



American Association
of Colleges of Nursing

Leadership for Academic Nursing Program

Directory of Fellows
2018-2019

2018-19 LEADERSHIP FOR ACADEMIC NURSING PROGRAM DIRECTORY

In 2001, the Helene Fuld Health Trust awarded an academic leadership grant to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing in order to develop an executive leadership institute for new and aspiring deans. After four grant funded classes of fellows, the program was redesigned and became self-sustaining in 2006, but retained the rigorous and competitive selection process and the excellent leader development activities characterized by the first four years.

This professional development experience includes assessment and evaluation of leadership skills, identification of particular approaches that enhance leadership success, identification of key partnerships and strategic networking, and consultation to achieve long-term goals. In response to the increasing seniority of nursing academic leaders, this program was designed to prepare a more diverse, younger pool of deans/directors and other senior leaders for nursing higher education programs.

The 2018-19 Fellows will engage in a year-long program that begins with a period of assessment, networking and reflection prior to an in-residence leadership immersion experience in Chaska, MN. During the four-day intensive session they participate in experiential content driven classes related to successful academic leadership. The fellowship year also includes opportunities for Fellows to apply concepts and strategies from their professional development activities, confer with colleagues in the fellowship, and engage in a mentorship opportunity with an experienced nursing academic executive, working to accomplish specific, individualized leader development goals.

This directory highlights the 2018-19 Fellows. Representing a variety of backgrounds, experiences, and abilities. During this program these Fellows will enhance their skills as academic leaders and sharpen the necessary tools to serve even more competently and confidently as leaders in academic nursing.

LEADERSHIP FOR ACADEMIC NURSING PROGRAM DIRECTORY



**Jeanne Alhusen, PhD, CRNP, RN
University of Virginia**

Dr. Jeanne Alhusen is an Associate Professor of Nursing and Assistant Dean for Research at the University of Virginia School of Nursing. Dr. Alhusen obtained her BSN from Villanova University, Master of Nursing from Duke University, and a PhD from Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. She also completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. As a board-certified family nurse practitioner, Dr. Alhusen brings extensive professional nursing experience with a particular interest in health disparities in perinatal outcomes. Her research has been funded by NIH, HRSA, and multiple organizations, including AWHONN, and she is widely published on topics related to perinatal physical and mental health. Dr. Alhusen serves on AWHONN's Board of Directors and is a co-chair of AWHONN's Research Advisory Panel.



**Donald "Chip" Bailey, PhD, RN, FAAN
Duke University**

Dr. Bailey is an Associate Professor in the Duke University School of Nursing, Senior Fellow in the Duke Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development, and Claire M. Fagin Fellow. He completed a BS in Nursing from Barton College, a Masters in Nursing Administration from Emory University, and a PhD in Nursing from UNC-CH. His research program has focused on self-management in patients with serious life-limiting illnesses. Dr. Bailey served as Co-Director of the NINR funded P30 Center of Nursing Excellence, ADAPT – Adaptive Leadership for Cognitive/Affective Symptom Science. He has also served as the elected program committee chair for the ABSN and PhD programs. He was a faculty representative to the National Task Force on the revision of The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice – AACN (2008) and on the expert panel to revise the document, Older Adults: Recommended Baccalaureate Competencies and Curricular Guidelines for Geriatric Nursing Care - AACN/John A. Hartford Foundation (2010). Dr. Bailey recently completed a three-year term on the Board of Directors for the Oncology Nursing Society. Currently he serves on the Science Committee for the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science.



Lindsay Benes, PhD, RN, CNS
University of Portland

Dr. Benes is an Assistant Professor and incoming Associate Dean for Graduate Education & Evaluation at the University of Portland in Portland, Oregon. She received her PhD from Oregon Health & Sciences University and completed two post-doctoral fellowships; one at the University of Florida and one at Oregon Health & Sciences University. Dr. Benes' scholarship places focus on enhancing interdisciplinary care for individuals with persistent pain in the primary care environment. She serves as co-investigator on one of the NIH's first pragmatic clinical trials. Drawing upon her research in translational and implementation science and interest in promoting a learning healthcare system, Dr. Benes guides DNP students in their coursework leading up to the DNP scholarly project and coaches them through the implementation of those projects. For the past several years, Dr. Benes has served as the Chair of the Graduate Curriculum Committee where she leads evaluation and enhancement processes for the curriculum and online education. Dr. Benes enjoys teaching across the undergraduate and graduate programs with a focus on program evaluation and enhancement.



Jenifer Chilton, PhD, RN
The University of Texas at Tyler

Dr. Jenifer Chilton's background has been in community health nursing. She spent years as a school nurse and as a preceptor for nursing students in a diverse, low-income, rural, community. The University of Texas at Tyler hired her as a senior lecturer prior to graduating with her masters in 2008. She pursued her doctoral degree and graduated Spring 2012 from The University of Texas at Tyler. She moved from undergraduate education to graduate education and began teaching master students online. Simultaneously, she joined the doctoral faculty and received intensive mentoring. After a few semesters she began teaching in the PhD program under tutelage of experienced faculty. During this time, she continued to make progress on her scholarship expectations. She became the Director of the PhD in 2016. She enjoys this role and appreciates the unique experiences she has been afforded. Her research interests include health promotion and wellness in adolescents. She wrote and tested the Total Girl Wellness Program, modified the Self-Rated Abilities for Health Practices Scale for use in adolescents, and is developing a wellness scale for use with adolescents and young adults.



**Teresa Dobrzykowski, PhD, RN, AGNP-BC
Indiana University South Bend**

Dr. Dobrzykowski is a seasoned tenured faculty member with 28 years of teaching experience in ASN, BSN, RN-BSN and MSN programs. Her areas of teaching expertise closely mirror her clinical expertise in women's health, gerontology, assessment, pathophysiology and research. She has experience with online, hybrid and flipped classroom strategies and methods. Besides her newest role as an assistant dean, she has experience as a graduate program director and chair of a variety of academic committees at department, college and university levels. She also maintains a part-time practice as a certified adult-gerontological nurse practitioner at the university's Health & Wellness Center as well as acts as the Director of Health Services. Her research interests include the concept "feeling comfortable" using Parse's paradigm. Currently she will be presenting her most recent scholarly work at the 18th Biennial International Consortium of Parse Scholars June 2018. She plans on expanding the concept further by writing a proposal using grounded theory to investigate feeling comfortable within the next year.



