



2018 NHCGNE Leadership Conference* November 13-14, 2018 Boston, Massachusetts

What motivated you to become a gerontological nurse educator?

I joined UAB's faculty after 25+ years as a clinician. It was my desire to share my clinical knowledge and "hands on" experience with our future NP providers. I wanted to instill in them the core concept that caring for older adults is very different from caring for young or middle aged adults.

Favorite experience as a gerontological nurse expert educator?

Teaching NP students how to debride via a simulation I created using ham hocks.

Who is a key person who supported you in becoming a gerontological nurse educator?

Dr. Pamela Fordham, retired UAB Professor of Nursing

Where would you like to see gerontological nursing education to be at in 5 years?

It is my hope that the Consensus Model that shapes licensure, accreditation, certification and education of advanced practice nurses will delineate gerontology as a population foci. Currently, gerontology is combined with adult health; there are no minimum geriatric didactic or clinical hours and faculty are not required to have gerontology experience.

Key words of wisdom for those nurses interested in becoming a distinguished educator in gerontological nursing education?

Be active in professional organizations, attend gerontological conferences, and model a passion for delivery of competent, evidence based care to older adults.



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About Natalie

Natalie Baker, DNP, ANP-BC, GNP-BC, GS-C, FAANP is an Associate Professor at University of Alabama Birmingham. Dr. Baker teaches adult/gerontology primary care nurse practitioner students, has mentored DNP students, and published and lectured on numerous clinical practice issues associated with aging. She maintains a nurse practitioner practice at a long-term care facility.

Recognized for her expertise in the field of gerontology, Dr. Baker was an item writer for the Gerontological Specialist Certification (GS-C), the only advanced practice expert specialty certification and was appointed by NHCGNE to serve on the expert panel responsible for development of Gerontological Nurse Educator Competencies. Dr. Baker is currently serving in her second term as Secretary on Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association's (GAPNA) Board of Directors. Dr. Baker is one of GAPNA's representatives for LACE Network, a group of licensure, accreditation, certification and education stakeholders for implementation of the Consensus Model.

She recently received her second gubernatorial appointment to the Alabama Board of Nursing as the advanced nurse representative. Dr. Baker is the 2016 American Association of Nurse Practitioners Advocate State Award of Excellence for Alabama recipient and has been selected to receive this award again at their 2019 national conference.