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A Research Publication
Issue #3

Greeting From The College of Nursing Office of Research

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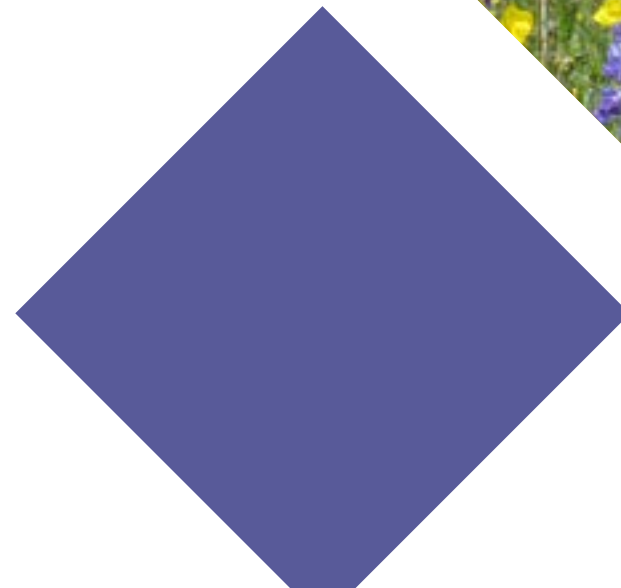
Greeting from the College of Nursing Office of Research

Welcome to an overview of researchers in the College of Nursing at Montana State University. In the pages that follow we are proud to present the college's research portfolio and give you a little insight into those in our college who shoulder our portion of the Montana State University research mission.

Never has there been a greater need for careful, well-designed, and relevant research in health care than now and never has there been a greater calling for those who can solve problems through systematic inquiry. As you read, we think you will agree that the researchers in the College of Nursing are answering the call. Thanks to each of them for hearing the voices of those who need them most, dreaming big, and seeking important answers as the future unfolds.

Hard work, perseverance, intelligence, vision, energy, focus, tenacity, leadership, passion, clinical insight, inspired, and inspiring are some of the ways I like to describe those who contribute to the research mission in the College of Nursing. We think you will agree – enjoy!

For the
Love
of Discovery





Sandra Benavides-Vaello, PhD, RN

Research

Much of Dr. Benavides-Vaello's research is conducted in collaboration with community health centers and religious institutions. Currently, she is engaged in a bi-national study (Peru and United States) examining the use of complementary and alternative medicine, particularly herbal remedies, by low income Latinos for the treatment/management of chronic conditions. She has just joined a study, as a consultant, related to the use of promotores in South-Western Montana. Other research efforts include the use of nurse navigation and increased patient engagement for the management of diabetes and hypertension and related co-morbid conditions among low income Latinos.



Profile

Dr. Benavides-Vaello's research interests are oriented towards ethnic minorities (Latinas of low socioeconomic status) and issues related to self-care of chronic health conditions (food practices, health status monitoring, cultural values and norms, behavioral health concerns).

Doctorate: University of Texas, Austin, TX

Contact Dr. Benavides-Vaello: s.benavidesvaello@montana.edu

Interesting Facts

Dr. Benavides-Vaello is bilingual (English/Spanish) and was raised in a rural community close to the Texas/Mexico border. She has a passion for working with low-income Latinos, and most of her research has included Spanish-speaking participants.

Funded Research

"Using Prayer and Yoga to Reduce Stress Among Latinos with Diabetes and Hypertension: A Pilot Study", Source: Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Upsilon-at Large Chapter

"Determining Diabetes and Hypertension Healthcare Needs for Low-Income Hispanics in Montana: A Participatory Action Approach", Source: Clinical and Translational Research-Infrastructure Network

Key Research-related Publications

Benavides-Vaello, S. & Brown, S. (2016). Sociocultural construction of food habits in low-income Mexican American women with diabetes: A qualitative study. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 25(15-16), 2367-2377.

Woodard, B., Smart, D., Benavides-Vaello, S., & Dupler A. (2015). Modifiable factors that support political participation by nurses. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S8755722315000782>

Katz, J., Barbosa-Leiker, C., & Benavides-Vaello, S. (2015). Measuring pipeline program strategies to increase nursing workforce. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S875572231500071X>

Ross, S., Benavides-Vaello, S., Schumann, L., & Haberman, M. (2015). Issues that impact type-2 diabetes self-management in rural communities. *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*, 27(11), 653-660.

Benavides-Vaello, S. Stevens, K., & Vines, M. (2014). Evaluating Spanish proficiency among interprofessional healthcare students using simulation. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 10(4), e169-e175.

Benavides-Vaello, S., Katz, J. R., Peterson, J. C., Allen, C., Paul, R., & Charette-Bluff, A. (2014). Discovering students' perceptions of college and health careers using PhotoVoice. *Journal of Nursing Education*, 53(4), 217-222.

Izumi, S., Vandermause, R., & Benavides-Vaello, S. (2013). Adapting cognitive interviewing for nursing research. *Research in Nursing & Health*, 36(6), 623-633.

Benavides-Vaello, S., Strobe, A., & Sheeran, B. (2012). Using technology in the delivery of mental health and substance abuse treatment in rural communities: A review. *The Journal of Behavioral Health Services and Research*, 40(1), 111-120.





Nursing Workforce

Peter Buerhaus, PhD,
RN, FAAN, FAANP(H)

Research

Dr. Buerhaus has developed teams of interdisciplinary health services researchers in each of the areas listed in his profile. Currently he is assessing the views of nurse practitioners and primary care physicians and analyzing Medicare claims data to determine the types, quantities, costs and quality of primary care services provided to Medicare beneficiaries by nurse practitioners. He is also assessing trends in nurse employment, earnings, education, and retirement and is projecting the future supply of RNs through 2030.

Profile

Dr. Buerhaus focuses on the nursing workforce and involves studies on the economics of the nursing workforce, forecasting nurse and physician supply, determining public and provider opinions on issues involving the delivery of health care, and assessing the quantity and quality of health care provided by nurse practitioners.

Doctorate: Wayne State University

Contact Dr. Buerhaus: peter.buerhaus@montana.edu

Current Funded Research

"Health Workforce Studies Program", Source: Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation

Funded Research

"Determining the Quality of Primary Care Provided to Medicare Beneficiaries by Nurse Practitioners", Source: American Association of Nurse Practitioners

"Determining the Impact of the Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future on Increasing the Number of People Becoming Registered Nurses", Source: Johnson & Johnson

Interesting Facts

Dr. Buerhaus has published roughly 120 articles, 5 of which are designated as "classics" by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) Patient Safety Network. Several publications have ranked among the most widely accessed articles published in the health policy journal *Health Affairs*. Several quality measures he developed and tested were adopted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Joint Commission, and other leading quality and financing organizations.

Key Research-related Publications

Auerbach, D., Buerhaus, P. & Staiger, D. (2017). How fast will the RN workforce grow through 2030? Projections in nine regions of the country. *Nursing Outlook*, 65(1):116-122.

McMichaels, B., Safriet, B., Buerhaus, P. (accepted 2017). The extra-regulatory effect of nurse practitioner scope-of-practice laws on physician malpractice. *Medical Care Research and Review*.

Auerbach, D. I., Buerhaus, P. I., & Staiger, D.O. (2015). Will the RN workforce weather the retirement of the baby boomers? *Medical care*, 53(10), 850-856.

Buerhaus, P. I., Auerbach, D. I., & Staiger, D.O. (2014). The rapid growth of graduates from associate, baccalaureate, and graduate programs in nursing. *Nursing Economics*, 32(6), 290-311.

DesRoches, C. M., Gaudet, J., Perloff, J., Donelan, K., Iezzoni, L. I., & Buerhaus, P. (2013). Using Medicare data to assess nurse practitioner-provided care. *Nursing Outlook*, 61(6), 400-407.