**Michelle Edmonds, PhD, FNP-BC, CNE
Jacksonville University**

Dr. Michelle Edmonds is the Assistant Dean for Faculty and Curriculum in the Brooks Rehabilitation College of Healthcare Sciences and a Professor of Nursing in the Keigwin School of Nursing at Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, FL. She earned a BSN and MSN from the University of North Florida and a PhD in Nursing from Barry University. Dr. Edmonds is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner and a Certified Nurse Educator. She has been a full-time educator in the Graduate and Undergraduate Nursing programs at Jacksonville University since 2003 and served as the Director of Graduate Nursing Programs from 2009-2014. She has taught courses in the FNP, MSN, and DNP programs at Jacksonville University. She has also led study abroad courses for over 150 nursing students to England and South Africa. Her research interests include innovative teaching strategies, study abroad, cultural competence, and transition to practice. She has presented her research regionally, nationally, and internationally. Dr. Edmonds is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International and is an on-site evaluator for CCNE.



**Terry Eggenberger, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, CNE, CNL
Florida Atlantic University**

Dr. Eggenberger is a tenured Associate Professor in the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing, Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. She is also an Assistant Professor of Clinical Biomedical Science in the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine. Dr. Eggenberger predominately teaches in the graduate program and is Coordinator of the Clinical Nurse Leader Concentration. She is also Associate Director of the Office of Interprofessional Education. Dr. Eggenberger serves as Co-Chair of Committee on Faculty. She received her BSN, MSN, and PhD in Nursing from Florida Atlantic University. Dr. Eggenberger's program of research is interprofessional practice, leadership, communication, and team science. She holds three certifications: Board Certified Nurse Executive Advanced, Certified Nurse Educator, and Clinical Nurse Leader. Dr. Eggenberger is a reviewer for several refereed journals and is active in her local Sigma Theta Tau chapter as the Leadership Succession Chair. She was a 2014 Sigma Theta Tau International Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy Scholar.



**Jacqueline Ferdowsali, DNP, AGACNP-BC, ACNPC-AG, APRN
University of Nevada, Reno**

Dr. Ferdowsali is an Assistant Professor & track coordinator for the adult gerontology acute care nurse practitioner (AGACNP) program at the Orvis School of Nursing, University of Nevada, Reno. Dr. Ferdowsali received her BSN from Saint Louis University, MSN as an adult gerontology acute care nurse practitioner from Case Western Reserve University and Doctor of Nursing Practice from Touro University. Her areas of interest include interprofessional education, cardiology, and critical care. She has published articles looking at acute care topics related to ventilation strategies and management in critically ill patients. She works with both MSN and DNP students serving as advisor and project chair helping students translate evidence into practice. During her time as nursing faculty, Dr. Ferdowsali has mentored new faculty members and led graduate program efforts to update the curriculum. Dr. Ferdowsali maintains a clinical practice working with acutely ill, complex patient's. Dr. Ferdowsali is a member of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties and the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.



Patricia Gatlin, PhD, RN, CNE
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Dr. Tricia K Gatlin is the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs at University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing. She graduated from the University of Arizona with a PhD in Nursing with a concentration in Injury Mechanism and Vulnerable Populations in 2012. She has almost 27 years of nursing experience that spans a variety of areas in direct patient care and she is currently a certified nurse educator with more than 18 years in the academic setting. Dr. Gatlin has authored/co-authored data-driven reports and case studies with the goal of bridging the gap between research and practice through knowledge dissemination. Dr. Gatlin's teaching philosophy is to foster thoughtful, critical, engaged, independent students and clinicians. In an effort to enhance student learning and build community partnerships, Dr. Gatlin has been a strong leader in the development of the concept of Dedicated Education Units within the clinical settings for the past 10 years. In 2016, she was awarded the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing Dean's Award for Outstanding Teaching and in 2017, she was awarded the University of Nevada, Las Vegas School of Nursing Dean's Award for Outstanding Research.



Jana Goodwin, PhD, RN, CNE
University of Maryland Baltimore

Dr. Goodwin is Assistant Professor and Director of the BSN Program at the University of Maryland, School of Nursing, a position she has held since 2001. She received her BSN and MSN from Temple University, and a PhD with an emphasis in nursing education from Villanova University in 2015. Dr. Goodwin has specialized and practiced in medical-surgical nursing including as an Adult Nurse Practitioner. In her current role, Dr. Goodwin has taught in the undergraduate curriculum, served on various committees and most recently has been appointed Director of the BSN Program. Dr. Goodwin's areas of interest are Cultural Diversity and interprofessional education (IPE). Through an interprofessional collaboration, she co-developed and implemented an IPE clinic, in which nursing, social work, and pharmacy students provide care for medically complex patients in a safety-net clinic. Her dissertation research focused on the inpatient experiences of limited and non-English speaking Hispanic patients. Dr. Goodwin has presented nationally in the area of cultural competence and IPE. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, Pi Chapter, and serves as the Membership Chair.



Tiffany Greer, PhD, RN, MSN
Olivet Nazarene University

Dr. Greer is the Director of Nursing Programs and Associate Professor at Olivet Nazarene University (ONU). Tiffany completed a BS in Nursing at ONU in 1997, an MS in Nursing from Governor's State University in 2001, and a PhD in Nursing Education from Capella University in 2017. She worked at Advocate South Suburban Hospital for 10 years as a Medical and Surgical Telemetry nurse, an ED nurse, and a clinical educator for the ED. Tiffany also began teaching at ONU in 2002. She taught Medical Surgical Nursing and Pharmacology in both the traditional and accelerated BSN program tracks before becoming the Director of Nursing (DON) in January 2016. As the DON, she provides oversight to the bachelor's and Master's programs, which include seven different program tracks: traditional BSN, Accelerated BSN, RN-BSN, RN-MSN, MSN: Education, MSN: Leadership/Management, and MSN-FNP. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International and has served on the leadership council of her local chapter several terms. Tiffany enjoys spending time with her family, reading, and at church.



