Dear Colleagues,

With the Spring semester underway, there are many opportunities to recognize the impact of ongoing research at the CON. One notable example occurred during the recent gathering of almost 300 CON and NEOMED students at the Kent State Ballroom for an interdisciplinary simulation (using forum theatre) focused on compassionate end-of-life care. The CAREol project (Catalyzing Relationships at the End of Life) was originally funded by a President’s grant from the Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation to Dana Hansen (PI), Tracey Motter (Co-I) and other CON and NEOMED faculty with additional support from the Henderson Reserve Fund and Ali Darishnia, KSU CON alumnus supporter. This collaboration serves as a model for education at a R1 institution for continuing research and opportunities for enhanced student learning.

As I consider the importance of research funding, I would like remind faculty members of the College’s research and innovation awards, made possible by generous donor funds supporting these endeavors. Applications for various types of supported projects, including those with a research, innovation, or equipment focus, are considered. I encourage CON faculty to contact Denise Karshner for an application and wish you a productive semester.

Mary K. Anthony, PhD, RN
Professor Emerita

Faculty Recognitions

Loretta Aller, PhD, RN, received a University Teaching Council Travel Conference Grant to present her research for the National League for Nursing Nurse Education Research Conference in Washington D.C. this spring.

Cheryl Brady, PhD, CNE, received a University Teaching Council Travel Conference Grant to present her research for the National League for Nursing Nurse Education Research Conference in Washington D.C. this spring.

Kimberly Cleveland, PhD, JD, MSN, RN, C-MBC, C-MPC, was voted as President-Elect for the American Association of Nurse Attorneys for 2023-2024. She will serve as President in 2024-2025.

Kimberly Cleveland, PhD, JD, MSN, RN, C-MBC, C-MPC, was reappointed to serve as a member of the Public Policy Committee for the National League of Nursing for two years, concluding Dec. 2024.

Tracy Dodson, PhD, MSN, RN, was named a Macy Faculty Scholars Program semifinalist.

Kathy Dwinnells, PhD, RN, CNS, CNE, received the 2022 Outstanding Teacher Award which honors Kent State University faculty members nominated by their students.

Dana Hansen, PhD, APRN, ACHPN, was designated as a 2023 Fellow in Palliative Care Nursing by the Hospice & Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA).

Versie Johnson-Mallard, PhD, RN, APRN, FAANP, FAAN, serves as Chair for the American Academy of Nursing Annual Conference Planning Committee.

Versie Johnson-Mallard, PhD, RN, APRN, FAANP, FAAN, served as moderator & chair for the American Academy of Nursing 2022 Health Policy Conference: From Reflection to Impact: Positioning Nursing’s Future, Washington, D.C.

Cindy Wilk, APRN-CNS, CNE, PhD candidate, received this year’s Winebrenner Professional Development Excellence Award which supports professional development activities of KSU’s full-time non-tenure track faculty.
**Scholarly Presentations**

Aller, L. (2022, October). *Shifting the paradigm of nursing education: A longitudinal study using innovation to prepare equity-focused, resilient nurses.* Invited podium presentation for the Ohio Board of Nursing, Nursing Education Advisory Board, Columbus, OH.

Aller, L., & Allen, B. (2022, October). *Advancing the state of the science: From model to practice-ready graduates.* Invited podium presentation for the Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Education Research Day at Walsh University, N. Canton, OH.


Cleveland, K., & Vander Horst, A. (2022, October). *Use of open education resources in supporting diverse BSN retention.* Poster presentation for the American Association of Nurse Attorneys Annual Conference, Birmingham, AL.

Cleveland, K. (2022, October). *Leadership in health policy for the nurse attorney.* Podium presentation for the American Association of Nurse Attorneys Annual Conference, Birmingham, AL.

Sheehan, D. (2022, October). *Supporting families when a parent of dependent children is at end of life with cancer.* Invited keynote presentation for Ulster University, Belfast, Northern Ireland.


**Faculty Publications**


**New Grant Awards**

Loretta Aller, Mary Anthony, and Denice Sheehan received funding from the Kent State University Division of Research and Sponsored Programs as part of the university’s Game Changer Pilot Funding program for their project, *The Kent State Student Life Study.*

Kimberly Cleveland and Pamela Rafferty-Semon were awarded an Open Educational Resources (OER) Affordable Learning Material (ALM) Super Grant to develop OER to support the Health Care Policy course and create an Open Access publication with a Creative Commons license.

Melissa Owen was awarded funding from the OhioLINK Open Educational Resources (OER) Course Redesign Training Program. Funding will be used to include open access resources for the RN-to-BSN Health Promotions in the Professional Nursing course.
Student Research

**PhD Defenses**—The following students defended their dissertations and graduated with their PhD:

Cheryl Bradas, *Effects of COMFORT™ SM Communication Training on the Willingness to Initiate Communication and Strengthen Relational Social Capital among Community-Based Homecare Certified Nursing Assistants* (Drs. Denice Sheehan and Mary Anthony, Co-Chairs; Drs. Dana Hansen and Jeffrey Cielas, committee members; Dr. Nicole Egbert-Scheibelhoffner, Graduate Representative & Moderator).