Donelan, K., DesRoches, C. M., Dittus, R. S., & Buerhaus, P. (2013). Perspectives of physicians and nurse practitioners on primary care practice. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 368(20), 1898-1906.

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End-of-life Care and Cancer Stigma



**Yoshiko Colclough,
PhD, RN**

Research

Dr. Colclough's current research program is called "Comforting Toward Your Wishes". The aims are to help rural reservation patients with chronic illnesses, especially cancer, and their families improve quality of life and make informed choices on treatments and care. Partnering with Blackfeet members, Dr. Colclough is investigating the effectiveness and sustainability of a lay health educator intervention in palliative and hospice care intended for Blackfeet patients and families. The intervention will be used to increase their knowledge of and decrease the burden of illnesses, treatments, and care.

Profile

Dr. Colclough's research centers on generational and cultural differences in end-of-life care and cancer stigma, especially minority populations, in particular Japanese Americans and American Indians. More broadly, her interests include nursing ethics, qualitative methods, the community-based participatory research approach, gerontology, mixed methods, and family caregiver topics.

Doctorate: Oregon Health & Science University

Contact Dr. Colclough:
yoshikoc@montana.edu

Current Funded Research

Blackfeet Reservation Tribal Research Partners as the Prime Award "Planning towards Hospice Service on the Blackfeet Reservation: First-Step establishing a Partnership among Tribal Agencies and Holding a Workshop", Montana Healthcare Foundation, Dr. Colclough as a consultant.

Funded Research

"Comforting Toward Your Wishes - Exploring the Taboo Perception of Discussing End-of-Life Issues", Source College of Nursing Block Grant

"End-of-Life Decision Making and Quality Care for American Indians", Source: Livestrong Foundation

Interesting Facts

When Dr. Colclough introduces herself either in-person or on the phone, she usually cautions the person she is speaking to about her Japanese accent. Dr. Colclough recalled making an interview appointment with a research participant and blurted out "I am Japanese." Her participant immediately responded saying "I am American Indian." Dr. Colclough stated that she immediately liked the way the woman thought.

Key Research-related Publications

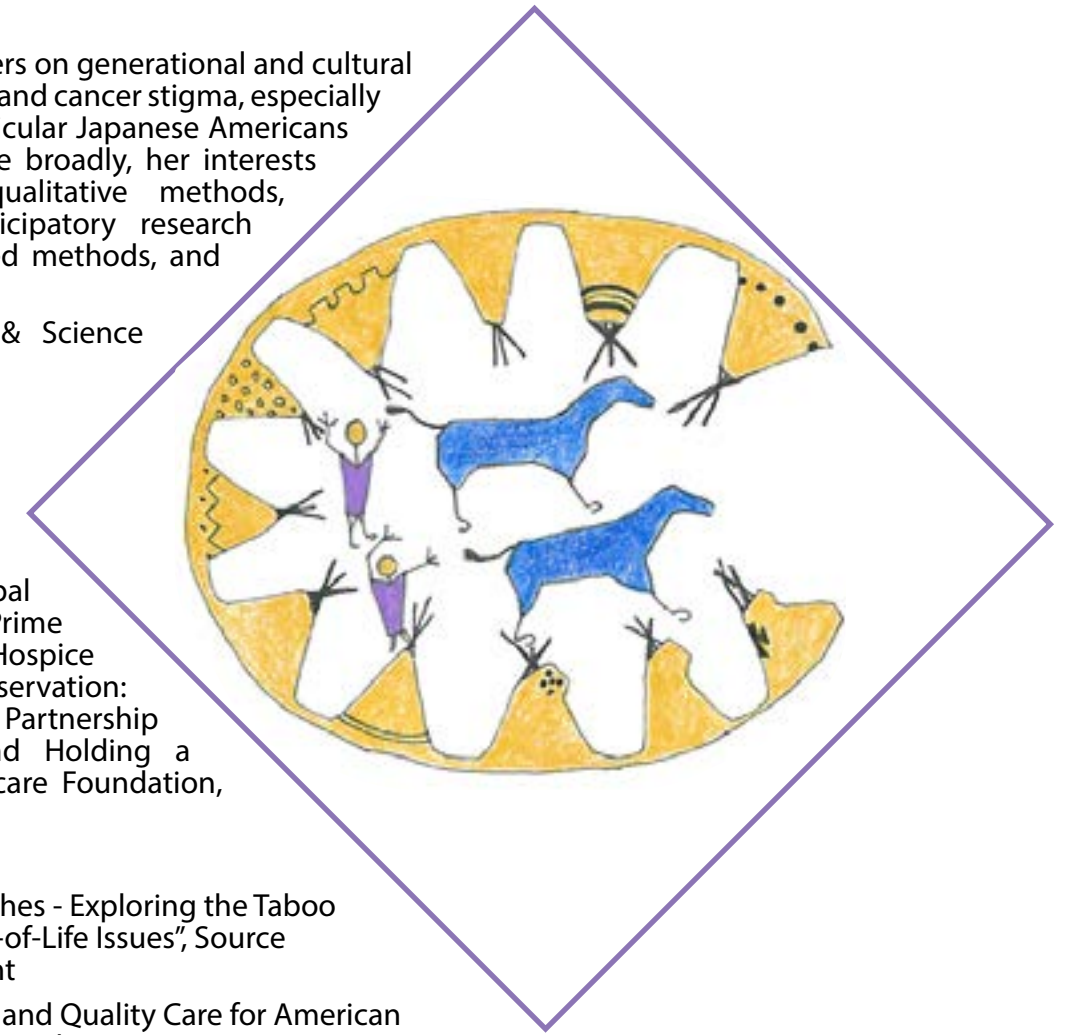
Colclough, Y. (2016). Native American death taboo: Implications for health care providers. *American Journal Hospice and Palliative Medicine*, DOI: 10.1177/1049909116638839.

Colclough, Y. Y. & Brown, G.M. (2014). American Indians' experiences of life-threatening illness and end of life. *Journal of Hospice & Palliative Nursing*, 16(7), 404-413.

Furukawa, R., Driessnack, M., & Colclough, Y. (2014). A committee approach maintaining cultural originality in translation. *Applied Nursing Research*, 27(2), 144-146.

Colclough, Y.Y. & Brown, G.M. (2013). End-of-life treatment decision making: American Indians' perspective. *American Journal of Hospice Palliative Medicine*, 31(5), 503-512.

Christopher, S., Saha, R., Lachapelle, P., Jennings, D., Colclough, Y., Cooper, C., Cummins, C., Eggers, M.J., FourStar, K., Harris, K., Kuntz, S.W., LaFromboise, V., LaVeaux, D., McDonald, T., Bird, J.R., Rink, E., & Webster, L. (2011). Applying indigenous community-based participatory research principles to partnership development in health disparities research. *Family & Community Health*, 34(3), 246-255.





Interventions for Depression



Tracy Hellem,
PhD, RN

Research

Dr. Hellem is currently conducting a study of Oula as an intervention to reduce depression severity in women diagnosed with major depressive disorder or persistent depressive disorder. She also has been working on a study of creatine monohydrate for men and women methamphetamine users with depression and anxiety. Creatine has been shown to be an effective adjunctive treatment for adult women with major depressive disorder in a randomized controlled trial. In addition, creatine was associated with a reduction in methamphetamine use and depressive and anxiety symptoms in women methamphetamine users.

Profile

Dr. Hellem's research interests include exploring novel treatment approaches to manage mood symptoms among individuals with and without substance use disorders. She specifically focuses on evaluating a nutritional supplement, creatine, or Oula, a dance fitness program, to reduce symptoms of depression in women.