Elizabeth Gullede, PhD, RN, CNE, NEA-BC
Jacksonville State University

Dr. Gullede is a tenured Associate Professor and the Associate Dean for the School of Health Professions and Wellness and Department Head for Nursing at Jacksonville State University, in Jacksonville, Alabama. She earned a BA in Psychology from Auburn University, BSN and MSN degrees from Jacksonville State University, and a PhD in Nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Her clinical specialty has been focused on psychiatric nursing. In addition, Dr. Gullede teaches statistics in the MSN and DNP programs. Dr. Gullede was responsible for the initiation of the White Coat Ceremony for JSU Nursing, the Deans' Scholars Program, JSU Nursing Ambassador Program as well as a contributor to the initiation of new programs, including Respiratory Therapy and the BSN-DNP programs. Dr. Gullede is President of the Medical Alliance of Northeast Alabama and a member of the Alabama League for Nursing, and Sigma Theta Tau. University colleagues recognized Dr. Gullede's contributions in 2010 as the recipient of the Ray and Ruth Ringer Faculty Research Award and in 2017, she was selected to receive the Alabama League for Nursing Lamplighter Award. Dr. Gullede has achieved the distinction of a Certified Nurse Educator and credentialing as Nurse Executive Advanced- Board certified.



Deedra Harrington, DNP, MSN, APRN, ACNP-BC
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Dr. Deedra Harrington is an assistant professor of nursing serving as the BSN Coordinator at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in Lafayette, Louisiana. Dr. Harrington received her BSN from University of Southwestern Louisiana, her MSN in Nursing Education from University of Louisiana at Lafayette, a post-masters certification as an acute care nurse practitioner from University of South Alabama (Mobile) with completion of her DNP from University of South Alabama (Mobile). As a nurse educator and an advanced practice registered nurse she has spent nearly two decades assisting and working to enhance the nursing profession both in academia and in the clinical arena. She maintains certification as an acute care nurse practitioner by working with a cardiology intensivist group. She is extremely active in academic and professional organizations. She has served on the American Nurse's Association Scope and Standard Committee and represented the state nurse practitioner organization in Louisiana as a regional representative for 6 years.



Melissa Henry, PhD, RN, FNP-C
University of Northern Colorado

Dr. Melissa Henry is currently as Associate Professor of Nursing at the University of Northern Colorado and currently serves as the Assistant Director for Undergraduate programs and Program Coordinator for the traditional and second-degree BSN programs. Dr. Henry earned her BSN from the University of MN-Twin Cities in 1998. She completed her MSN, FNP with an emphasis in rural health and her PhD in nursing with a minor in physiology from the University of Arizona in 2002 and 2006 respectively. Her current research interests include best practices for educating nurses in the natural sciences, including improving the genomic competencies for all nurses. Additionally, Dr. Henry conducts research on workplace related issues, including work-family balance, burnout, professional quality of life, and moral distress experienced by nurses and other healthcare providers in academic and clinical settings. She is an active member of ISONG and maintains membership in ANA, Colorado Nurses Association, AANP, and the Western Institute of Nursing. She has received college and institutional academic recognition as an excellent nurse educator and leadership recognition through a local chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International.



**Melinda Hermanns, PhD, RN, BC, CNE, PN/FCN
The University of Texas at Tyler**

Dr. Hermanns is an Associate Professor and the MSN Program Director for the MSN Administration and MSN Education degrees in the School of Nursing at The University of Texas at Tyler (UTT). She received her BSN, MSN, and post-master's certificate in nursing education from UTT, and, her PhD in Nursing as a Partners Scholar at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. Throughout her 18-year tenure in the School of Nursing, she has taught in all levels from baccalaureate to PhD and currently teaches in the graduate program. Dr. Hermanns has an active program of research that focuses on improving the quality of life for persons with chronic illness (specifically, Parkinson's disease and cancer). She also publishes innovative educational strategies related to nursing education. She is the author of nearly 40 peer-reviewed manuscripts. Dr. Hermanns has presented at regional, state, and national conferences and has previously received grant funding.



**Mary Hickey, EdD, FNP-BC, WHNP-BC, MSN, BSN
City University of New York, Hunter College**

Dr. Hickey is a Clinical Professor and Associate Dean of Graduate Programs at Hunter College of the City University of New York. Prior to joining Hunter, Dr. Hickey was an integral member of the faculty at New York University School of Nursing and Adelphi University, where she led curricular revisions in the baccalaureate program. Having taught at all program levels for over 20 years, Dr. Hickey is an accomplished educator with expertise in curriculum design and educational innovations. She has served on various university committees and has been an active member of several professional organizations. Dr. Hickey has published and presented on curriculum design, educational innovations, and sexual and reproductive health. She maintains a current clinical practice as a women's health nurse practitioner and recently completed her family nurse practitioner degree and certification. Her mentorship of students and colleagues has actively contributed to the next generation of nurse educators and clinicians.



Catherine Homard, PhD
Grand View University

Dr. Homard is the Nursing Department Chair at Grand View University in Des Moines, Iowa. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, Minnesota, Masters of Science Degree in Nursing Education at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, and a PhD in Education with an emphasis in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment from Walden University. Her dissertation focused on factors that impact NCLEX success. This is her 15th year teaching at Grand View and 5th year in the role of department chair. Prior teaching experience include teaching Certified Nursing Assistant for High School students and as a preceptor in acute care. Her practice background is in intensive care nursing across the lifespan, as well as in transport nursing, both ground and air. She is a reviewer for a refereed journal and a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the American Nurses Association, and the Iowa Nurses Association. She and her husband enjoy riding bikes and camping.



