

NECHA 2018-2019 Board of Directors Candidates

The NECHA Executive Board of Directors consists of five officers: President, Past-President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Board also consists of five Members-at-Large, plus liaisons to ACHA (Region V Representative or Representative to the Nominating Committee). Generally, an officer is selected for nomination following service as a Member-at-Large. Once elected as President-Elect, that person assumes the role of President the following year. *Election results will be announced during the Business Meeting at NECHA 2018.*

[VOTE HERE NOW](#)

Voting is open **October 29 – November 8** (Your ACHA membership # is required to vote)

President-Elect Candidate (1)

Elizabeth Drexler-Hines MPH, MCHES

Director, Wellness Programming
College of the Holy Cross
Health Promotion

I have worked in College Health for almost the entirety of my professional career in the fields of health promotion as well as administration. Within that time, I have been an active member of ACHA and NECHA, serving in some capacity on different committees and most recently serving as a Member at Large and Treasurer on the Board for NECHA. I have experienced first-hand the value of NECHA in those years. The annual meeting, and especially the community and network of incredible colleagues are some of the reasons why I would like to continue to contribute my efforts toward this organization. As college students face more pressures, adversity, and health needs, professionals in the health and wellness domains will continue to be called upon more, to do more. I hope that we can continue to build NECHA as a resource that we as professionals can all utilize to connect us, provide us with information, and advocate for the professional and student needs in college health and wellness. It would be my honor to serve in the position of President-Elect.

Secretary Candidate (1)

Tanya Sullivan, MSN, FNP-BC

Health Service Interim Director
Wellesley College
Advanced Practice Clinicians

Having served as Member-at-large for one year, I would like to become more involved in the NECHA board by assuming the role of Secretary. My position as Interim Director involves a balance of direct clinical care with administrative responsibilities such as policy writing, systems development, supervision, and quality improvement initiatives. We are currently in a time of opportunity in College Health. It is widely reported that college students' health and mental health needs are growing more complex. For this reason, it is increasingly important for colleges and universities to collect and examine population data, synthesize it, and collaborate with one another to ensure high quality individual student outcomes and healthcare systems. Despite each college and university being as diverse as the individual students we serve, we share commonalities in practice and can learn a great deal from one another. Whether it be proactively reducing high risk behavior through effective health education strategies or responding to infectious disease outbreaks, we all benefit from collaboration across campuses. I am particularly interested in how we, as a discipline, stay relevant and adapt organizationally to effectively provide the highest quality care as our students' needs become more complex, often within a resource constrained environment. Thank you for your consideration.

Electronic voting allows ACHA members to vote even if they cannot attend the Meeting - and is so easy to do!

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Member-at-Large Candidates (2 candidates, 3 open positions)

Maria Francesconi, RN, NP

Senior Director, Nursing and Health Promotion
Harvard University
Administration

I have worked for Harvard for 18 years in various roles - as a NP, as Nurse Manager for Internal Medicine, as Chief of Nursing, and now as Senior Director for Nursing and Health Promotion. I have had the privilege of working with many colleagues to develop services and programs that provide outreach activities for all members of our community including responses to infectious illnesses such as mumps and flu, prevention activities such as vaccination clinics and group travel visits, development and implementation of services, both prevention and intervention in AODS, the Office of Sexual Assault and Response, and our Center for Wellness. I'm interested at this point in my career in getting more involved in ACHA and NECHA as my work now more directly aligns with student health. Harvard has many resources and those resources have allowed us to experiment with a number of initiatives that I feel I can share with NECHA. In addition, I would look forward to learning more about what other schools are doing and how we can work together to understand more closely the experience of our students and how we can further impact their health and well-being while they are part of our community. I have a passion for student health and hope to become more active professionally with those who share this passion.

Marylee Verdi, APRN FNP-C

Nurse Practitioner Primary Care
Dartmouth College
Clinical Medicine

As college healthcare providers we are in a unique position. We are assisting our patients in the transition from pediatric care-giver driven health to self-advocacy. Prior to working for the past 3 years at Dartmouth College as a nurse practitioner, I worked for 22 years in critical care and emergency nursing. My experiences have grounded me in the philosophy of meeting patients where they are and assisting them to have the best health they can. Working more actively with NECHA would assist me in further collaboration with my colleagues to accomplish this goal.

Who I am as a nurse practitioner cannot be separated from who I am as a nurse. I have always been drawn to the nursing theorist Dorothea Orem (1991). The basic premise is that patients should be assisted by their healthcare providers to care for themselves by understanding their perspective and where they want to be. Working in college health has been a wonderful opportunity apply this philosophy of care. My hope is that I can further learn about this unique population. The New England College Health Association promotes a culture of collaboration and research throughout our community. I would like to assist in furthering this goal.

Orem, D.E. (1991). Nursing: Concepts of practice (4th ed.). St. Louis, MO: Mosby-Year Book Inc

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