Gail W. Stuart, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean of the MUSC College of Nursing, has been appointed to a four-year term on the National Advisory Council of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMSHA). SAMHSA is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. Dr. Stuart, an expert in psychiatric nursing, is the only nurse currently serving on this national board.

Dr. Stuart is dean and a tenured distinguished university professor in the MUSC College of Nursing. She is also a professor in the MUSC College of Medicine in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Stuart's clinical and research interests involve the study of depression, anxiety disorders, clinical outcomes, and mental health delivery systems.

SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities. Its strategic initiatives help provide treatment and services for people with mental and substance use disorders, support the families of people with mental and substance use disorders, build strong and supportive communities, prevent costly behavioral health problems, and promote better health for all Americans.