt, EdD, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, CNE, Professor of Nursing in the Department of Nursing and Health at Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois, has been elected as Chair of the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) Board of Commissioners. Dr. Ritt will assume the role of Chair on January 1, 2021.

At its meeting on September 22-25, 2020, in addition to electing Dr. Ritt as Chair, the CCNE Board elected the following individuals to leadership positions: Kathleen G. Burke, PhD, RN-NPD, CENP, FAAN, Administrative Consultant at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, as Vice Chair; Ann White, PhD, RN, MBA, NE-BC, Dean in the College of Nursing and Health Professions at the University of Southern Indiana, as Treasurer; and Philip Martinez, Jr., EdD, MSN, APRN-BC, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse in the Department of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at Middlesex Hospital (Connecticut), as Secretary. All officers are elected to one-year terms and may be re-elected to the office for a second term.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to work with my nursing colleagues across the country to foster quality in nursing education programs and nurse residency and fellowship programs,” stated Dr. Ritt, following the election of officers. “While there may be challenges and uncertainty ahead due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I know that nursing programs remain committed to preparing competent nurses for the complex healthcare environment and meeting the rigorous national standards established for CCNE’s peer-review accreditation process. Students, residents, and fellows have put their collective faith in us, and quality nursing care is as important now as it ever was before.”

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is an autonomous accrediting agency contributing to the improvement of the public's health. CCNE ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate and graduate nursing education programs and nurse residency and fellowship programs. As a voluntary, self-regulatory process, CCNE accreditation supports and encourages continuing self-assessment by nursing programs and supports continuing growth and improvement of collegiate professional education and nurse residency and fellowship programs.

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