Mary Kutchin, *A Phenomenological Study of Heart Failure Patients’ Experience with Transitional Care* (Dr. Dana Hansen, Chair; Drs. Pam Stephenson, Lisa Onesko, Lisa Borganerding, Committee Members; and Dr. Clare Stacy, Graduate Representative & Moderator).

Zuhur Altaymani, *Individual Perceptions Related to Fall Risk Among Older Adults in Acute Care Setting in a Saudi Arabian Hospital* (Dr. Dana Hansen, Chair; Drs. Amy Petrinc, Jo Dowell, and Donna Bernet, Committee Members; and Dr. Kele Ding, Graduate Representative & Moderator).

**DNP Defenses**—The following students defended their scholarly projects and graduated with their DNP:

Mafon Fomujang, *The Use of SMS Reminders to Improve Adherence in Outpatient Mental Healthcare* (Dr. Andrea Warner-Stidham, Chair; Drs. Lynn Gaddis and Marilyn Nibbling, committee members).

Latonya S. Fore, *A Quality Improvement Project Implementing Obesity Practice Guidelines in a Primary Care Setting* (Dr. Denise Pacholski, Chair; Drs. Tracey Motter and Lisa Onesko, committee members).

Shanlee Woodward, *Increased Knowledge and Decreased Incidence on Postoperative Nausea and Vomiting (PONV) Among CRNA Providers* (Dr. Eldora Lazaroff, Chair; Drs. Lisa Onesko and Tracey Motter, Co-Chairs; Dr. Amy Vaflor, Mentor).

Student Publication


Student Research Opportunities

2023 Undergraduate Research Symposium for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Endeavors: Monday, April 17th: Sponsored by the Division of Research and Sponsored Programs, Office of the Provost, Honors College, and University Libraries, this symposium allows undergraduates an academically enriching experience that expands their professional resume and presentation skills. Abstracts are accepted through Feb. 2nd: [https://www.kent.edu/research/student-research/undergraduate-research-symposium](https://www.kent.edu/research/student-research/undergraduate-research-symposium).

2023 Graduate Research Symposium: Moving Society Forward Through Research: Innovation, Peace, Sustainability, April 6th & 7th: Annual event showcasing graduate student research, including oral and poster presentations from students in multiple areas of study. The largest campus research event, the symposium offers graduate students the opportunity to present research and receive scholarly feedback. Registration until February 20th; details may be found at [https://www.kent.edu/graduatestudies/research-symposium](https://www.kent.edu/graduatestudies/research-symposium).

Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE): Sponsored by the Division of Research and Sponsored Programs and the Office of the President, the SURE program provides stipends to promising undergraduate researchers for eight weeks for faculty-supervised summer research projects. Applications are accepted until Feb. 27th; details may be found at [https://www.kent.edu/research/student-research/summer-undergraduate-research-experience](https://www.kent.edu/research/student-research/summer-undergraduate-research-experience).

MNRS Annual Research Conference

The 2023 Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) Annual Research Conference will take place from March 29-April 1 at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines. This year's theme is *The Critical Importance of Nursing Science and Implementation in a New Era*. More details about the conference may be found at [https://mnrs.org/mnrs-47th-annual-research-conference/](https://mnrs.org/mnrs-47th-annual-research-conference/).

Student Awards & Recognitions

Ashlee Frymier, graduate student in the College of Nursing, was selected as Big Sister of the Year by Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Summit, Medina, and Stark Counties.

Teddy Pavlantos, graduate student and a member of the first cohort of the Rising Nurse Leader Academy at Akron Children’s Hospital, was selected as an emerging nurse leader by the Ohio Organization for Nursing Leadership.
Brown Bag Engagement Series

This semester’s first Brown Bag Engagement Series presentation will be by Kristin Yeager, Head, Statistical Consulting for Kent State University Libraries, on Monday, Feb. 20th. The presentation, Qualtrics Update, will identify new Qualtrics features and tools of interest to nursing faculty, including updates regarding HIPAA compliant data collection, bot detection, and fraud prevention for surveys offering incentives. Other Brown Bag sessions for the Spring semester are scheduled for March 20th and April 17th. The Center for Nursing Research’s monthly Brown Bag Engagement Series sessions contribute to scholarly discourse and development within the College of Nursing.

News You Can Use

National Institutes of Health (NIH): Several recent proposal requirement changes have been instituted by the NIH that will affect new applications. Proposals for research that generates scientific data must include a two-page Data Management Sharing (DMS) plan (separate from the Resource Sharing Plan). Also, the NIH will allow for budgeting of some data management and sharing costs that are incurred during the project period. For more information, please visit https://www.kent.edu/research/sponsored-programs/national-institutes-health-proposal-requirement-changes.

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

Contact Us

Center for Nursing Research
Kent State University
College of Nursing
214 Henderson Hall
www.kent.edu/nursing/research
330-672-8767

Statistical Assistance at the Center for Nursing Research

Lynette Phillips, PhD, MSPH, Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and statistician from the College of Public Health, is available for in-person assistance on Wednesdays during the Spring semester on the third floor of Henderson Hall and can also meet remotely. She may be contacted at lphill20@kent.edu.

Pictured below: Jennifer Biggs and co-presenter Jennifer Casperson at their January presentation for the Society of Simulation in Healthcare International Meeting on Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH), Orlando, FL.

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