Caralise Hunt, PhD, RN
Auburn University

Dr. Hunt is an Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Auburn University School of Nursing in Auburn, Alabama. She also serves as Director of the RN to BSN program and chairs the Curriculum Committee. She has a joint faculty appointment in the Department of Health Outcomes, Research, and Policy in the Harrison School of Pharmacy at Auburn University. Dr. Hunt completed her BSN from Auburn University, MSN from Troy State University, and PhD from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Hunt's program of research is focused on self-management behaviors of people living with type 2 diabetes mellitus. Dr. Hunt has been faculty at Auburn University since 2005. Her primary area of teaching is in medical surgical nursing. She also teaches evidence-based practice, fundamentals, and health assessment. Dr. Hunt is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the American Diabetes Association, and the Southern Nursing Research Society.



Sadie Hutson, PhD, RN, WHNP, BC
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dr. Sadie Hutson presently serves as the Assistant Dean of Graduate Programs and is an Associate Professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Hutson earned a PhD and MSN as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner from the University of Pennsylvania and a BSN from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dr. Hutson teaches across the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs; her areas of teaching interest are research methods, philosophy of science, and grant writing. Her scientific research trajectory has focused on studying the consequences of living with chronic illness in rural and underserved areas, specifically Appalachia. She was recently funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research to explore the advanced care planning needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS in Appalachia. Dr. Hutson maintains an active clinical practice as the Director of the Cancer Genetics Program at the Leonard Lawson Cancer Center at Pikeville Medical Center. Dr. Hutson is on the editorial board for the American Journal of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. She is also the project lead for a non-profit organization called Appalachian Angel of Hope. She serves as a faculty senator and an officer in the faculty senate in the role of senate secretary.



Molly J. Jackson, DNP, RN, A-GNP-C, ACHPN
Case Western Reserve University

Dr. Molly Jackson is an Assistant Professor and director of the Graduate Entry Nursing Program at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Jackson is board certified as both an Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner, and as an Advanced Certified Hospice and Palliative Care Nurse. She has practiced as a nurse for over 30 years and has been a faculty member at CWRU since 2007. Dr. Jackson received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Michigan, and a Master of Science in Nursing and a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree from Case Western Reserve University. She is a member of the of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses, the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, and Sigma Theta Tau International. She was selected as a Jonas Scholar in 2014 by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Her research and scholarly interests include graduate entry nursing education, palliative care, and teaching/learning strategies.



**Pamela Karagory, DNP, MBA, MSB, RN, CNE
Purdue University**

Dr. Pamela Karagory's achievements as an outstanding nurse leader and educator, and her significant contributions to student-centered curricular innovations are just a few of the examples of her contributions to the development and advancement of the nursing profession. She leads an innovative and diversified nursing program that prepares students as competent clinicians, leaders, and change agents. Her passion and leadership in creating this innovative and supportive environment led the Purdue University School of Nursing to receive the 2015 AACN Innovation in Professional Nursing Education Award for Infusing Systems and Quality Improvement Approaches into the curriculum. Dr. Karagory's dedication to organizational success is epitomized by her leadership of the approved expansion of the School of Nursing's undergraduate program, doubling enrollment by 2020. She has presented her work in infusing quality improvement and systems thinking throughout the nursing curriculum and her leadership in developing comprehensive and innovative mentoring programs for new faculty and graduate teaching assistants has been presented to national and international audiences. Her research focuses on leadership, faculty development, and curricular innovation that prepares new graduates for success and leadership in the healthcare system.



**Megan Keiser, DNP, RN, CNRN, SCRNP, CHSE, ACNS-BC, NP-C
University of Michigan-Flint**

Dr. Megan M Keiser is an Assistant Professor and Director of Undergraduate Nursing Affairs at the University of Michigan-Flint School of Nursing. She obtained a BSN in 1986 and an MS in Medical-Surgical Nursing in 1990 both from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and her Doctor of Nursing Practice from Wayne State University in 2012. Her teaching responsibilities include undergraduate courses in Medical-Surgical Nursing and graduate courses in adult-geriatric acute care. She is responsible for administering the undergraduate nursing programs including a traditional BSN program, an accelerated BSN program, and a BSN completion program. She is a Certified Neuroscience Registered Nurse, a Stroke Certified Registered Nurse, a Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator, and is board certified as an Adult Clinical Nurse Specialist. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, the Michigan Council of Nurse Practitioners, the American Nurses Association, the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses, the Midwest Nurses Research Society, the International Nursing Association for Simulation in Nursing, and the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. Her research focus addresses the utility of simulation in nursing education including the use of simulation for interprofessional and graduate nursing education.



**Dawn R. Kuerschner, PhD, RN, APN-BC, CNE
Concordia University Wisconsin**

Dr. Dawn Kuerschner is an Associate Professor and Director of the Traditional Undergraduate Nursing Program at Concordia University in Mequon, Wisconsin. Dr. Kuerschner joined Concordia University in 2017 following 16 years as Professor of Nursing at Oakton Community College. During her time at Oakton, Dr. Kuerschner was instrumental in developing a simulation program across the nursing curriculum and served on numerous college and department committees. Dr. Kuerschner earned her BSN from Elmhurst College and her MSN from Rush University in Chicago, IL. Her PhD in 2014 from Capella University focused on nursing education. She is the recipient of several honors, including the International Women's Leadership Association award, Illinois Board of Higher Education Nurse Educator Fellowship award, and a faculty grant from the Illinois Organization of Associate Degree Nursing. Dr. Kuerschner's research interests include the use of simulation and observational assessment in nursing student education, and issues related to student retention and attrition. She has co-authored several articles on simulation and presented at national and regional conference on a variety of topics including the use of visual narratives to enhance patient-centered care.



