Dear Colleagues,

As temperatures fall and the leaves change color, the Fall semester is in full swing. In addition to the usual busyness of this time, many faculty members have submitted or are preparing to submit grant proposals, manuscript drafts, and applications for other award and fellowship opportunities. As always, the Center for Nursing Research is here to help ensure your success and help coordinate projects with other key offices such as Foundation Relations and the Office of Sponsored Programs. Therefore, please let us know of these upcoming projects as soon as possible so that we have ample time to assist you and connect you with other campus offices and resources. Your efforts are valued and important as the College seeks to bolster its research and help maintain Kent State University’s status as an R1 institution. To receive assistance from the Center for Nursing Research, please start by contacting Denise Karshner at dkarshne@kent.edu.

Also on the horizon is the 48th Annual Research Conference of the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS). This year’s conference takes place in Minneapolis, MN from Feb. 28th – March 2nd with the theme “Nursing Research in the Future: Exploring the Driving Forces.” Please see additional information in this edition of the newsletter.

Mary K. Anthony, PhD, RN
Professor Emerita

New Grant Awards

Loretta Aller, PhD, RN, received funding for her project, Exploring Psychological Capital, Mental Health, Career Interests, and the Use of PhotoVoice with Freshmen Nursing Students, as a sub-study of Dr. Jim Tudhope’s parent study, Expanding the Impact of Psychiatric Mental Health APRNs in Northeast Ohio, funded by Peg’s Foundation.

Jo Dowell, PhD, APRN, CNP, PNP, FNP-BC, CFNE, received a grant award for her project, Food Allergy Screening: Increasing Health Equity Among Low-Income Communities from the Walmart Foundation.

Tracey Motter, DNP, RN, Mary Kutchin, MSN, RN, CNS, Erin Slay, DNP, MHA, RN, and Holly Ma, DNP, MS, RN, NPD-BC received a federal grant award for their project, Kent State University LPN Education Advancement Program (LEAP), from the Health Resources and Services Administration. Grant funding will be used to develop a pathway for licensed practical nurses (LPNs) at University Hospitals (UH) to complete their BSN degree by providing financial and academic support and removing common barriers to degree completion.

Jim Tudhope, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC, NPD-BC, Andrea Warner Stidham, PhD, MSN, RN, Andrea Nelson, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC, Raman Krimpuri, MD, MBA, and Vikil Girdhar, MD, received a federal grant award for their project, Integrated Community Psychiatry Nurse Practitioner Program through the Nursing Education Nurse Practitioner Residency Fellowship Program of the Health Resources and Services Administration. Grant funding will increase the number of behavioral health nurse practitioners capable of delivering care in integrated, community-based settings in northeast Ohio through an academic/clinical partnership between Kent State College of Nursing and Portage Path Behavioral Health.

Funded Grant Awards

Dean Versie Johnson-Mallard, PHD, RN, APRN, FAANP, FAAN, came to the College of Nursing in the Fall of 2021 with several funded grant projects in progress. She is Co-Investigator for the study, Keys to Success in the Health Sciences: An Interdisciplinary Student Cohort Program Across the UF Health Science Center, funded by the University of Florida (UF). She also serves as Co-Investigator for the project, Improving Head and Neck Cancer Treatment with Community Engagement, funded by UF College of Education. Both studies conclude in 2023.
Faculty Recognitions

Loretta Aller, PhD, RN, was appointed to a new scientific advisory board: Kaplan’s Innovation Advisory Board.

Jo Dowell, PhD, APRN, CNP, PNP, FNP-BC, CFNE, received notification that the Kent State University patent board has filed a provisional patent application for the Chee Sleeve prototype.

Meghan Edmondson, PhD, RN, was accepted into the KSU Brain Health Research Institute (BHRI) 2023-2024 Grant Academy.

Janet Reed, PhD, RN, CMSRN, was accepted into the KSU Brain Health Research Institute (BHRI) 2023-2024 Grant Academy.

Research Presentations

Cleveland, K. (2023, Aug). Nurses: Leaders in shaping health policy. Presentation for the Cleveland Clinic Grand Rounds, Cleveland, OH.

Cleveland, K. (2023, June). Nurses: Empowered policy advocates. Presentation for the Delta Xi Annual Meeting, Kent, OH.

