CARLOW SCHOLARS’ DAY

PROGRAM AND ABSTRACT BOOK

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024
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Letter from President Kathy W. Humphrey, PhD

Welcome to the 19th Annual Scholars’ Day at Carlow University. It’s truly a pleasure to be part of this special event, and I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the students, both undergraduate and graduate, who have poured their dedication into preparing for today’s sessions and presentations alongside their faculty advisors. I also commend the faculty members who are showcasing their hard work on this day that celebrates our shared commitment to curiosity and discovery.

Scholars’ Day exemplifies Carlow’s steadfast dedication to research and innovation, and the scholarly endeavors on display today are a source of immense pride for our community. At the heart of our institutional ethos lies the value of Discovery, where we embrace the full spectrum of human experience with open hearts and minds. Our scholars vividly illustrate how research at Carlow is imbued with this ethos.

Moreover, we take great pride in our affiliation with the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, which emphasizes that truth is dynamic and ever-evolving, serving as a catalyst for ongoing discovery and enlightenment. Today, our students will illuminate how knowledge is not merely uncovered but actively created through curiosity, rigor, and a receptive mindset.

I encourage everyone present to engage with our scholars, to pose questions, and to actively participate in their journeys of discovery. Together, let us celebrate the spirit of inquiry and the pursuit of knowledge that define Carlow University and propel us toward greater understanding and growth.
A Word from Interim Associate Provost, Aimee Zellers

Welcome to Carlow University’s Scholars’ Day! Today marks a celebration of intellectual curiosity, academic excellence, and the relentless pursuit of knowledge. As we gather here, we embark on a journey of discovery and innovation guided by the dedication and passion of our faculty and the scholarly endeavors of our students. This event holds a special place in my heart as it is a testament to the vibrant scholarly community we have cultivated, where ideas are exchanged, perspectives are challenged, and boundaries are pushed. Whether you are a participant or a presenter, your presence enriches this occasion and contributes to the collective pursuit of learning. Together, let us embrace the excitement of exploration, fuel our curiosity, and inspire one another to reach new heights of scholarly achievement.

Colleagues and students, I commend you for your commitment to excellence.

Thank you for being part of this celebration!
# General Schedule of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM - 1:30 PM</td>
<td>Campus Lab School Presentations</td>
<td>AJP Atrium</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 PM - 3:00 PM</td>
<td>Art, Communication, and English Faculty Presentations</td>
<td>AJP 107</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>Undergraduate Posters, Presentations, and Art Gallery</td>
<td>AJP Atrium and Classrooms</td>
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<td>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>The Critical Point</td>
<td>AJP 107</td>
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<td>4:00 PM - 5:00 PM</td>
<td>Keynote</td>
<td>AJP Atrium</td>
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<td>• Alumni Speaker, <em>Melanie M. Heuston, DNP, RN, NEA-BC</em></td>
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<td><em>Inaugural Chief Nurse Executive for The West Virginia University Health System</em></td>
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<td>• Hors d’oeuvres</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM - 5:45 PM</td>
<td>Carlow Scholars’ Day Ceremony</td>
<td>AJP Atrium</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• A word from Interim Associate Provost, Aimee Zellers, PhD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Welcome by Kathy W. Humphrey, PhD</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Masters of Arts in Psychology Psych Research Award</td>
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<td><em>Introductions by Carlow Scholars’ Day Co-Chairs.</em></td>
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<td>Jessica Huber, PhD, MSN, CCRN, CPS, Enrique Mu, PhD, and Jackie Gartner-Schmidt, Ph.D., CCC-SLP</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 PM - 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Graduate Presentations</td>
<td>AJP Classrooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 PM - 7:30 PM</td>
<td>Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing, Virtual Literary Reading</td>
<td>AJP Classroom and VIA Zoom.</td>
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<td>7:00 PM - 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Graduate Poster Presentations</td>
<td>AJP Atrium and 1st Floor Hallway</td>
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<td>8:00 PM - 8:15 PM</td>
<td>Poster Contest Awards</td>
<td>AJP Atrium</td>
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Alumna, Melanie M. Heuston, DNP, RN, NEA-BC

Melanie is currently the Inaugural Chief Nurse Executive for The West Virginia University Health System. Comprised of twenty-four hospitals, WVUHS is the state’s largest health system and largest private employer. Previously, she was the Chief Nursing & Patient Care Services Officer for Meritus Health in Hagerstown, Maryland. Meritus Health earned Magnet® designation in April 2019 during her tenure. She has also held a variety of executive nursing roles at UPMC Health System in Pittsburgh, PA. Melanie’s clinical background is in the field of cardiothoracic ICU and has a strong interest in workforce and leadership development.