Doctorate: University of Utah

Contact Dr. Hellem: tracy.hellem1@montana.edu

Interesting Facts

Dr. Hellem is a passionate Oula attendee herself. She loves to dance and sing along side the women participating in her trial. Further, studying methamphetamine dependence is very challenging, as the participants are unreliable, complicated and unpredictable. This challenge has taught Dr. Hellem to be more compassionate and understanding of individuals who lead lives that are different from hers. She often hears people stereotype and stigmatize those who struggle with substance use disorders and/or mental illness, and Dr. Hellem said she has learned from her participants that they are simply people with a disease.

Current Funded Research

"Hamilton Depression Rating Scale: Psychometric Testing In Methamphetamine Use", Source: College of Nursing Block Grant

Key Research-related Publications

Hellem, T. (2016). A review of methamphetamine dependence and withdrawal treatment: A focus on anxiety outcomes. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, 71*, 16-22.

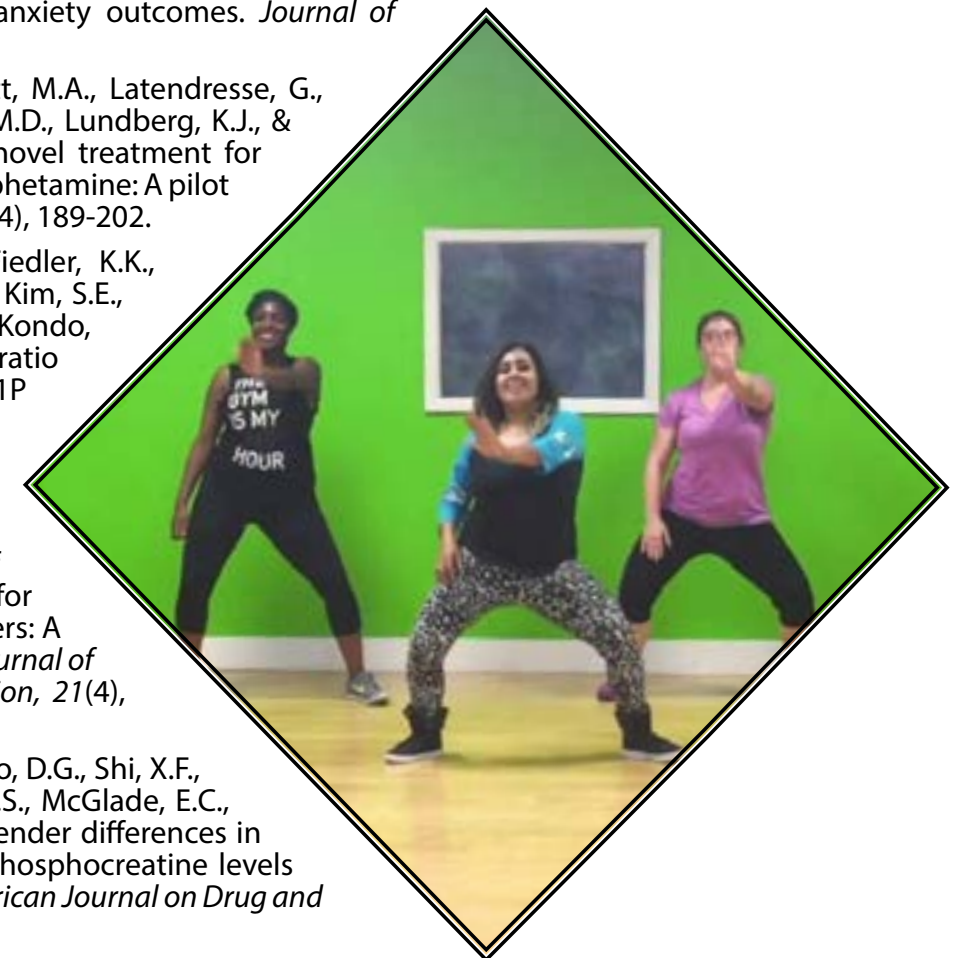
Hellem, T.L., Sung, Y.H., Shi, X.F., Pett, M.A., Latendresse, G., Morgan, J., Huber, R.S., Kuykendall, M.D., Lundberg, K.J., & Renshaw, P.F. (2015). Creatine as a novel treatment for depression in females using methamphetamine: A pilot study. *Journal of Dual Diagnosis, 11*(3-4), 189-202.

Shi, X.F., Carlson, P.J., Sung, Y.H., Fiedler, K.K., Forrest, L.N., Hellem, T.L., Huber, R.S., Kim, S.E., Zuo, C., Jeong, E.K., Renshaw, P.F., & Kondo, D.G. (2015). Decreased brain PME/PDE ratio in bipolar disorders: A preliminary 31P magnetic resonance spectroscopy study. *Bipolar Disorders, 17*(7), 743-752.

Hellem, T.L., Shi, X., Latendresse, G., & Renshaw P.F. (2015). The utility of magnetic resonance spectroscopy for understanding substance use disorders: A systematic review of the literature. *Journal of American Psychiatric Nurses Association, 21*(4), 244-275.

Sung, Y.H., Yurgelun-Todd, D.A., Kondo, D.G., Shi, X.F., Lundberg, K.J., Hellem, T.L., Huber, R.S., McGlade, E.C., Jeong, E.K., & Renshaw, P.F. (2015). Gender differences in the effect of tobacco use on brain phosphocreatine levels in methamphetamine users. *The American Journal on Drug and Alcohol Abuse, 41*(4), 281-289.

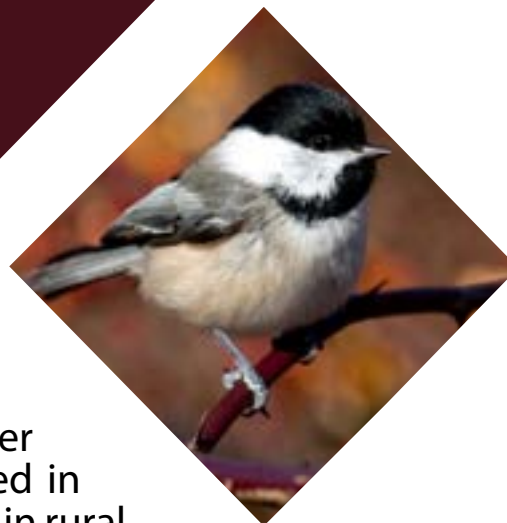
Hellem, T.L., Lundberg, K.J., & Renshaw, P.F. (2015). A review of treatment options for co-occurring methamphetamine use disorders and depression. *Journal of Addictions Nursing, 26*(1), 14-23.



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Rural Public Health



Wade Hill, PhD, APRN-BC

Research

Dr. Hill’s research focuses on current and emerging threats to rural public health. To date, Dr. Hill has worked with populations experiencing chronic illness and a variety of environmental threats including exposures to radon, asbestos, chemicals, and threats to air and water quality. Most recently Dr. Hill has become interested in emerging public health issues especially problematic in rural environments.

Profile

Dr. Hill is a public health clinician and researcher who investigates ecological determinants of human environmental exposures.

Doctorate: Oregon State University

Contact Dr. Hill: whill@montana.edu

Funded Research

“Environmental Risks to Rural Low Income Women of Childbearing Age”, Source: National Institutes of Health

Interesting Facts

Dr. Hill’s favorite aspect of research is designing studies to answer specific questions. He describes the design process as a creative outlet and balancing time, resources, scientific rigor, and scope of methods allows him to make unique contributions. The fact that two different researchers might design a very different study to address similar questions is an appealing aspect of conducting public health research.

Key Research-related Publications

Oneal, G., Odom-Maryon, T., Postma, J., Hill, W., & Butterfield, P. (2013). The household risk perception instrument and the self-efficacy in environmental risk reduction instrument: Psychometric testing using principal component analysis. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 69(9), 2107–2115.

