



Candidate Position Statement and Biographical Information

Position: Board of Directors

1. Candidate Information

Name of Nominee:

Anju Wadhawan, MSN, MHA, RN, PhD Student

Education (Highest Degree Held and School):

PhD Candidate, Rutgers Health-School of Nursing

Position Statement:

I am honored to submit my candidacy for the Board of Directors of the New Jersey League for Nursing (NJLN). As a nurse educator, researcher, and community advocate, I am deeply aligned with NJLN's mission to promote excellence in nursing education, support the development of a strong and diverse nursing workforce, and advance the health of New Jersey communities through leadership, collaboration, and innovation.

With over twenty years of experience as a nurse and nurse educator across multiple academic institutions, I understand the evolving challenges and opportunities facing nurse educators and students. As a current member of the NJLN Nomination Committee, I have supported leadership development by identifying and mentoring nurse leaders who reflect our profession's diversity and values.

My research focuses on health equity, culturally responsive care, and dementia-related disparities, particularly in underserved communities. I participate in national and regional conferences, publish peer-reviewed articles, and mentor nursing students to advance nursing as both a science and an art. If elected, I will collaborate to expand NJLN's scholarship and leadership initiatives, strengthen educator support systems, and advocate for inclusive policies that empower our diverse nursing community. I believe nursing drives meaningful change, and NJLN serves as a catalyst for that change throughout New Jersey.

I would be honored to serve with passion, integrity, and vision as a member of the NJLN Board of Directors.

2. Major Positions Held During the Past 10 Years

Date	Title of Position	Employer
2024-Present	Lecturer, BSN, Rutgers Health, School of Nursing	Rutgers University
2019-2025	Adjunct Faculty, Associate Degree Program	Mercer County Community College
2016-2024	Visiting Professor, BSN Program	Chamberlain University

A. Wadhawan, MSN, MHA, RN, PhD Student

3. NJLN Activities During the Past 10 Years

Date	Activity
2025 - Present	Nominations Committee
2021 - Present	NJLN Member

4. Major Activities in Other Professional Organizations During the Past 5 Years

Date	Activity	Organization
2025-Present	President-Elect	Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Alpha Tau Chapter
2025-Present	South Asian Dementia Support Group Facilitator	Alzheimer's' Association-Great Chapter of New Jersey
2024-Present	Website committee Chair	Association of American Indian Nurses of NJ – Chapter-2

5. Awards, Publications, Scholarly Activity

Awards

- 2024 Dr. Maureen Foley Sullivan Scholarship Award, New Jersey League for Nursing.
- 2025 Rising Stars of Research and Scholarship Invited Student Posters Sigma's 36th International Nursing Research Congress
- 2025 Student Travel Scholarship Award, Eastern Nursing Research Society
- 2025 Conference Fellowship, Alzheimer's Association International Conference 2025
- 2025 Eastern Pennsylvania Geriatric Society, First Place Award
- 2025 Daisy Award Nominee, National Association of Indian Nurses of America (NAINA)

Publications

1. Anderson, J., Berryman, K., Dowd, J., Kenny, C., Luib, P., Nkrumah, I., Reilly, L., Retano-Anderson, A., Ronquillo, K., Wadhawan, A., & Birnbaum, S. (2024). Student reflections on learning in a doctoral-level writing course. *Nurse Educator*, 49(5), 284–288. <https://doi.org/10.1097/NNE.0000000000001606>
2. Mobarki, A. M., T D'Alonzo, K., Joseph, M. E., Wadhawan, A., Mathur, S., & Holly, C. (2025). Interventions to lower cardiovascular disease risk factors among Asian Indian immigrants: a scoping review protocol. *BMJ open*, 15(7), e100339.
3. D'Alonzo KT, Mathur S, Joseph ME, Wadhawan A, Hargwood P and Vivar TC (2026) Design and implementation of the 6-C model of community engagement. *Front. Public Health* 13:1648108. doi:10.3389/fpubh.2025.1648108
4. Wadhawan, A., Btoush, R., Zha, P., & Jarrín, O. F. (2025). Psychometric evaluation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian dementia family caregivers living in the United States. *Alzheimer's & Dementia: Behavior & Socioeconomics of Aging*, 1(4), e70047.
5. Wadhawan, A. (2025). Factors Influence Dementia Treatment-Seeking Behavior among Asian Indian Americans. *Alzheimer's & Dementia*, 21, e107198. (AAIC 2025, Poster).