Melanie has had numerous publications in the Journal of Nursing Administration on leadership development as well as other peer reviewed journals over her career. She also holds an adjunct faculty appointment at the WVU School of Nursing. Melanie enjoys teaching and mentoring students at all levels. She has presented locally and nationally on variety of contemporary nursing leadership topics.

Melanie received her Baccalaureate in Nursing from Carlow University in Pittsburgh, PA and her master’s and DNP in Nursing Administration are from the University of Pittsburgh. She is a member of national and state nursing organizations as well as the recipient of the 2020 ANCC Certified Nurse Award for Nurse Executive, Advanced. Melanie is also a member of the 2023 Johnson & Johnson Nurse Innovation Fellowship cohort.

Don’t Miss It!
Melanie M. Heuston, DNP, RN, NEA-BC will be speaking in AJP Atrium at 4:00pm.
Thank you to all our presenters!

Tessa Adams, MA
Jasmine Adams
Meghan Alexander
Abigail Altieri
Aleah Ansari
Evan Antes
Alexandra Archey
Jessie Avent
Julia Balobbeck
Daniel Barber
Denise Barnes
Amy Barrette
Autumn Bauer
Lydia Benjamin
Sapana Bhattarai
Amber Biros
Amber Boglitz
Emily Braithwaite
Johnathan Brougher
Addisyn Bruno
Richard Brzustowicz
Thuan Bui
Lane Burke
Lee Butler
Verneer Caldwell
Jariah Campbell
Jenna Cannon
Jennifer Carlson
Falyn Carr
Alice Chory
Tyler Chrise
Hollyann Christley
Cassidy Coiley
Lindsay Cornell
Lauren Crawford
Hannah Creely
Abigail Crusan
Jenna Cukrzynski
Emily Cynkar
Kristen Davies
Savannah Davis
Katie Davis
Emma Deasy
Alessandra De Carlo
Brandon Browning-Dias
Camilla Doebler
Juliette Doebler
Dynesha Drake
Julia Draper
Ella Driggers
Katie Duca
Avery Dudek
Mackenzie Egley
Alera Nelson-Elias
Henry Ellsworth
Deborah L. Evers, DNP, CNS, BC
Marissa Fabac
Sheila Fabio
Margaret Falk
Keegan Flanagan
Maria Flavin, DNP, MSN, CRNP, FNP-C
Ruth Foreman, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, CRNP, CNE
Ava Forlini
Anna Formaini
Gabriel Franklin
Grace Fritsch
Devon Gerow
Carolina Wong Giansante
Kelly Giger
Elizabeth Glance
Freddy Gollner
Brielle Green
Alexis Greene
Ashleigh Griffin
Alexis Hahn
Malina Hall
Logan Hanley
Sabine Harvey
Allison Heeter
Leah Helou, PhD, CCC-SLP