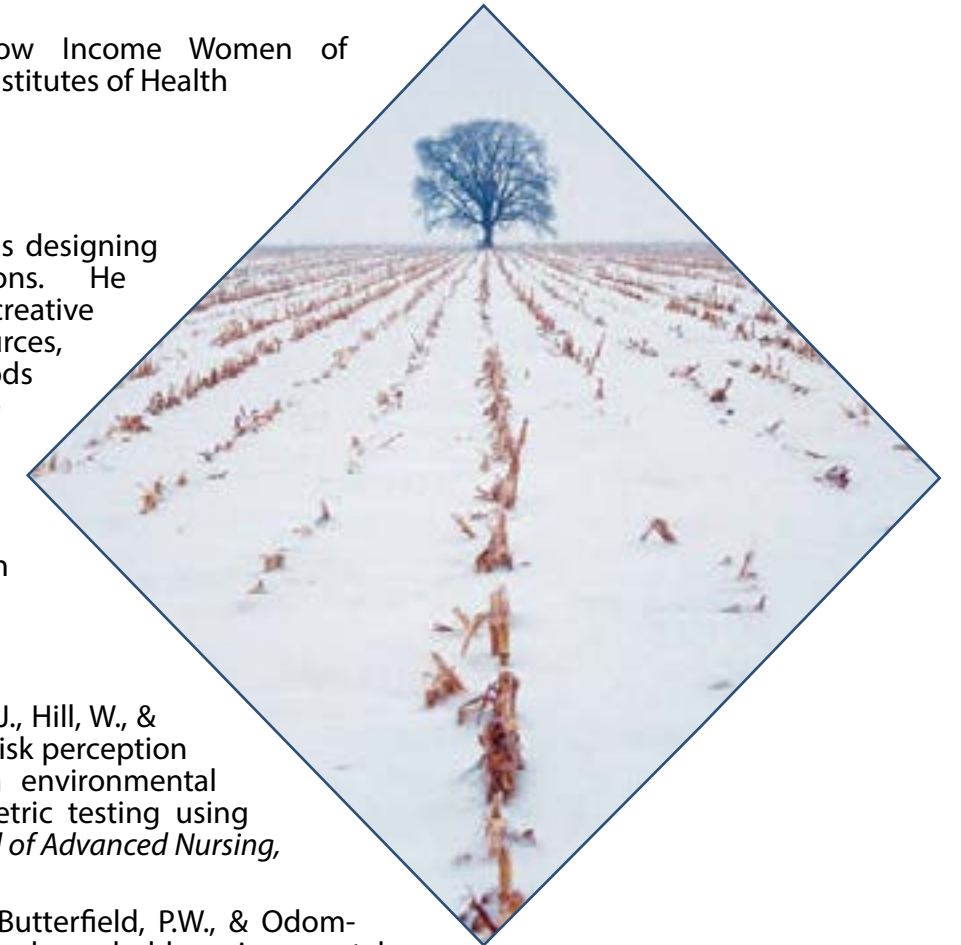
Butterfield, P.G., Hill, W., Postma, J., Butterfield, P.W., & Odom-Maryon, T. (2011). Effectiveness of a household environmental health intervention delivered by rural public health nurses. *American Journal of Public Health*, 101(S1), S262-S270.

Larsson, L., Butterfield, P.G., Hill, W.G., Houck, G., Messecar, D.C., & Cudney, S. (2011). Radon testing for low-income Montana families. In *Proceedings of the 2011 International AARST Symposium*. Retrieved from http://www.aarst.org/proceedings/2011/RADON_TESTING_FOR_LOW-INCOME_MONTANA_FAMILIES.pdf.

Postma, J., Butterfield, P.W., Odom-Maryon, T., Hill, W., & Butterfield, P.G. (2011). Rural children’s exposure to well water contaminants: Implications in light of the American Academy of Pediatrics’ recent policy statement. *Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners*, 23(5), 258-265.

Weinert, C., Hill, W., Winters, C., Kuntz, S., Rowse, K., Hernandez, T., Black, B., & Cudney, S. (2011). Psychosocial health status of persons seeking treatment for exposure to Libby amphibole asbestos. *ISRN Nursing*, 2011, article ID 735936.

Winters, C.A., Hill, W., Kuntz, S., Weinert, C., Rowse, K., Hernandez, T., & Black, B. (2011). Determining satisfaction with access and financial aspects of care for persons exposed to Libby amphibole asbestos: Rural and national environmental policy implications. *Journal of Environmental and Public Health*, 2011, article ID 789514.





Oral Health



Elizabeth Kinion,
EdD, MSN, FAAN

Research

Dr. Kinion would like her oral health research program to:

- Excite undergraduate and graduate students about the thrill of discovery, specifically related to oral health.
- Inform communities about the impact and health consequences of poor oral health and empower them to make positive changes through research.
- Inform health professionals about oral health through dissemination of findings via refereed presentations and publications.
- Influence changes in local and national health care policies.
- Improve the oral health status of underserved and vulnerable populations across Montana.



Profile

Dr. Kinion's research foci are oral health and health disparities using community-based participatory approaches in rural and American Indian communities.

Doctorate: University of Akron

Contact Information: ekinion@montana.edu



Interesting Facts

An experience in trust, love, and connection...

While visiting her partner reservation Elizabeth was told that her meeting would be delayed for several hours. Two of Elizabeth's young American Indian friends offered to take her on a buffalo hunt in a remote area of the reservation. As the three women stood quietly near the edge of a ravine, tiny dark specks appeared in the distance. Elizabeth's two friends called out to the buffalo in their native language and the dark specks grew larger. After several minutes the buffalo were only a half mile away. As the three watched they could hear the buffalo pawing the grass, chewing, and the calls of baby calves to their mothers. Elizabeth asked her friends what they had said and they replied "come closer" and "we won't hurt you." The three friends watched the buffalo for over an hour and when it was time to leave her friends again called out to the buffalo saying "thank you for coming."

Current Funded Research

"Increasing Access to Oral Health Care: Evaluating the Outcomes of a Community Health Specialist Program", Source: Center for American Indian and Rural Health Equity funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health award 5P20GM104417.

Funded Research

"Increasing Access to Oral Health Care: Evaluating the Outcomes of a Community Health Worker Program", Source: Montana State University, Center for Health Equity in Rural Montana, which is supported by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number 1P20GM104417

"Enhancing Oral-Systemic Health Through Inter-Professional Education", Source: New York University

"Fort Belknap Reservation/MSU Early Childhood Caries Project", Source: National Institutes of Health The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, subaward Montana State University, IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence



Key Research-related Publications

Cudney, S., Weinert, C., & Kinion, E. (2011). Forging partnerships between rural women with chronic conditions and their health care providers. *Journal of Holistic Nursing*, 29(1), 53-60.

Pendleton, B.F., Labuda Schrop, S., Ritter, C., Kinion, E.S., McCord, G., Cray Jr, J.J., & Costa, A.J. (2010). Underserved patients' choice of kiosk-based preventive health information. *Family Medicine*, 42(7), 488-495.

DiMarco, M.A., Huff, M., Kinion, E., & Kendra, M.A. (2009). The pediatric nurse practitioner's role in reducing oral health disparities in homeless children. *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*, 23(2), 109-116.



**Environmental
Health**

**Sandra Kuntz,
PhD, APRN, PHCNS-BC**

Research

The direction of Dr. Kuntz's current program of research includes publication of completed environmental health studies; working with community partners to determine effective and culturally appropriate methylmercury risk/fish benefit messages; and developing proposals for research related to the Academic Progression in Nursing objectives.

Profile

Dr. Kuntz is a community/public health clinical nurse specialist with a research focus in environmental health, disaster, health disparities and community-based participatory approaches in rural and Native American communities. Dr. Kuntz is a co-project director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Academic Progression in Nursing, MT BSN Education Initiative.

