Committee Descriptions

If you apply and are placed on a committee, participation is expected. Committees primarily communicate thru email and conference calls. Most terms are for 1 year, but may be longer, based on the committee chosen.

STANDING COMMITTEES

*Awards Committee:*

The purpose of the Awards Committee is to solicit nominations for the various awards given by IAFN annually. The committee reviews all nominations and selects the winners for each year.

*Education Committee:*

The purpose of this committee is to support and coordinate the development, implementation and marketing of current and future IAFN educational programs by working with IAFN’s Education Coordinator. In addition, the Committee works to emphasize the importance of continuing education for forensic nurses and associates in the profession.

*Finance and Audit Committee:*

The purpose of this committee is to support the financial operations of the organization through financial and audit report reviews and budget approval.

*Government Affairs Committee:*

The committee's purpose is to keep the Board and Membership informed of government policy issues that impact forensic nursing and forensic nursing patients. The Government Affairs Committee is responsible for creating informational contacts with other organizations that impact forensic nursing, forensic nursing practice, or forensic nursing patients. It also informs the Association's BOD and recommends action involving national or international legislation or issues that impact forensic nurses, forensic nursing practice, or forensic nursing patients; educates the IAFN members about government, policy issues that impact forensic nurses, forensic nursing practice, or forensic nursing patients; and collaborates with the Association's lobbyist.

*Membership Committee:*

The purpose of the membership committee is to educate forensic nurses and associates on the importance of membership to the International Association of Forensic Nurses. The committee also promotes and supports the IAFN by increasing and retaining the membership.

*Program Planning Committee:*

The committee is charged with overseeing all aspects of educational content for the Annual Assembly program. This includes the review of all abstracts and making a decision on the
various topics to be presented. This committee requires a greater time commitment than other committees. Membership is limited to one-year.

Research Committee:

The purpose of this committee is the development and maintenance of the IAFN Research Grant Awards in keeping with organizational policy, established budget and Board directives, development and updating of the organizational research agenda including thorough Board review and approval, and subsequent identification of the Research Logic Model. In addition, two of the committee members will be identified annually to provide annual IAFN conference abstract review.

Social Justice:

The purpose of this committee is to strengthen the organizational social justice pillar through development of an organizational position paper on Social Justice, and to identify strategies and goal-specific activities for Board, staff and members to improve awareness and action around issues of justice, diversity, equity and inclusion (JEDI).

SPECIAL COMMITTEES/BOARDS

Commission for Forensic Nursing Certification:
In accordance with the mission of the Association, the Commission for Forensic Nursing Certification (CFNC) is responsible for developing and maintaining a certification program for the various areas of forensic nursing practice. Established by the Association, the CFNC is a functionally autonomous component of the Association. The Association created the CFNC to promote the highest standards of forensic nursing practice through the development, implementation, coordination, and evaluation of all aspects of the certification and certification renewal processes. The CFNC is responsible for establishing, reviewing, and overseeing implementation of the policies for the Association’s certification programs. The CFNC has the sole authority for establishing policies for certification eligibility, development and scoring of the examinations, administration of the examinations, certification renewal requirements, and operations of the certification programs.

IAFN Foundation:
The Foundation of IAFN is the 501C(3) charitable arm of the organization. The Foundation Board functions under its own set of policies and is managed both programmatically and fiscally by the organizational CEO.

Journal of Forensic Nursing (JFN):
The Editorial Board of the JFN is made up of a hired Editor and other volunteers who work collaboratively with a publishing company to produce the organizational journal. This Board functions under its own set of policies approved by the overall IAFN Board of Directors.

Nominating Committee:
The nominating committee is a group of elected members who are charged with development and submission of annual Board slate of Directors that get approved by the organizational Board.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

*By-Law Committee:*

The Bylaws Committee's purpose is to prepare proposed amendments for action by the Board of the IAFN. The committee serves as a channel through which any members of the IAFN, including committee members, can submit proposed revisions of the Bylaws to the Board.

*Ethics Committee:*

The Ethics Committee develops and maintains ethics standards for forensic nursing practice, educates members about ethics issues, serves as an ethics resource for members, and advises the Board of Directors as requested regarding ethics issues.