**Felicia Lowenstein-Moffett, DNP, RN, APRN, FNP-BC, NP-C, PHN, CNE, CCRN
University of Nevada, Reno**

Dr. Lowenstein-Moffett is an Assistant Professor, Family Nurse Practitioner Program Track Leader and the Accreditation Coordinator for Orvis School of Nursing at the University of Nevada, Reno. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Educational Leadership. She has diverse clinical expertise in primary family care, emergency, critical care, and rural healthcare. She teaches across the BSN, MSN and DNP curriculums. In addition to her administrative, service and scholarship activities she maintains a clinical practice in emergency and urgent care. Dr. Lowenstein-Moffett is president of Sigma Theta Tau, Nu Iota Chapter; chairperson for the Nevada Nurses Association antimicrobial stewardship committee and actively involved with the Nevada Advanced Practice Nurses Association. She is a member of American Nurses Association, American Association of Nurse Practitioners and National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty. She also serves on several executive boards and committees across the state of Nevada representing APRN practice. Additionally, she mentors graduate students on their scholarly research and quality improvement projects.



Mary Ann McLaughlin, PhD, EdD, RN
Gwynedd Mercy University

Dr. McLaughlin graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) in 1990. In 1993, Dr. McLaughlin graduated from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing with her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) as a Cardiopulmonary Clinical Nurse Specialist and earned her Doctorate in Education in Nursing Leadership and Organization from Teachers College at Columbia University in 2016. Dr. McLaughlin's work experience ranges from staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, staff development specialist, clinical supervisor and manager of disease management programs, telehealth program founder, clinical editor, assistant professor, accelerated program founder, and accelerated program director. Dr. McLaughlin's specialties include cardiac and medical surgical nursing, education, disease management, telehealth, ethics, and NCLEX. Dr. McLaughlin's research interest is in ethical decision making in nursing. Dr. McLaughlin has developed two models – Pillars of Professionalism and Ethics in Nursing.



Katherine Menard, PhD, RN, CCRN, CNE
Northern Michigan University

Dr. Katie Menard is an Associate Professor in the School of Nursing at NMU where she has served as a nursing educator since 2008. She also holds the roles of RN to BSN and undergraduate program coordinator. Katie graduated from Northern Michigan University (NMU) with her BSN in 2003, MSN from Eastern Michigan University in 2008 and a PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2014. She is an active member of the Upper Peninsula Chapter of the Association of Critical Care Nurses and of the Xi Sigma Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. She holds national certifications in critical care nursing and as a nurse educator. Her clinical background is in critical care nursing while her research interests include the working environment of nurses, stress and civility among nursing students and the scholarship of teaching and learning. Katie teaches in the RN to BSN and traditional BSN programs with a focus on fundamentals, medical-surgical, and critical care concepts.



Jacqueline Meyer, PhD, RN, CNE
Allen College

Dr. Jackie Meyer is a Professor in the Nursing Program at Allen College in Waterloo, Iowa where she has also served as the Assistant Dean in the Graduate Nursing program since 2009. She received her BSN from Clarke University in Dubuque, Iowa, earned her MSN at the University of Iowa and her PhD in Nursing from Villanova University. She has clinical practice experience in obstetrics, public health, home care, and hospice. Her primary teaching responsibilities are in the areas of health care policy, economics, and financing; evidence-based practice and clinical scholarship; and nursing and health professions education, including courses in the Allen College EdD program. Dr. Meyer works with numerous MSN and DNP students to develop and implement evidence-based practice projects, and works with EdD students in support of their dissertation work. Her own areas of research interest are social determinants of health in primary care settings, and support for clinical adjunct nursing faculty. She is a member of the following organizations: Pi Kappa and Alpha Nu chapters of Sigma Theta Tau International, the American Nurses Association, Iowa Nurses Association, the Midwest Nurses Research Society, and the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science.



Phillip Moore, DNP, FNP-BC
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dr. Moore is Chair of RN to BSN Program and Clinical Assistant Professor, in the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. Dr. Moore received his DNP degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (2015), his MSN degrees (family nurse practitioner and nurse educator) from Carson Newman College (2010), his BSN from East Tennessee State University (2007) and his Associates degree in Nursing from Walter State Community College (2006). Dr. Moore is a board-certified family nurse practitioner with practice experiences primarily in Trauma and Emergency Medicine. During his education, Dr. Moore conducted research in the nursing education arena. Since accepting a full time faculty role in 2013, he has developed expertise in integrating simulation and innovative learning technologies into curriculum. Dr. Moore is a member of several professional organizations including Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Society, American Association of Nurse Practitioners, American Nurses Association and Tennessee Nurses Association.



Karen M. Myrick, APRN, DNP
Quinnipiac University

Dr. Karen Myrick holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree and is a nurse practitioner. She is an Associate Professor at Quinnipiac University with a joint appointment in the Frank Netter School of Medicine. She maintains a clinical practice as a nurse practitioner in the specialty of Orthopedics and Sports Medicine. As a nurse researcher, Dr. Myrick's focus has been athletes and injury prevention. Dr. Myrick has been active in service and leadership at the university, professional and community levels. At the university level, Karen has chaired the Faculty Search Committee and hiring Department Evaluation Committee, chaired two Strategic Planning Committees, served on the University Review Committee, Academic Policies and Procedures Committee, and is one of the inaugural Interprofessional Faculty Fellows. She is on the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science Membership Committee, and on the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty Finance and Membership Resources Committee. Dr. Myrick was a member of a national expert panel that drafted the national Appropriate Use Criteria for the use of Hyaluronic Acid. She is a senior editor for the international Journal of Clinical Case Reports. Proudly, Dr. Myrick has been the room parent for her third-grade daughter's class for the last 4 years.



Tonya Nicholson, DNP, CNM, WHNP-BC, CNE,
FACNM
Frontier Nursing University

Dr. Tonya Nicholson, DNP, CNM, WHNP- BC, CNE, FACNM is the Associate Dean of Midwifery and Women's Health for Frontier Nursing University. She has a rich history with FNU as a 1999 graduate for midwifery, the first DNP graduate in 2009, and a WHNP graduate in 2011. Tonya served the women of central Florida in full scope practice from 2000-2006 where she also directed the midwifery service. In 2006, she joined the Frontier faculty, became the Program Director in 2010 and the Associate Dean in 2015. She has a variety of teaching experience, but the majority has been focused on the prenatal period and clinical courses. Dr. Nicholson continues to practice part time in full scope clinical practice in Dublin, Georgia and is proud to be the first midwife in this area. Tonya is very interested in communication and civility at the individual and institutional levels and focuses most of her scholarship and speaking in this area.