Amanda Hicks
Kelly Hinnebusch
Athena Hobbs
Jenna Holloway
Lillian Hope
Kaitlyn Howland
Abigail Hresko
Andrew Hrinda
Megan Hull
Brenna Hurley
Maria Iacoboni
Nigel Jarvis
Brittany Jenkins
Lanej Jessell
Kayla Jubic
Aayati Dash-Kar
Josephine Karabinos
Paige Keller
Hayley Kerfoot
Samantha Kostishack
Kelly Kraynick
Julia LaDuca
Alexis Lansberry
Erin Leach
Joshua Lee
Emily Leong
Fabiana Licata
Hannah Llewellyn
Mallory Locke
Candace Sloan-Lofton
Gianna Lorenzo
Anna Love
Natalie Makovics
Torri Malkos
Caitlin Mann
Skylar Manning
Sarah Martineau, PhD, SLP
Stephanie Costabile-Matour
Emilee Matz
Jordan McClure
Finn McCloud
Tessa McMichael
Shaquala Austin-McMILLER
Tommy McCrady
Joey Metrovich
Jett Mihalick
Susan Mihaljevic
Trista Miller
Gavin Moore
Kayla Moran
Kennedy Moyer
Cliff Murphy
Olivia Myers
Noelle Narvaez
Harlow Navas
Clara Nigio
Christina Obbo
Isabel Olalde
Faith Otey
Annamarie Owoc
Brietta Patterson
Kashelah Patterson
Allison Patton
Kenny Pegher
Javonna Perkins
Stella Platt
Julia Piatt
McKenna Pierce
Staci Plascjak
Emily Polier
Yushan Praslick
Kylee Pry
Alessia Pugliese
Akriti Rai
Kayya Rajaram
Leah Ramsey
Michael Randal
Hannah Ratti
Skylyn Raypush
Abby Reardon
Amanda Redlinger
Kirsten Redman
Aunjelena Reeves
Ayla Rombesberg
Jillian Richardson
Kayla Rickman
Connor Riesen
Emilea Rippin
Mandy Ruffing
Bailey Ryan
Tyler Rypcinski
Ainsley Saf
Anna Sanchioli
Veronica Scanlan
Doug Scheller
Claudia Schirda
Jackie Gartner-Schmidt,
Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Jill Schneider
Marissa Schuckman
Madyson Scott
Jorja Sedlar
Elaina Serrao
Aquinnah Sexauer
Fiona Shaffer
Terri Shields
Sarah Shotland, MFA
Cassie Shoupe
Christina Smith
Jo Elaine Smoot
Sint Van Solkema
Miles Sonnenberg
Joelle Sprandle
Jaden Stafford
Collette Stanton
Mikayla Starbuck
Jake Stariha
Claire Stevens
Myla Stiegler
Julia Stipetic
James Stone
Calvin Swagler
Kenna Swauger
Rene Taiyrova
Mia Talley
Victoria Tamborino
Yousef Tamimi
Annie Taylor
Rebekah Thayer
Wendy Thomas
Nadine Thompson
Trinity Thompson
Myah Trbovich
Zamar Ushery
Edward Ulrich
Mikaela Vogel
Meaghan Walt
Maci Ward
Sofia Wedner
Tatum Wiggs
Sharon Williams
Nicholas Williams
Jane Windsheimer
Sofia Winston
Marie Wise
Keyari White
Maura Thomas-Wright
Kennedie Yagel
Kiara Zaharko
Paige Ziggas
Veronica Zinski
Special Thanks to our Campus Laboratory School Participants!

Jessie Avent
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Veronica Zinski
Stella Platt
Keyari White
Yushan Praslick
Special Thanks to Faculty Sponsors!

Alison Bauer, DNP, FNP-C
Larry Breitenstein, PhD
Alexandra Burden
Dawn Diehl
Ruth Foreman, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, CRNP, CNE
Jessica Friedrichs, MSW, MPA
Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Katey Grindle
Tim Herzer
Renee Ingel, PhD, MSN, RN
Samantha J. Dalessio, CScD, CCC-SLP
Dr. Jackie Gartner-Schmidt, PhD, CCC-SLP
Tiffany Johnson, DNP, MSNEd, RN
Jennifer K. Roth, PhD
Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM
Lindsey Krebs, RN, MSN, CPN
Tina Krolikowski
Anne M. Rashid, PhD
Taylor McMillen, PhD
Enrique Mu, PhD
Maggie Myers, MSN, RN, CPN
Alexa C. Piacquadio
Joseph Roberts, PhD
Rachael Seamans, MA
Ken Smythe-Leistico, EdD
Jennifer Snyder-Duch, PhD
Ashley Soske, DSW, LSW, MBA
Lisa Spagnolo, MSN, RN
Ann Spence, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
Carrie Stott, PhD, LSW
Angela Summer, MPA, MSN, RN, CVRN-BC
Brenda Swanson- Biearman RN, MPH, DNP
Kate Tennant, PhD, RN
Program and Room Assignments

Undergraduate Poster Presentations 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
Hannah Creely
Aunjelena Reeves
Tyler Rypcinski
Kiara Zaharko

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Abigail Altieri
Alexandra Archey
Amy Barrette
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Lydia Benjamin
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James Stone
Kenna Swauger
Victoria Tamborino
Trinity Thompson
Myah Trbovich
Mikaela Vogel
Meaghan Walt
Maci Ward
Tatum Wiggs
Nicholas Williams
Marie Wise

Bachelor of Social Work
Hollyann Christley
Undergraduate, Faculty, and Group Presentations 1:30 PM- 4:00 PM

All Poster Presentations will be on display on the 1st floor of AJP FROM 2:00PM – 4:00PM

Art Students: AJP 120
2:00 PM- Students will be displaying their work from 2:00 PM- 4:00 PM.