Doctorate: Walden University

Contact Dr. Kuntz: skuntz@montana.edu

Funded Research

"Methylmercury Risk, Awareness, and Exposure: Fort Peck Tribal Community and Academic Partnership", Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Nurse Faculty Scholars Program

Interesting Facts

Prior to joining the College of Nursing at MSU, Dr. Kuntz taught nursing at Salish Kootenai College. While working with the tribes on the Flathead Reservation she was introduced to the specialty area of pediatric environmental health. Her work in the community led to a commitment to participatory research approaches and a study of the benefits and hazards of fish consumption among tribal childbearing-age women.

Key Research-related Publications

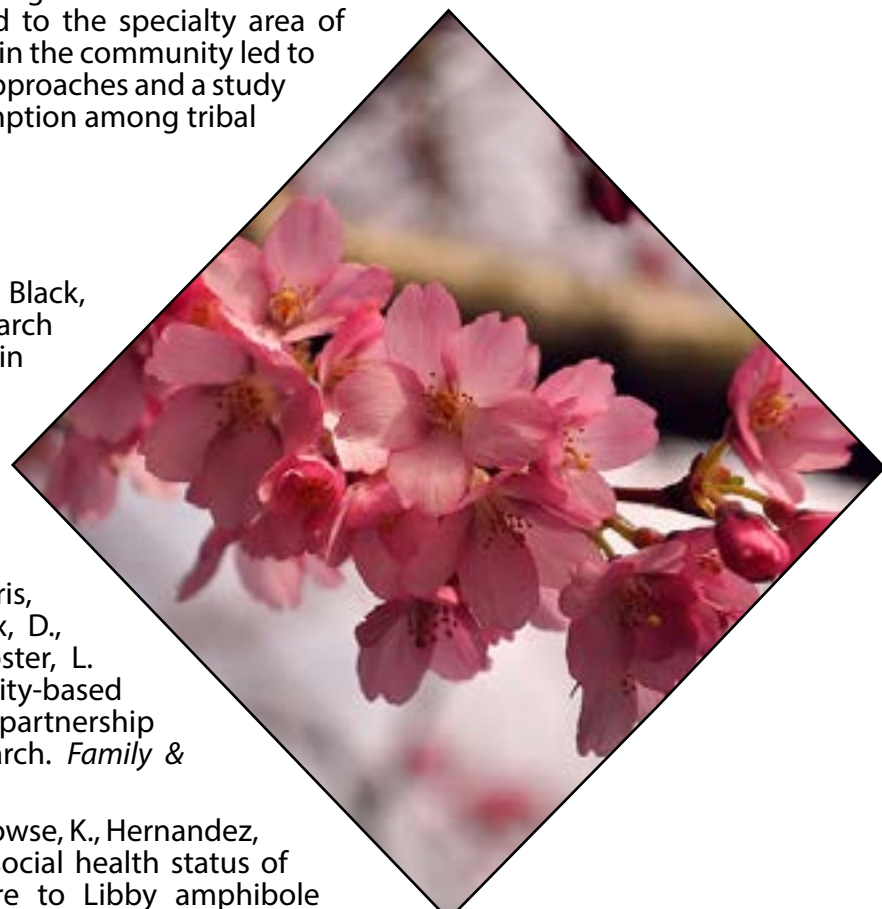
Winters, C. A., Kuntz, S. W., Weinert, C., & Black, B. (2014). A case study exploring research communication and engagement in a rural community experiencing an environmental disaster. *Applied Environmental Education & Communication, 13*(4), 213-226.

Christopher, S., Saha, R., Lachapelle, P., Jennings, D., Colclough, Y., Cooper, C., Cummins, C., Eggers, M.J., FourStar, K., Harris, K., Kuntz, S.W., LaFromboise, V., LaVeaux, D., McDonald, T., Bird, J.R., Rink, E., & Webster, L. (2011). Applying indigenous community-based participatory research principles to partnership development in health disparities research. *Family & Community Health, 34*(3), 246-255.

Weinert, C., Hill, W., Winters, C., Kuntz, S., Rowse, K., Hernandez, T., Black, B., & Cudney, S. (2011). Psychosocial health status of persons seeking treatment for exposure to Libby amphibole asbestos. *ISRN Nursing, 2011*, article ID 735936.

Winters, C.A., Hill, W., Kuntz, S., Weinert, C., Rowse, K., Hernandez, T., & Black, B. (2011). Determining satisfaction with access and financial aspects of care for persons exposed to Libby amphibole asbestos: Rural and national environmental policy implications. *Journal of Environmental and Public Health, 2011*, article ID 789514.

Kuntz, S.W., Hill, W.G., Linkenbach, J.W., Lande, G., & Larsson, L. (2009). Methylmercury risk and awareness among American Indian women of childbearing age living on an inland northwest reservation. *Environmental Research, 109*(6), 753-759.





Laura Larsson,
PhD, MPH, RN

Research

Dr. Larsson is currently working with state agencies to integrate home-radon testing with tobacco cessation programming. In the fall of 2014 she and two former students presented three papers at the American Association of Radon Scientists conference in Charleston, SC. She is also working with a Montana tribal community to improve pediatric oral health outcomes using motivational interviewing, community outreach, and digital signage technology.

Oral Health

Profile

Dr. Larsson is interested in community-based risk communication research with vulnerable groups. Dr. Larsson utilizes techniques such as digital signage technology and motivational interviewing in novel settings to expand the reach of traditional public health communication approaches to settings where priority populations access services.

Doctorate: Oregon Health & Science University

Contact Dr. Larsson: llarsson@montana.edu

Funded Research

"Marketing Silver Fluoride for Reducing Dental Disease in American Indian Children", Source: DentaQuest Foundation

"Montana Radon Study" Source: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Nurse Faculty Scholars Program National Institutes of Health Nurse Loan Repayment Program

Interesting Facts

Some people wonder what radon and oral health have in common. Both of Dr. Larsson's projects emphasize efficiency in public health spending and empowering vulnerable families through education to achieve better health. Both projects rely on stakeholders from a variety of agencies and disciplines to arrive at sensible and sustainable approaches to improving the public's health.

Key Research-related Publications

Larsson, L. S., Champine, D., Hoyt, D., Lin, L., Salois, E., Silvas, S., Weasel Tail, T., & Williams, M. (2015). Social marketing risk-framing approaches for dental sealants in rural American Indian children. *Public Health Nursing*, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/phn.12203/full>

Larsson, L. S. (2015). The Montana radon study: Social marketing via digital signage technology for reaching families in the waiting room. *American Journal of Public Health*, 105(4), 779-785.

Larsson, L.S. (2014). Risk-reduction strategies to expand radon care planning with vulnerable groups. *Public Health Nursing*. DOI: 10.1111/phn.12111.

White, A.L. & Larsson, L.S. (2012). Exploring scope of practice issues for correctional facility nurses in Montana. *Journal of Correctional Health Care*, 18(1), 70-76.

Larsson, L.S. & Kladder, D. (2012). Reducing the inhalation dose from radon decay products. *Science Of The Total Environment*, 450-451 (15 April 2013), 374.

Larsson, L., Butterfield, P.G., Hill, W.G., Houck, G., Messecar, D.C., & Cudney, S. (2011). Radon testing for low-income Montana families. In *Proceedings of the 2011 International AARST Symposium*. Retrieved from http://www.aarst.org/proceedings/2011/RADON_TESTING_FOR_LOW-INCOME_MONTANA_FAMILIES.pdf.

Larsson, L.S. (2011). A response to: Deadly radon in Montana? *Dose-Response*, 9(2), 296-298.

Larsson, L.S., Hill, W.G., Odom-Maryon, T., & Yu, P. (2009). Householder status and residence type as correlates of radon awareness and testing behaviors. *Public Health Nursing*, 26(5), 387-395.