Professional Presentations, Invited Lectures

2024 Speaker on Dementia in South Asians, North American Telugu Society (NATS) New Jersey Chapter Meeting, Edison, NJ

2024 Validation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregivers. 10th Annual Brain Health Institute Symposium, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ (flash talk and poster)

2024 Validation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregivers. 19th Annual Nursing Research Symposium, RWJ Barnabas Health Nursing, virtual poster

2025 Validation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregivers. Wadhawan A, Btoush R, Zha P, Jarrín O. F. Eastern Nursing Research Society Scientific Sessions, April 2025 (podium)

2025 Psychometric Evaluation of Affiliate Stigma Scale for Dementia Family Caregivers of Asian Indian Americans. Wadhawan A, Btoush R, Zha P, Jarrín O. F. Forum on Inter-Collegiate Regional Events (FIRE) for Nursing Doctoral Students and Faculty, The New York Academy of Medicine (Poster)

2025 Validation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregivers. Wadhawan A, Btoush R, Zha P, Jarrín O. F. Graduate Research Symposium, Intellectual Innovation in Uncertain Times (Podium)

2025 Psychometric Evaluation of Affiliate Stigma Scale for Dementia Family Caregivers of Asian Indian Americans. Wadhawan A, Btoush R, Zha P, Jarrín O. F. Eastern Pennsylvania Geriatric Society, 33rd Annual Research Night (Podium)

2025 Validation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregivers. Wadhawan A, Btoush R, Zha P, Jarrín O. F. Sigma Theta Tau International Congress, Seattle, WA, July 2025 (Poster)

2025 Validation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregivers. Wadhawan A, Jarrín O. F, Btoush R, Zha P. Alzheimer's Association International Conference, Toronto (Poster)

2025 Factors Influence Dementia Treatment-Seeking Behavior among Asian Indian Americans. Wadhawan A, Jarrín O. F. Alzheimer's Association International Conference, Toronto (Poster)

2025 Validation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregivers. Wadhawan A, Btoush R, Zha P, Jarrín O. F. National Association of Indian Nurses of America (NAINA) 5th Clinical Excellence and Leadership Conference, Pennsylvania (Podium)

2025 Factors Influence Dementia Treatment-Seeking Behavior among Asian Indian Americans. Wadhawan A, Jarrín O. F. National Association of Indian Nurses of America (NAINA) 5th Clinical Excellence and Leadership Conference, Pennsylvania (Poster)

2025 Psychometric evaluation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregivers. Wadhawan A, Btoush R, Zha P, Jarrín O. F. Alpha Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta International, Research Day Symposium (Podium)

2025 Factors Influence Dementia Treatment-Seeking Behavior among Asian Indian Americans. Wadhawan A, Jarrín O. F. Alpha Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta International, Research Day Symposium (Poster)

Research Experience

2023-Present: Research Assistant: Research Project Chasing the American Dream: 1. Acculturation stress, truncal obesity and cardiovascular risk among first-generation Asian Indian immigrants in New Jersey. 2. Design and implementation of a peer leader-facilitated pilot dyadic intervention to decrease cardiovascular disease risk among first-generation Asian Indian immigrants.; Funding Source: NIH/NIMHD P50MD017356 Pilot Grant, Rutgers-NYU Center for Asian Health Promotion and Equity, PI: Karen D'Alonzo, Ph.D., RN

2024-2025: Ph.D. Research Practicum: Adaptation and Validation of the Affiliate Stigma Scale for Asian Indian American Dementia Family Caregiver, PI: Olga Jarrín Montaner, Ph.D., RN

2025-Present Consultant: Characterizing South Asian and Middle Eastern/North African (SAMENA) offspring of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias patients cohort study, Herbert and Jacqueline Krieger Klein Alzheimer's Research Center, PI: Michal Schnaider Beerli, Ph.D.