Bonnie Nickasch, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
University of Wisconsin Oshkosh

Dr. Bonnie Nickasch is an Assistant Professor and Director of the Doctor of Nursing Practice Family Nurse Practitioner emphasis at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and a Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner for Thedacare Health System. Over the past 25 years, she has advanced her education and leadership at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. She earned her bachelor's (2000), master's (2006) and Doctorate (2014) degrees in nursing from the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Dr. Nickasch is a transformational leader, and professional Advanced Practice Registered Nurse dedicated to mentoring doctorally prepared Family Nurse Practitioners into practice. She continues to work as a family nurse practitioner focusing on health promotion/wellness and evidence-based practice. Dr. Nickasch has published research and clinical papers and uses scholarship to inform her clinical practice bringing this expertise into the classroom. She is respected by students and colleagues for her clinical expertise and hands on approach to education. Her willingness to provide professional guidance to junior faculty and students; and her flexible, inclusive leadership style has prepared her for an ever-changing academic environment.



Stacie Olson, DNP, PMHNP-BC, APRN
University of North Dakota

Dr. Olson is an Assistant Clinical Professor and Track Director of the Graduate Psychiatric NP Track at the College of Nursing and Professional Disciplines, University of North Dakota (ND). She earned a BSN and an MS with a focus as an Adult Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner from the University of ND, and a Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA. In addition to teaching, administrative, service and scholarship responsibilities at the University, she maintains a clinical practice in a student health clinic on campus seeing students with mental illness and doing case consultation. She is a member of several professional organizations including Sigma Theta Tau International, American Nurses Association, American Psychiatric Nurses Association, National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, and ND Nurse Practitioner Association. She actively serves on several boards in these organizations and networks to promote more practitioners in the field of behavioral health in the rural health settings in her community.



Christina Plemmons, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
South Dakota State University

Christina Plemmons is an Assistant Professor and Director of Academic Nursing Education Programs at South Dakota State University. She has a BA (business administration) from Gonzaga University, a BS (nursing) and MS (nursing education) from South Dakota State University, and a PhD (nursing) from University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She is a certified medical surgical nurse (ANCC) and certified nurse educator (NLN). As an educator, she has been involved in classroom, clinical, and online education; Quality and Safety in Nursing Education (QSEN) implementation; curriculum design; development of a simulation family and related simulation scenarios; and the establishment of a dedicated nursing education unit. Dr. Plemmons received the Outstanding PhD Student Award from UNLV for her doctoral dissertation, "The Relationship Between Clinical Teaching Models and Perceived Clinical Self-Efficacy and Attitude Toward Team Process." The results of her dissertation study were recently published in *Nurse Education Today*. The South Dakota Nurses Association has recognized her with a Rookie of the Year Award (2005) and a Nurse Educator Award (2015). She is on the Board of Directors for South Dakota Nurses Foundation and Sigma Theta Tau, Phi Chapter. She also serves as Treasurer and Primary Nurse Planner for the South Dakota Nurses Association.



Lydia D. Rotondo, DNP, RN, CNS
University of Rochester

Dr. Rotondo is an Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing, Associate Dean for Education and Student Affairs, and Director of the DNP Program at the University of Rochester School of Nursing in Rochester, NY. She received her DNP from Vanderbilt University, an MSN in Critical Care from the University of Pennsylvania, and a BSN from Georgetown University. Dr. Rotondo's professional roles have included surgical critical care staff nurse, nurse manager, nursing supervisor, nurse consultant, administrator, clinical nurse specialist, and nursing faculty. Dr. Rotondo's areas of scholarly interest include formation of DNP clinical scholars, practice epistemology, and collaborative practice inquiry, and she has published and presented locally and nationally in these areas. Dr. Rotondo serves as deputy Title IX coordinator for the University of Rochester School of Nursing and is a board member of the University of Rochester Medical Center's Institute for Innovative Education which leads the development of interprofessional education and practice experiences among health professions students and practice partners. Dr. Rotondo is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, American Nurses Association, American Association for the History of Nursing, American Conference of Academic Deans, and the Organization of Nurse Executives and Leaders.



Zepure Samawi, PhD, RN
Saint Xavier University

Dr. Zepure Samawi is a tenured Full Professor, Fulbright Nursing Scholar and Associate Dean of the Undergraduate Nursing Program at Saint Xavier University with over 29 years teaching experience in the Middle-East and U.S.A. She completed her BSN from Arab Colleges of Medical Professions (Palestine/West Bank), an MSN in Maternal-Child Health from Arizona State University, and a PhD from Widener University. Her areas of teaching expertise include undergraduate pediatric nursing, nursing research, community nursing, nursing ethics. She continues to annually lead a Nursing Study Abroad course to Italy. Her research interests include health promotion, nursing global studies and its impact on nursing students learning, and the effect of concept mapping on students critical thinking. She has presented her research at international and national nursing conferences and worked with undergraduate and graduate students to conduct scholarly presentations. Dr. Samawi is a published author and reviewer for national and international refereed journals. She serves on various committees for evaluation and curriculum. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, Nursing Society of Pediatric Nursing and Health Ministries Association. She has had leadership positions at the Society of Pediatric Nursing, chaired on the education committee and continues to serve on the Clinical Practice and Research Committee.