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Susan Luparell, PhD, CNS-BC, CNE

Research

Legitimate concerns exist suggesting that poorly behaving students might go on to become poorly behaving nurses, and uncivil, unprofessional behavior recently has been linked to negative patient outcomes, adding to the importance of this line of inquiry.

Dr. Luparell's long term research goals are to positively influence quality of patient care by identifying strategies for decreasing workplace incivility among nurses and other care providers.

She also continues to work on improving the education experience for both students and faculty by helping faculty learn to foster more civil learning environments and better address inappropriate student behavior.



Incivility in Nursing



Profile

Dr. Luparell has a long standing interest in incivility in nursing and nursing education.

Doctorate: University of Nebraska - Lincoln

Contact Dr. Luparell: luparell@montana.edu

Interesting Facts

Dr. Luparell discovered her research topic many years ago after noticing that some of her faculty colleagues were distressed and distraught following isolated, but unpleasant, interactions with students. Not only were the faculty underprepared to address the situation, it was evident that the impact of such interactions on faculty well-being was profound.

-Dr. Luparell has found that a challenge to studying this topic is that the term 'incivility' tends to conjure negative emotional responses. It is sometimes difficult to access faculty who are willing and able to discuss it fully and freely.



Key Research-related Publications

Addison, K.A. & Luparell, S. (2014). Rural nurses' perceptions of disruptive behaviors: A pilot study. *Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care*, 14(1), <http://dx.doi.org/10.14574/ojrnhc.v14i1.300>.

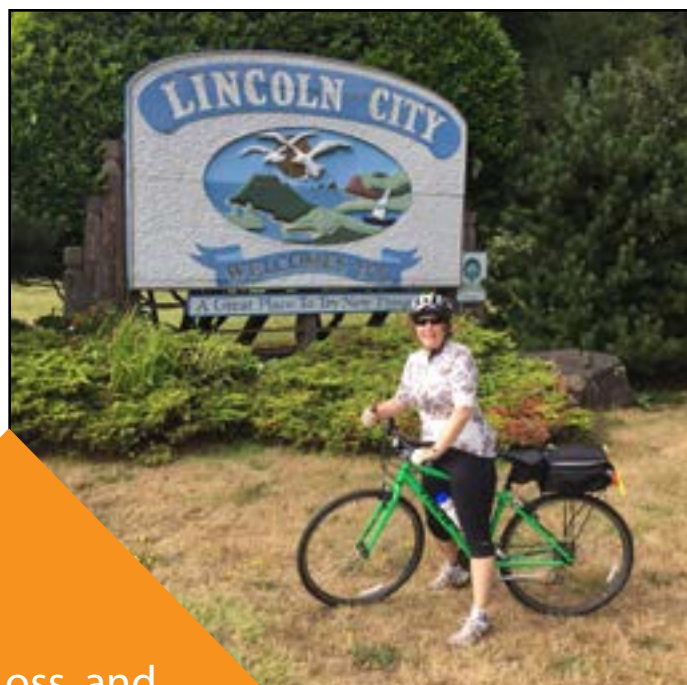
Whitney, K.M. & Luparell, S. (2012). Managing student incivility and misconduct in the learning environment. In D. Billings & J. Halstead (Eds.), *Teaching in Nursing: A Guide for Faculty 4th ed.* (pp. 244-257). St. Louis, IL: Elsevier/Saunders.

Luparell, S. (2011). Incivility in nursing: The connection between academia and clinical settings. *Critical Care Nurse*, 31(2), 92-95.

Luparell, S. (2010). Managing student incivility in nursing education. In L. Caputi (Ed.), *Teaching Nursing: The Art and Science Volume 1 2nd ed.* Glenn Ellyn, IL: College of DuPage Press.



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Grief, Loss, and Bereavement



Dale Mayer, PhD

Research

Dr. Mayer's current research is focused on palliative care, specifically improving the care of people living with serious illnesses in rural settings. Additional research interests include the universal human experiences associated with grief, loss and bereavement.

Profile

Dr. Mayer is a clinical nurse specialist with research interests focused on the universal human experiences of grief, loss, and bereavement, which occur both at times of death and when facing a serious illness. Recent work includes a study of family bereavement experiences and a study of critical incidents experienced by healthcare providers. Dr. Mayer has a particular interest in rural health issues, including how rural health care professionals work with limited fiscal and human resources associated with caring for individuals and their families living with serious illnesses in rural settings.

Doctorate: Oregon Health & Science University

Contact Dr. Mayer: dmayer@montana.edu

Funded Research

The Elephant in the Room: Critical Incidents in Health Care - Source: Zeta Upsilon Sigma Theta Tau



Interesting Facts

Dr. Mayer is passionate about ensuring that those affected by grief and loss, whether due to death or the loss of one's health, receive health care based on strong evidence and research. Her research interests are informed by both her professional work as a cardiac nurse and her personal experiences with sudden bereavement.

Key Research-related Publications

Mayer, D.M. (2017). Improving the support of the suddenly bereaved. *Current Opinion in Supportive and Palliative Care*, 11, 1-6.

Schenk, E. C., Mayer, D.M., Ward-Barney, E., Estill, P., Goss, L., & Shreffler-Grant, J. (2016). RN perceptions of a newly adopted electronic health record. *The Journal of Nursing Administration* 46 (3), 139-145.

Mayer, D.D., Rosenfeld, A.G., & Gilbert, K. (2013). Lives forever changes: family bereavement experiences after sudden cardiac death. *Applied Nursing Research* 26(4), 168-173.

Mayer, D.D. & Rosenfeld, A. (2006). Symptom interpretation in women with diabetes and myocardial infarction: a qualitative study. *The Diabetes Educator* 32(6), 1918-924.



Advanced Practice Nurses & Independent Practice

Polly Petersen,
PhD, RN

Research

The long-term goal of Dr. Petersen's research is to provide real data to policy makers as they contemplate decisions regarding healthcare. It is important for nurses to be a part of the process.

Profile

Dr. Petersen's research focuses on the characteristics of advanced practice nurses that support independent practice and primary care for patients, especially patients in rural Montana.

Doctorate: New Mexico State University

Contact Dr. Petersen: polly.petersen@montana.edu

Funded Research

"Understanding the Relationship of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and Physicians in Rural Health Care Settings", Source: Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Upsilon Chapter at Large

Interesting Facts

Dr. Petersen enjoys gathering data and including as many people as she can in both the development of a study as well as understanding the results. She believes that everyone has a different expertise and interest and finds it invigorating to put all of those components together.



Key Research-related Publications

Petersen, P.A. & Way, S.M. (2016). The role of physician oversight on advanced practice nurses' professional autonomy and empowerment. *Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners*, 16 DEC 2016, DOI: 10.1002/2327-6924.12444.

Petersen, P.A., Keller, T., Way, S.M., & Borges, W.J. (2015). Autonomy and Empowerment in Advanced Practice Registered Nurses: Lessons from New Mexico. *Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners*, DOI: 10.1002/2327-6924.12202.



Julie Ruff, PhD, MSN, CNS Assistant Professor

Research

Dr. Ruff's current work is focused on describing from multiple perspectives university-community partnerships with American Indian tribal health programs, and teaching practices for undergraduate nurses pertaining to critical service learning by providing a description of the lessons learned in developing and sustaining the MSU-Fort Peck Health Promotion and Disease Prevention partnership.

Profile

Dr. Ruff's scholarly identity is centered on issues of nursing education, the nursing care of children and their families, and transcultural nursing. Recent work, attempts to link the immersion of nursing students into an environment where significant health disparities exist, the students' recognition of health care disparities, and evidence of cultural consciousness.

