



L. Gail Curtis, MPAS, PA-C, DFAAPA
Immediate Past President



L. Gail Curtis has served in numerous leadership positions leading up to her service as President and Chair of the Board in 2017-18. She served as vice president and speaker of the House of Delegates for three consecutive years, prior to being elected as the AAPA's president-elect in 2016.

Based in Winston-Salem, N.C., Curtis is chair and associate professor at the Wake Forest University School of Medicine's Department of PA Studies, where she has been a professor for more than 30 years. She has written numerous articles and book chapters and presented on such topics as PA professional regulations, otolaryngology, substance use disorder and weight management.

For Curtis, promoting wellness among her fellow PAs is just as important as promoting it to her patients and she often lectures on wellness issues for students and healthcare providers. Of particular concern are those who may be struggling with addiction issues; she educates on the many treatment programs available to medical professionals and advocates for recovery.

Curtis is a well-known leader in her community and state, serving on boards of directors of the local YMCA and alcoholism counseling center. She also volunteers at the SECU Family House, which provides a home-away-from-home for seriously ill patients and their family members and the DEAC clinic, which is a free clinic for those who cannot afford health insurance and do not qualify for government assistance. Among her professional accolades, Curtis received the North Carolina Academy of PAs Outstanding Service Award and was named North Carolina PA of the Year in 2013.

Curtis earned a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, and graduated from the Wake Forest University PA Program. Her master's degree in PA studies is from the University of Nebraska. Curtis has earned the designation of AAPA Distinguished Fellow.