

CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR

Olena Svetlov,

DNP, BA, RN, AGNP/CNS, CCRN, PHN, NE, FCNS, FCCM

Critical Care, Cardiac Clinical Nurse Specialist

UCLA Ronald Reagan Medical Center

Los Angeles, CA



Experience and Activities

AACN Commitment and Involvement, 2022-present

Includes ways in which the candidate integrated the mission and work of AACN into their current role and practice. Local and national volunteer activities are listed, if applicable.

- San Fernando Valley Chapter
 - Member, 2011-present
 - President, 2022-2023, 2020-2021
 - Member-at-Large 2011-2018
- Lead reviewer, ECCO Module Review Panel Cardiac Modules ICU/PCU, 2025
- Lead writer, Hemodynamic Practice Update, 2025
- Faculty team, ECMO Workshop, National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition, 2025
- AACN Commitment at Kaiser Permanente Los Angeles Medical Center (KP LAMC), 2023-2025
 - Advocated for ECMO nursing education and adoption of AACN modules to standardize practice
 - Coordinated participation of 52 KP LAMC nurses at NTI 2025, celebrating two gold and one silver Beacon Awards
 - Coordinated CCRN/PCCN Review Class, April 2024-August 2025
 - Founded Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Council at KP LAMC
 - Introduced and implemented AACN HWE Standards, 2nd ed. on unit level despite lack of a clinical ladder (CNA union agreement)
- AACN Commitment at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, 2015-2023
 - Unit lead and champion, Beacon application, 2019-2023, Four successful Beacon awards

Key Professional Activities outside AACN, 2022-present

Includes involvement with other professional organizations, teaching and/or speaking engagements

- Global and Community Engagement, 2022-present
 - Created Stop the Bleed training videos for Ukrainian military and civilians via YouTube and Telegram
 - Co-created content for the Tactic MedAid App (100k+ downloads) to guide civilians and military on emergency care from shelling, bombing, burns and gunshot injuries

- Verified translation of Stop the Bleed script by the American College of Surgeons
- Organized two fundraising events for medical supplies for a hospital in Zhytomyr, Ukraine, 2025, 2024
- Sang in the Kobzar Choir to raise funds for healthcare and humanitarian support
- Volunteered at community health fairs and teaching events
- Contributed to AACN TikTok campaign, “What Does Courage to Soar Mean to You?”
- Discussed the role of nursing during Emirates Critical Care Conference podcast
- Speaking Engagements, 2023-2025
 - Society of Critical Care Medicine
 - “Aspire From Within: Implementing Donna Wright Learning Model to Achieve AHA Resuscitation Benchmarks,” 2025
 - “Liberation Bundle in Surgical/Trauma/Transplant ICU: Success to Prevent Delirium,” 2024
 - “Nursing Burnout – Year in Review,” 2023
 - National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
 - Co-presenter, “Heart Failure Medications and Emerging Trends in Treatment Approaches” and “Years in Review: Past, Present and Near Future of Innovations in Critical Care by CNS,” 2025
 - Co-presenter, “Cardiac Arrhythmia Management: What Do We Know and What is the Future?” 2024
 - “Cardiac Arrhythmia: Management Today and Near Future With CRISP/CAS9 Therapy” and “PA Catheter Values Are Not That Complicated,” Emirates Critical Care Conference, 2025
 - Co-presenter, “Advanced Hemodynamics: Reading PA Catheter Values and Placement,” NTI 2024
 - “Delirium Prevention Strategies Among Adults in ICU Settings,” NICHE 2023
 - “Delirium in ICU,” TexLAS Telemedicine Project ECHO, 2023
- Publications, 2024-2025
 - Svetlov O, NICHE Critical Care 3 Geriatrics Modules (approved, in works for digitization), 2025
 - Khalil M, Yousef KM, et al., including Svetlov O. “Assessing Outcome Measurements and Impact of Simulation in Neurocritical Care Training: A Systematic Review,” Neurocritical Care, Springer journals, 2024
 - Svetlov O, et al., “Per Aspera Der Astra: The Story of Building Unity for Mobile ECMO Patients,” Perfusion, Abstract Book, 34th ELSO SEECMO Conference and UCLA ECMO Symposium, v.39 (2S, 3S-12S), 2024

Issues Statement

I strongly believe that one of the most key issues affecting acute and critical care nursing today is the lack of widespread implementation of Healthy Work Environment (HWE) standards in healthcare institutions. While the AACN Beacon Award recognizes excellence and motivates some organizations to improve, it is concerning that only a fraction of institutions are actively creating supportive work environments. Annual HWE assessments provide a crucial, real-time reflection of nursing life within an organization. These assessments are not merely about meeting standards—they offer actionable insights into areas where meaningful improvements are needed.

National nurse engagement surveys, which occur only once a year, often fail to capture the immediate needs and concerns of staff. In contrast, the AACN HWE assessment tool delivers a more precise and timely understanding of where interventions are most needed. This allows leaders to prioritize strategies that support nurse well-being, retention and professional growth while fostering high-quality patient care.

I strongly advocate that HWE standards be mandated by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and The Joint Commission (TJC) for all medical centers across the U.S. and internationally. Such a mandate would standardize quality care, ensure nurses operate in environments that support their professional development, and promote safer, more efficient patient care.

By advocating for the universal adoption of HWE standards, AACN and the AACN Certification Corporation can help create more supportive, effective and compassionate healthcare systems that benefit both nurses and patients. This mission is one I am deeply committed to, and I believe I can contribute meaningfully to raising awareness and championing this critical issue in clinical practice today