Doctorate: Montana State University-College of

Contact Dr. Ruff: julie.ruff@montana.edu



Interesting Facts

While visiting one of the elementary schools on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation with nursing students, a third grader came into the clinic setting. In an effort to demonstrate to students the establishment of rapport with a young child, I knelt down at the child's level, introduced myself and asked the child his name. He responded with a first name followed by a last name that was very familiar. Many children and staff seen in the clinic had the same last name. In small communities across America this is not an unusual circumstance, however seizing the opportunity I asked the child how many children he was related to in the school. He responded with a wide smile, "I have 50 cousins in the school." I then proclaimed in an excited voice with "wow" that is amazing, I only have three cousins in the whole world. The child paused, looked at me with a serious wide eyes, and said quietly, "what happened to your people?"



Alice Running, PhD, APRN-BC

Research

Dr. Running is working to provide clinically relevant evidence for the use of Integrative Therapies in the treatment of chronic disease, the mediation of cancer symptoms and the reduction of stress. The long term goal of Dr. Running's research is to reduce stress (chronic and acute) and its effects by utilizing bio-energy interventions, particularly a National Institutes of Health approved Complementary / Integrative Nursing intervention called "Healing Touch". A secondary goal is to educate nursing students and faculty in the provision of this nursing intervention so that students, faculty and patients alike can benefit.

Profile

Dr. Running is a nurse practitioner whose research centers on the utilization of complementary/integrative therapies to treat the body's response to stress. More specifically, Dr. Running uses a bio-energy nursing intervention to study stress responses across different populations. Dr. Running also has studied the use of acupuncture for women's health.

Doctorate: University of Colorado Health Sciences Center Denver

Contact Dr. Running: alice.running@montana.edu

Current Funded Research

"Bio-energy for Stress Relief: Future Directions",
Source: College of Nursing Block Grant

Funded Research

"Use of Energy Biofield Therapy for the Treatment of Cancer and Graft Verses Host Disease" Source: National Institutes of Health

Interesting Facts

Dr. Running became interested in Healing Touch after she was invited by a group of Hospice nurses to observe patient responses who had received this nursing intervention. Dr. Running noted that hospice patients who received healing touch were less anxious, required less medication, and had better sleep. As a result of this clinical experience, Dr. Running began researching the effects of Healing Touch in murine models and community populations.

Key Research-related Publications

Running, A., Greenwood, M., Hildreth, L., & Schmidt, J. (2016). Bioenergy and breast cancer: A report on tumor growth and metastasis. *Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine*. Article ID 2503267, 9 pages <http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2016/2503267>.

Running, A. & Hildreth, L. (2016). Bio-energy during finals: Stress reduction for a university community. *Journal of Community Health Nursing*, 33(4), 209-217.

Running, A. & Hildreth, L. (2016). A pilot study: The effect of bio-energy on stress for university faculty, staff, and students during finals week. *Journal of Holistic Nursing*, DOI 10.1177/0898010116638739.

Running, A. (2015). Decreased cortisol and pain in breast cancer: biofield therapy potential. *Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine*, 501, 870640.

Running, A., Smith-Gagen, J., Wellhoner, M., & Mars, G. (2012). Acupuncture and female sexual dysfunction: A time-series study of symptom relief. *Medical Acupuncture*, 24(4), 249-255.

Running, A. & Seright, T. (2012). Integrative oncology: Managing cancer pain with complementary and alternative therapies. *Current Pain and Headache Reports*, 16(4), 325-331.

Running, A. & Turnbeaugh, E. (2011). Oncology pain and complementary therapy: A review of the literature. *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 15(4), 374-379.



Healing Touch



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Sarah E. Shannon, PhD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor



Research

Dr. Sarah E. Shannon's research has focused on improving communication among and between healthcare teams and patients and families around ethically-challenging issues including end-of-life decision-making in the intensive care setting, disclosure of healthcare errors, and conflict within the healthcare team.

Dr. Shannon is the College of Nursing's current Dean. She is leading the College of Nursing during the evolution of our nation's health care system and firmly believes that nurses will have abundant opportunities to provide affordable, effective, evidence based care. She is excited to be a part of building this evidence based care which is rooted in the work of the College's faculty scholars. In her own words "The activities of our faculty scholars seek to better serve Montanans and those beyond, building a healthy future for all."



Selected Publications

Brown, C.E., Back, A.L., Ford, D.W., Kross, E.K., Downey, L., Shannon, S.E., Curtis, J.R. & Engelberg, R.A. (2018). Self-assessment scores improve after simulation-based palliative care communication skill workshops. *American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Care*, 35(1), 45-51.

White, A.A., Brock, D.M., McCotter, P.I., Shannon, S.E. & Gallagher, T.H. (2017). Implementing an error disclosure coaching model: A multicenter case study. *Journal of Healthcare Risk Management*, 36(3), 34-45.

Shannon, S.E. (2016). The nurse as the patient's advocate: a contrarian view. *Hastings Center Report*, 46 (Suppl1), S43-7.

Kim, S., Buttrick, E., Bohannon, I., Fehr, R., Frans, E. & Shannon, S.E. (2016). Conflict narratives from the health care frontline: a conceptual model. *Conflict Resolution Quarterly*, 33(3), 255-277.

Edrees, H., Brock, D.M., Wu, A.W., McCotter, P.I., Hofeldt, R., Shannon, S.E., Gallagher, T.H. & White, A.A. (2016). The experiences of risk managers in providing emotional support for healthcare workers after adverse events. *Journal of Healthcare Risk Management*, 35(4), 14-21.

Ramos, K.J., Downey, L., Nielsen, E.L., Treece, P.D., Shannon, S.E., Curtis, J.R. & Engelberg, R.A. (2016). Using nurse ratings of physician communication in the ICU to identify potential targets for interventions to improve end-of-life care. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 19(3), 292-9.

Curtis, J.R., Treece, P.D., Nielson, E.L., Gold, J., Ciechanowski, P.S., Shannon, S.E., Khandelwal, N., Young, J.P. & Engelberg, R.A. (2016). Randomized trial of communication facilitators to reduce family distress and intensity of end-of-life care. *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine*, 193(2), 154-62.



Stacy Stellflug, PhD, APRN BC FNP
Associate Professor

Research

Dr. Stellflug is currently working to integrate Pediatric Advanced Life Support training into undergraduate nursing education. She will be testing students ability to retain information over time and as a factor of whether or not they had a course with simulation technology or a standard course with static manikins.

Profile

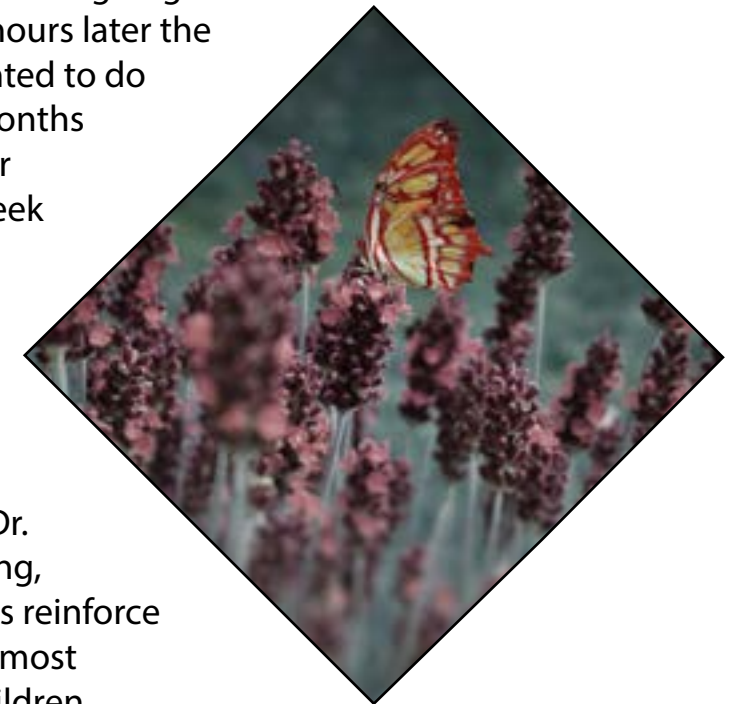
Dr. Stellflug's program of research focuses on improving pediatric patient morbidity and mortality in rural areas like Montana. Her recent research activities involved integration of simulation based technology into advanced life support courses to identify the potential effect on participants ability to recall knowledge learned in the course and apply skills.