Art, Communication, & English Faculty Presentations: AJP 107
1:30 PM- Placing Woke Horror on the Map: Woke Horror Cultural Artifacts and their Sociohistorical Contexts
Tessa Adams, MA

2:00 PM- The Critical Point Presents the 36th Issue
Keegan Flanagan, Faith Otey, Claire Stevens, Kayla Rickman, Aleah Ansari, Gavin Moore, Rene Taiyrova, Emily Leong, Mandy Ruffing, Devon Gerow, Lee Butler, Jasmine Adams, Grace Fritsch, Anna Love, Allison Patton, Claudia Schirda, Zamar Ushery, Jane Windsheimer, and Maura Thomas-Wright
Faculty Sponsor: Anne M. Rashid, PhD

Bachelor of Arts in Communication, Advocacy & Social Change- AJP 117
3:00 PM- Is Hybrid Work the Future? (Panel Presentation)
Jane Windsheimer, Jordan McClure, Laney Jessell, Anna Formaini, Kenny Pegher, and Denise Barnes
Faculty Sponsor: Jennifer Snyder-Duch, PhD

Bachelor of Science in Nursing- AJP 118
3:00 PM- Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP)
Alexis Lansberry and Ainsley Saf
Faculty Sponsor: Lindsey Krebs, RN, MSN, CPN

Manchester Craftsman Presentation- AJP 107
3:00 PM- International Poetry Forum and Manchester Craftsman's Guild Creative Collaboration
Sarah Shotland, MFA

Keynote 4:00 PM- 5:00 PM
Alumni Speaker, Melanie M. Heuston, DNP, RN, NEA-BC Inaugural Chief Nurse Executive for The West Virginia University Health System
AJP Atrium, 4:00PM
Carlow Scholars’ Day Ceremony 5:00 PM - 5:45 PM

**A Word from Interim Associate Provost, Aimee Zellers, PhD**
AJP Atrium, Introduction by Carlow Scholars’ Day Co-Chairs.

**Welcome by Kathy W. Humphrey, PhD**
AJP Atrium

**The Atkins Center for Ethics Essay Contest Award, Sara Oliver-Carter**
AJP Atrium

**The Masters of Arts in Psychology Psych Research Award, Shannon S. White, Psy.D.**
AJP Atrium

Graduate, Faculty, and Group Presentations 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**The Atkins Center for Ethics Essay Contest**
AJP 115
Sara Oliver-Carter

**Interdisciplinary International Jamaican Student Experience**
AJP 107
Faculty: Susan Mihaljevic, Bernadette Sherman
Students: Maria Capozzi, Ragan Clark, Latoya Worthy, Marely Green, and Madyson Scott

**Master of Business Administration**
AJP 118

**Patient Success and Satisfaction Dashboard Integration Proposal**
Kelly Hinnebusch, Allison Heeter, Verneer Caldwell, and Ashleigh Griffin
*Faculty Sponsor: Enrique Mu, PhD*
Master of Business Administration

**Solving Problems with Design Thinking Applied to JADA House International**
Jill Schneider, Terri Shields, Candace Sloan-Lofton, Jake Stariha, and Sharon Williams
*Faculty Sponsor: Enrique Mu, PhD*

**Master of Fine Arts Livestream**
AJP 119
*Faculty Sponsor: Tess Barry, MFA*

**Master of Science in Physician’s Assistant**
AJP 116

**Evolving Treatments of Sickle Cell Anemia**
Christina Obbo
*Faculty Sponsor: Brenda Swanson-Biearman RN, MPH, DNP*
**Master of Social Work AJP 117**

**Application of Social Work Theories and Tools to Assess Quy Lai’s Community in Hue, Vietnam**
Thuan Bui
Faculty Sponsor: Dawn Diehl

**Ceasefire Now: Why U.S. Social Workers Have an Ethical Duty to Promote a Ceasefire in Gaza**
Stephanie Matour
Faculty Sponsor: Carrie Stott, PhD, LSW