Casey Shillam, PhD, RN
University of Portland

Dr. Casey R. Shillam, is Associate Professor and Interim Dean of the University of Portland School of Nursing. Dr. Shillam has extensive experience in curriculum development and launching new programs. Prior to joining the University of Portland, she was Founding Nursing Program Director at Western Washington University. There, she founded the Palliative Care Institute, partnering with interprofessional partners, multiple hospitals and community-based organizations throughout northern Washington to advance community-based palliative care and to develop health policy in palliative and end-of-life care at local and state levels. She served as an Expert Nurse Consultant to the AARP Center to Champion Nursing in America's Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action and has developed a variety of programs supporting nurses in leadership development. Recognized for her strong leadership history, Dr. Shillam was selected for the final cohort of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Executive Nurse Fellows program and completed the fellowship in September 2017. Dr. Shillam is a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Health Policy Advisory Council and served on the Board of Directors for the Northwest Organization of Nurse Executives and the Checkout Health Foundation Board.



Larry Slater, PhD, RN-BC, CNE
New York University

Dr. Larry Slater, is Director of the Undergraduate Program and a Clinical Associate Professor at the New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing. Dr. Slater received his doctoral degree in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Nursing, where he also completed his post-doctoral training, focusing on the psychosocial aspects of aging with HIV. His nursing experience is in neurosurgical intensive care. In teaching, he is an expert in technology-enhanced education and alternative teaching strategies, including flipped-classroom and active learning strategies. Dr. Slater is a Certified Nurse Educator and board-certified in gerontological nursing and has received awards from peers and students for his teaching. He is active in several professional nursing organizations, including the American Nurses Association and ANA-New York, Sigma Theta Tau International, The Honor Society of Nursing, and serves as a professional consultant for the Nursing Students Association of New York State.



Marianne Snyder, PhD, MSN, RN
University of Connecticut

Dr. Marianne Snyder is an Assistant Professor and Director of the Pre-licensure Nursing Program at the University of Connecticut. She received her BSN from The University of Central Florida, an MSN from West Virginia University in the Family Nurse Practitioner Track, and PhD in Nursing with a Certificate in Health Professions Education from the University of Connecticut. She has over 25 years of experience teaching in clinical and academic settings that include associate, traditional and accelerated baccalaureate and RN-BS nursing programs. She has expertise in curriculum and instruction for pre-licensure programs, integrating student-centered teaching methods into a curriculum, NCLEX preparation and mentoring graduates and new faculty for success. Her research focuses on health care experiences and practices among persons of diverse sexual and gender identities and the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of health care providers who care for them. Dr. Snyder is also an active member of several professional nursing organizations including Sigma Theta Tau International, Eastern Nursing Research Society, and GLMA – Health Professionals Advancing LGBT Equality.



Therese Speer, DNP, RN, CNE
Arizona State University

Dr. Speer is a Clinical Associate Professor and Senior Director of Undergraduate Nursing Programs at the College of Nursing and Health Innovation at Arizona State University. She earned a diploma in nursing at St. Vincent Hospital School of Nursing in Worcester, Massachusetts, her BSN at Salve Regina College in Newport Rhode Island, an MSN in Nursing Education at the University of Arizona and DNP in Innovation Leadership at Arizona State University. Dr. Speer has been involved in nursing education for 21 years, teaching in baccalaureate nursing programs. In addition to her educator roles, she serves as faculty mentor for nursing freshman. Her DNP project centered on promoting freshman feelings of belonging through a weekend camp experience with the focus on student success throughout the nursing program and at the university. As Mentor in Residence for the nursing college, she provides new faculty the opportunity to develop their teaching and leadership skills with the goal of retaining passionate faculty dedicated to producing competent professional nurses. Dr. Speer is active in Sigma Theta Tau International and president of the Beta Upsilon Chapter. She is a member in the National League of Nurses, the American Nurses Association and is a Certified Nurse Educator.



Marcia Straughn, PhD, RN, CNE
Abilene Christian University

Dr. Straughn is an Instructor and the Department Chair of the Abilene Christian University School of Nursing. She earned a BS in Nursing from Texas Woman's University, an MS in Nursing, Educator Track from Texas Woman's University, and a PhD in Nursing Science from Texas Woman's University. Dr. Straughn was privileged to participate in the establishment of the ACU School of Nursing when it began in 2013, and this experience has contributed to her extensive knowledge of curriculum design and assessment and evaluation techniques. Her primary areas of teaching have included Community and Population Health Nursing and Fundamentals of Nursing. Dr. Straughn has a passion for helping beginning nursing students establish patterns of thinking that support student success and lifelong learning. Her research interests include the development of clinical judgment, the nursing student experience, and curricular variables on NCLEX success. In addition to her role as Department Chair for the ACU School of Nursing, she serves on capstone project committees for ACU's Doctor of Nursing Practice program. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, American Nurses Association, Texas Nurses Association, Nurses Christian Fellowship, and the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning.



Christa Steffens, EdD, MSN, RN
Upper Iowa, Universty

Dr. Steffens earned her ADN from Scott Community College in 2002. She went on to earn a BSN from the University of Iowa in 2007, a MSN in nursing education from Kaplan University in 2010, and a Doctor of Education in Health Professions Education from Allen College in 2018. She currently serves as the Director of Nursing Education at Upper Iowa University. In her current role she is responsible for administrative oversight of the RN-BSN program. Dr. Steffens' clinical practice focused on adult critical care, correctional, and forensic nursing. Her research interests focus on the successful transition of nurse educators from traditional to online classrooms, strategies for integration of information literacy concepts within nursing curricula, and the use of technology to promote instructor presence in the online classroom. She is a member of National League for Nursing, Iowa League for Nursing, American Nurses Association, Iowa Nurses Association, and Midwest Nursing Research Society.



Sonia Strevy, RN, MS, PhD
University of Saint Francis

Dr. Strevy is an Associate Professor in the Department of Nursing and Program Director, RN to BS Program at the University of Saint Francis. She earned a BSN at Indiana University, MS in Nursing Education at Ball State University, and returned to Indiana University for a PhD in Nursing Research. In addition to teaching, administrative, service and scholarship responsibilities at the University, she also serves as the Chair, Faculty Senate which includes elected faculty from each school of the university. Dr. Strevy's program of research includes use of therapy dogs in behavioral health group setting and anxiety of nursing students. She has been teaching for University of Saint Francis since 2015. Her areas of teaching expertise include evidence-based practice, nursing informatics and applied theory. She is the project manager for GROW Nurses (Growing and Raising Our Workforce) in Allen County, dedicated to assisting diverse students to pursue and persist in becoming nurses. Dr. Strevy is the recipient of the 2009 Indiana Council for Continuing Education Research Award and the 2009 Midwest Scholars Research Outstanding Dissertation Award. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International and the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.