Dodson, T., & Reed, J. (2023, September). Struggles and solutions in novice nurses’ communication. Presentation for the Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses (AMSN) Annual Convention, Las Vegas, NV. [pictured above]


Jarzembak, J., & Kim, K. (2023, Feb). Nursing education study with emerging technologies, haptics, and mixed reality. Presentation for the Kent State University Research and Sponsored Programs Faculty Forum, Kent, OH.


Faculty Publications


Student Awards & Recognitions

Mary Grace, BSN Honors student, received funding from the Kent State University Office of Student Research for her project, “Food Allergies in College Students: Knowledge, Symptom Management, and EpiPen Response Times.” Mary is mentored by Dr. Jo Dowell.

Wayne Nieh, BSN Honors student, received funding from the University Research Council for his Honors thesis, “Family Presence During Resuscitation: A Descriptive Study of Perceptions of Nursing Students.” This online study included eligible nursing students recruited from the Kent, Geauga, Salem, Stark, and Trumbull campuses. Wayne is mentored by Dr. Amy Petrinec.

Student Research

**DNP Defenses:** The following student defended her scholarly project and graduated with her DNP:

**Thapasya Thomas.** *Implementation of Lifestyle Modifications as First Line Therapies for the Management of BPH* (Dr. Eldy Lazaroff, Chair; Drs. Lisa Onesko and Denise Pacholski, committee members)

Kent State University at Trumbull nursing and veterinary tech students recently conducted collaborative research with Youngstown State University respiratory therapy students titled, “Does Smoking and/or Vaping Have an Effect on the Fractional Expired Nitric Oxide Levels (FeNO): A Biomarker of Airway Inflammation?” Student participants assessed a single breath test for FeNO as a biomarker for airway inflammation and are analyzing the results for presentation at a national conference this November.

Student Presentation

Nieh, W. (2023, June). *Recruitment of family members of ICU patients: Role of therapeutic communication.* Presentation of SURE (Student Undergraduate Research Experience) study poster for the SAEOPP McNair/SSS Scholars Research Conference, Atlanta, GA (Wayne Nieh is mentored by Dr. Amy Petrinec).
MNRS Student Poster Competition

The 2024 Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) Annual Research Conference will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota from Feb. 28 – March 2. This year’s conference theme is “Nursing Research in the Future: Exploring the Driving Forces.” BSN, MSN, DNP, and PhD students are encouraged to submit an abstract for the student poster competition to Dr. Jo Dowell by Oct. 1, 2023. Specific guidelines may be found at https://pmg.joynadmin.org/documents/1042/647658a71e57954e0a2eb142.pdf

Brown Bag Engagement Series

This year’s first Brown Bag Engagement Series presentation took place on September 18th via Teams and featured Dr. Jennifer Marcinkiewicz, Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning at Kent State University. Dr. Marcinkiewicz presented the session, “Developing Meaningful Peer Reviews of Teaching.”

Upcoming Brown Bag Engagement Series presentations will take place on October 16th and November 20th this semester with speakers and topics announced over the next few weeks.

News You Can Use

KSU Find a Mentor Database

Kent State University offers an online database that allows users to search for university researchers by research area or expertise, as well as faculty with available graduate or undergraduate student research positions. Those who might benefit from this resource include KSU faculty seeking researchers for collaborative projects, students in need of faculty mentors, future students interested in finding faculty with specific research areas, or external faculty or institutions looking for KSU faculty collaborators. Please visit https://www.kent.edu/research/research-database-profiles

NIH Research Matters

Interested in new research advances made possible through NIH funding? Each issue of NIH Research Matters presents an array of topics highlighting recent studies and the impact of this research on health outcomes. Several recent articles include “Cold Virus May Set the Stage for Long COVID,” “Advancing Molecular Insights into Cancer,” and “Stroke Patients May Benefit from Brain Stimulation.” Weekly issues may be found at https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters

www.kent.edu/nursing/research

If you’re interested in joining our faculty, collaborating on a research project, or supporting our research efforts:

Contact Us

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Statistical Assistance at the Center for Nursing Research

Lynette Phillips, PhD, MSPH, and statistician from the College of Public Health, is available for assistance on Wednesdays during the Fall semester in Henderson Hall, room 318, and can also meet remotely. She may be contacted at lphill20@kent.edu.