Doctorate: University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus

Contact Dr. Stellflug: stacy.stellflug@montana.edu

Interesting Fact:

In 2007 Dr. Stellflug spent the better part of a year traveling all over Montana and Northern Wyoming training rural healthcare providers in pediatric resuscitation using a high-fidelity simulation manikin (SimBaby). At one of the locations in Northern Montana, the healthcare providers begrudgingly came in for training on a Saturday. They all had "other" things they needed to do so we were going to make the training short. Needless to say, four hours later the group of providers were going strong and wanted to do more simulations with the SimBaby. Several months later Dr. Stellflug received a call from a provider thanking her and the team for coming. One week after the training, the provider had a pediatric resuscitation come into their Emergency Department. Because of the training provided with SimBaby, the provider thought she was better equipped to take care of the child. The good news is the child survived and is doing fine. The call reinforced Dr. Stellflug's belief that through simulation training, providers in rural areas could practice as well as reinforce skills and knowledge necessary to care for the most vulnerable populations living in rural areas, children.



Key Research-related Publications

The Effect of High Fidelity Simulators on Knowledge Retention and Skill Self Efficacy in Pediatric Advanced Life Support Courses in a Rural State (In Press), *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*.



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Chronic Illness &
Rural Health Issues

Charlene Winters,
PhD, RN

Research

While working with individuals, community-based partners/health care providers, and other researchers, the long term goal of her program of research is to: 1) identify the biopsychosocial health status and health service needs of rural persons managing chronic health conditions and 2) design patient-centered evidence-based solutions to support chronic illness self-management.

Profile

Dr. Winters is a clinical nurse specialist with research interests in two areas: chronic illness (individual responses, adaptation, illness self-management) and rural health issues (environmental exposure, health disparities, rural nursing theory development). She has a particular interest in asbestos-related disease and heart failure.

Doctorate: Rush University

Contact Dr. Winters: winters@montana.edu

Interesting Facts

Dr. Winters finds that people who live in rural and remote areas are exceptionally resilient, self-sufficient, and creative when tackling enormous barriers to access health care and manage health issues.

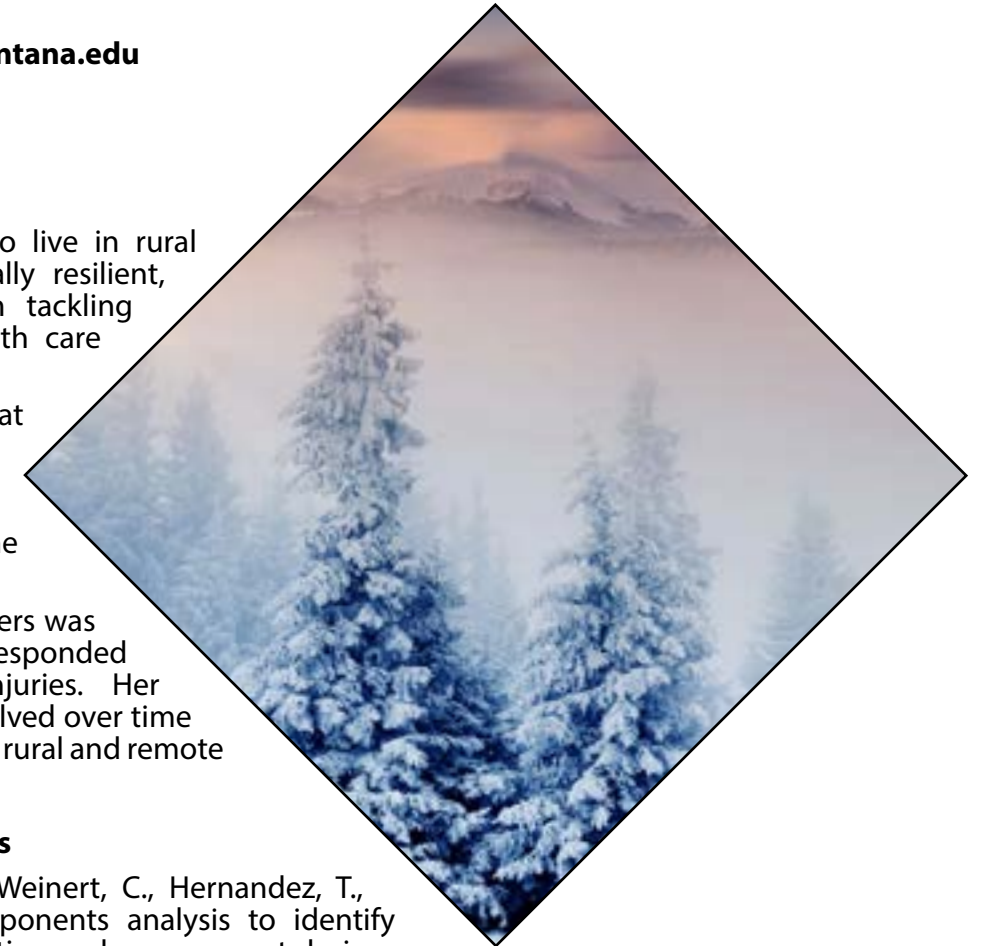
Designing a research study that has the potential to uncover information that may make a difference in the lives of others is Dr. Winters' favorite part of the research process.

As a staff nurse in the ICU, Dr. Winters was fascinated by the way patients responded to their illnesses and traumatic injuries. Her interest in adaptation to illness evolved over time to focus on the illness experience of rural and remote

Funded Research

"Exploring Research Communication and Engagement in a Rural Community: The Libby Partnership Initiative" Source: National Institutes of Health

"Descriptive Analysis of the Health Status of A National Asbestos-Related Cohort" Source: HRSA Office of Rural Health Policy Research



Key Research-related Publications

Winters, C., Moore, C., Kuntz, S., Weinert, C., Hernandez, T., & Black, B. (2016). Principal components analysis to identify influences on research communication and engagement during an environmental disaster. *BMJ Open*, 6(8), e012106.

Mayer, D., & Winters, C. (2016). Palliative care in critical access hospitals. *Critical Care Nurse*, 36(1), 72-78.

Seright, T., & Winters, C.A. (2015). Critical care in critical access hospitals. *Critical Care Nurse*. 35(5), 62-67.

Winters, C.A., Kuntz, S.W., Weinert, C., & Black, B. (2014). A case study exploring research communication and engagement in a rural community experiencing an environmental disaster. *Applied Environmental Education & Communication*, 13(4), 213-226.

Winters, C.A. (Ed.). (2013). *Rural Nursing: Concepts, Theory, and Practice 4th ed.* New York, NY: Springer.

Winters, C.A., Hill, W.G., Rowse, K., Black, B., Kuntz, S.W., & Weinert, C. (2012). Descriptive analysis of the respiratory health status of persons exposed to Libby amphibole asbestos. *BMJ Open*, 2(6), e001552.

Weinert, C., Hill, W.G., Winters, C., Kuntz, S.W., Rowse, K., Hernandez, T., Black, B., & Cudney, S. (2011). Psychosocial health status of persons seeking treatment for exposure to Libby amphibole asbestos. *International Scholarly Research Network, ISRN Nursing*, 2011, article ID 735936.