**Dawn Vanderhoef, PhD, DNP, PMHNP-BC, FAANP
Vanderbilt University**

Dr. Vanderhoef has both a research and practice doctorate, and is board-certified as a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) with over 18 years' experience as an APRN. She is the Academic Director of the PMHNP program at VUSN and also holds an appointment as a clinical professor in the Department of Psychiatry. Her current practice and research interest is working with persons diagnosed with a severe mental illness, cardiometabolic side effects from antipsychotic medication, and integrated care models. She has an active practice working at in the psychosis clinic in the Department of Psychiatry at Vanderbilt Psychiatric Hospital. She is an active member of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA), National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF), Neuroscience Education Institute (NEI), and American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). In 2016 she was inducted as a fellow in the AANP, and in 2015 received the award for excellence at APNA, followed by an award for excellence in PMHNP teaching voted by VUSN students in 2017.



**Ann Warner, PhD, RN, CNE
McNeese State University**

Dr. Ann Warner is Professor and Co-Coordinator of the graduate nursing program at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana. She earned a BSN from University of Mississippi, a MS from the University of Maryland (trauma/critical care nursing), and a PhD from Texas Woman's University. She has extensive experience teaching in traditional classroom and clinical settings as well as online at both the BSN and MSN levels, with emphasis on adult health, research, and nursing theory. Dr. Warner enjoys working with students to develop their skills in research and project presentation and often presents with students. Her research examines the influence of paid employment on undergraduate student educational outcomes. She holds an Online Teaching Certificate from the Online Learning Consortium and has completed Joanna Briggs Institute Systematic Reviewer Training. She is active in Sigma Theta Tau International, Kappa Psi Chapter, Louisiana State Nurses Association, and Louisiana Council of Administrators in Nursing Education.



Melessia D. Webb, EdD, MSN, RN
East Tennessee State University

Dr. Melessia Webb is currently the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs at East Tennessee State University (ETSU), College of Nursing. She obtained her EdD, MSN, and BSN from ETSU. Dr. Webb has been involved in nursing education for 18 years at ETSU and Northeast State Community College, both located in east Tennessee. At the University, she has served as Coordinator for both graduate and undergraduate programs (Clinical Nurse Leader MSN Coordinator and RN to BSN Coordinator) and as Director of Undergraduate Programs. While at Northeast State Community College, Melessia had the honor and privilege of guiding faculty in the development and implementation of a “new” Associate Degree Nursing program and an LPN to RN program while serving as Director of Nursing and then as Dean of Nursing. Dr. Webb was the recipient of one of the Top 60 ETSU College Nursing Alumni awards (2014) and was named one of the Top Ten Professionals of 2010 by the Journal of Business.



Pamela Willson, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, CNE, NE-BC, FAANP
Texas State University

Dr. Willson is the Graduate Program Director at Texas State University’s St. David’s School of Nursing, where she also directs the Leadership and Nursing Administration program. Dr. Willson has directed education for the Veteran’s Health Administrations Parkinson’s Disease Research, Education and Clinical Center and was the Associate Chief of Nursing Research at the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center in Houston, TX. She received her PhD from Texas Woman’s University and her master’s as a Family Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) from University of Texas at Arlington. She has taught APRNs for 30 years, directed FNP programs, and incorporated interprofessional telemedicine into the curriculum. Her clinical practice and research focuses on motor disorders, telehealth, and chronic disease self-management. Current scholarship includes book chapters, presentations, journal articles; she is PI for advanced practice and educational funded awards for homelessness, standardized testing, and self-management education programs for rural Texans. Dr. Willson is a certified Nurse Educator (CNE), certified Nurse Executive (NE-BC), and Fellow of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (FAANP).



**Janet Winter, DNP, MPA, BSN, RN
Grand Valley State University**

Dr. Janet Winter earned a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in Executive Leadership from the College of Nursing at Rush University; a Master of Public Administration degree with a Health Concentrate from Grand Valley State University (GVSU); and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Michigan – Ann Arbor. In 2013, she earned a post Graduate Certificate in Sustainability of Public and Nonprofit Organizations through GVSU. In 2014, Dr. Winter became the Associate Dean for the Undergraduate Programs in Nursing at the Kirkhof College of Nursing (KCON) at GVSU. As Associate Dean, Dr. Winter provides leadership in managing all areas of the undergraduate academic degree programs including faculty and student affairs; program coordination; program evaluation; resource development and management; and public relations that facilitate KCON's educational missions. Dr. Winter is currently serving as a faculty counselor and delegate on the Sigma Theta Tau International Kappa Epsilon Chapter-at-large Board of Directors.



**Connie Zak, DNP, MBA, FNP-BC
Purdue University Global**

Dr. Zak is the Associate Dean for Online Programs at Purdue University. Prior to her recent move Dr. Zak was the Vice-President for Healthcare Management for the Community Care Alliance of Illinois (CCAI). In this role she developed the division of Healthcare Management and was a leader in building a managed care organization with an innovative model of care that specialized in adults and seniors with disabilities. In addition, she led the establishment of 8 Nurse Practitioner Lead Anchor Health Homes. Her department's work has been featured on the front page of the Chicago Tribune, and they have received a Platinum Award from URAC for exemplary work done with the psychiatric population. Dr. Zak received her BSN from the University of Illinois at Chicago, MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management and DNP from Rush University. Dr. Zak is a member of several organizations including the American Association of Nurse Practitioners and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties. Dr. Zak's research interests are diabetes, heart disease, and education. She was the co-investigator and faculty of several training grants in Nursing Education granted by HRSA.