



## Press Release

CONTACT: Ann Knabe, Ph.D., APR+M, 2020 Chair, Universal Accreditation Board, [AnnKnabe@gmail.com](mailto:AnnKnabe@gmail.com)

### **Universal Accreditation Board Announces 2020 Leadership**

NEW YORK (Feb. 3, 2020) — The governing body for Accreditation in Public Relations (APR), the Universal Accreditation Board (UAB), announced key leadership positions and board members for 2020.

Ann Peru Knabe, Ph.D., APR+M, has been named UAB chair for 2020. Practicing public relations for more than 30 years, Knabe owns AK & Associates, and is an emergency preparedness liaison officer in the Air Force Reserve. She is also a career public affairs officer, with her most recent public affairs role at the Pentagon. She is a member of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) and National Association of Government Communicators (NAGC).

Marian R. Faulk, APR, director of marketing at Springhill Medical Center, Mobile, Alabama, is the 2020 UAB vice chair. Faulk has more than 26 years' experience in public relations and is a member of PRSA and Southern Public Relations Federation.

"This year the UAB will return to its roots and focus on our original mission," said Knabe. "Our core emphasis will be on the granting and maintenance of the Accreditation program. We also hope to expand the number of practitioners who earn their APR+M (Accreditation in Public Relations and Military Communications)."

For 2020, representatives from the nine UAB participating organizations are:

- **Asociación de Relacionistas Profesionales de Puerto Rico**  
Carlos Rivera-Cuesta, APR
- **California Association of Public Information Officials**  
Robin Rockey, APR
- **Florida Public Relations Association**  
Lanette Hart, APR, CPRC  
Laura Byrnes, APR, CPRC
- **Maine Public Relations Council**  
Nancy Roberts, APR
- **National Association of Government Communicators**  
Laura Kirkpatrick, APR

- **National School Public Relations Association**  
Adrienne Leon, APR
- **Public Relations Society of America**  
Kristie Byrum, Ph.D., APR, Fellow PRSA  
Douglas Cannon, Ph.D., APR+M, Fellow PRSA  
David Eaheart, APR  
John Forde, Ph.D., APR, Fellow PRSA  
Kevin Kane, APR  
Ian Phillips, APR+M  
Kathleen Donohue Rennie, Ph.D., APR, Fellow PRSA  
Isidro Reyna, APR  
Nicole Schwegman, APR+M  
Peter Smudde, Ph.D., APR
- **Religion Communicators Council**  
Jeff Huett, APR
- **Southern Public Relations Federation**  
Kristie Aylett, APR, Fellow PRSA

The Universal Accreditation Board administers the Examination for Accreditation in Public Relations and coordinates all activities related to the Accredited in Public Relations designation. The UAB was established in 1998 by a coalition of public relations professional organizations. Each organization contributes resources and senior-level volunteer members representing all segments of the public relations profession. For more information about the APR designation and the UAB, visit [www.praccreditation.org](http://www.praccreditation.org).

###