

UConn

SCHOOL OF NURSING

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UConn Appoints E. Carol Polifroni as New Nursing School Dean

STORRS, CT – UConn Provost Mun Y. Choi announced on Wednesday, June 29, that Dr. E. Carol Polifroni, EdD, CNE, NEA-BC, RN, ANEF has been appointed as the Dean of the School of Nursing. According to Provost Choi, “Dr. Polifroni is a nationally renowned researcher and educator who has spent a lifetime working to advance the nursing profession in the state and throughout the nation.” She has served as UConn’s Director of the Office of Public Engagement since 2013 and will continue in this role as well.

Polifroni had served as Associate Dean for the School of Nursing from 1982-1987, was Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Special Initiatives from 2007- 2009 and held Acting Dean positions in academic years 1987-1989 and 2006-2007. In addition to her professor role, Polifroni has held numerous coordinator positions in both graduate and undergraduate programs, designed the CEIN program and served as Track Coordinator for Patient Care Services and Curriculum Coordinator at UConn.

Polifroni received more than \$5M in grants from federal agencies and foundations to pursue her research in the enhancement of the diversity of the nursing workforce and the preparation of tomorrow’s educators. She advised 25 doctoral students who are now leading productive careers in the profession. For her many contributions in research and education, she’s been inducted as a Fellow in the Academy of Nurse Educators and awarded the Josephine Dolan Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Education. Dr. Polifroni also brings extensive experience through her leadership involvement in the American Nurses’ Credentialing Center and its Magnet Recognition Program, and the American Association of University Professors. In 2011, Dr. Polifroni was awarded the Connecticut Nurses Association Mary Jane Williams Diamond Jubilee Award for Lifetime Achievement in Nursing.

Polifroni earned her bachelor's degree in nursing from Saint Anselm College in Manchester, NH, her MS from New York University New York, NY, and her EdD from the Rutgers State University of New Jersey in New Brunswick, NJ.

Polifroni created and directed the HRSA funded project "RUN with LC (recruiting underrepresented individuals to nursing through learning communities)," dedicated to enhancement of the diversity of the nursing workforce. The project involves activities at The Nursing Academy at Hartford Public High School, the Anna Norris Elementary School in East Hartford and the East Hartford Middle School. As chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Nursing Academy at Hartford Public High School, Polifroni presides over mentoring, support of graduate assistants to create and advise the Future Nurses' Club, hosting day and weekend camps at UConn, facilitating visits to college campuses, museum excursions, internships at local health care facilities and agencies, and integrating nursing & health care into all activities in their high school curriculum.

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About UConn's [School of Nursing](#) has a timeless commitment to wellness and provides the exceptional education needed to succeed and lead in the rapidly evolving healthcare professions. The school is fully approved, accredited and committed to quality research and public service. Its faculty members advance knowledge through excellence in scholarship and research into the healthcare needs of the world's diverse population. It seeks to earn the support of Connecticut taxpayers by dispatching a steady stream of competent, confident, compassionate nursing professionals – clinicians and scholars alike – into a world that desperately needs them. For more information, visit www.nursing.uconn.edu.