**Embedding Environmental Justice into Social Work Education**
Fabiana Licata
Faculty Sponsor: Ken Smythe-Leistico, EdD

**Blood Taboos: Exploring Why Ugandan Girls Leave School**
Rebekah Thayer
Faculty Sponsor: Carrie Stott, PhD, LSW

**Faculty Presentation AJP 116**

**Empathy in pre-licensure nursing education: An observational research study in simulation**
Maria Flavin, DNP, MSN, CRNP, FNP-C and Deborah L. Evers, DNP, CNS, BC

**Graduate Poster Presentations**

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<tr>
<th>Meghan Alexander</th>
<th>Brenna Hurley</th>
<th>Connor Riisen</th>
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<td>Evan Antes</td>
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<td>Emilea Rippin</td>
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<td>Laney Burke</td>
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<td>Bailey Ryan</td>
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<td>Miles Sonnenberg</td>
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<td>Stephanie Costabile-Matour</td>
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<td>Kaitlyn Howland</td>
<td>Jillian Richardson</td>
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**Abstracts**

**Bachelor of Arts in Psychology**

**Sound Tracking Experiment**

_Hannah Creely, Aunjelena Reeves, Tyler Rypcinski and Kiara Zaharko_

Faculty Sponsor: Jennifer K. Roth, PhD
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

The study conducted analyzes how different variables affect an individual's sound tracking abilities, through having participants track a blind and visually impaired (BVI) tennis ball while blindfolded. The findings could benefit blind athletics as we can learn how to optimize players' sound tracking ability, leading to increased enjoyment of the sport and competitiveness within matches amongst current players, as well as improving recruitment and retention of new players. This deeper understanding also has the possibility of increasing the well-being of the approximately 6 million Americans living with vision loss and 1 million individuals living with blindness as they can engage in physical activities that were previously inaccessible to them (CDC, n.d.).

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

**Whipple Procedure**

_Abigail Altieri and Kayla Moran_

Faculty Sponsor: Lisa Spagnolo, MSN, RN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

This presentation is based on a patient of mine that I had in clinical last semester and had created a case study for class. Trista and Kayla were in my group and had presented supporting data in this study. My patient had gone through a Whipple procedure as a last resort to treat her pancreatic cancer. In recovery, she had multiple setbacks including the surgical wound re-opening and going into kidney failure. Our presentation went through the indications, complications, and pre/post-operation education of a Whipple procedure, as well as background information about the patient. We maintained confidentiality of the patient by creating a fake name and did not include any patient identifiers in our presentation.

**CRBSI & CLABSI Prevention: From Awareness to Action**

_Alexandra Archey and Marie Wise_

Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Central line-related bloodstream infections (CLABSIs) remain a pressing healthcare issue, and recent literature has underscored their prevalence and the urgency for effective mitigation strategies. Research emphasizes the ongoing challenges in combating CLABSIs, highlighting the importance of evidence-based practices. The literature emphasizes the critical role of stringent catheter care protocols, advancements in catheter technologies, and enhanced education. These findings provide essential insights, guiding the implementation of targeted interventions to reduce CLABSI rates. The evolving body of literature serves as a crucial resource, informing and empowering healthcare providers to adopt proactive measures and ultimately enhance patient safety in the face of this persistent and preventable problem.

**Cultural Diversity in Intrapartum and Postpartum Patients**

**Alexandra Archey**

*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

After conducting a literature review on perinatal care and preferences of multicultural patients, I will develop learning modules for undergraduate students in NU3171, Care of Women and Newborns. I plan to present this content to the class and to collect a pre-and post-survey to assess knowledge change. This submission reflects the “Teaching and Learning” arm of the Boyer Model.

**Multidisciplinary Interventions & Moral Distress in Critical Care Nurses**

**Amy Barrette and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN**

*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Moral distress is prevalent among practicing nurses. Exposure to aggravating factors (e.g., executing DNR orders, performing futile care, and facing ethically challenging situations) increases moral distress and leads to compassion fatigue and burnout. The aim of this research is to examine which interventions may reduce moral distress among critical care nurses. A study will be designed to answer the following research question: Do multidisciplinary debriefing sessions versus greater involvement of ethics committees decrease moral distress among critical care nurses? This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**Aspiration Risk on Neurology Units**

**Amber Biros and Julia LaDuca**

*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

As a group, we plan to collect evidence on our neuro units regarding aspiration risk. We will collect evidence from our units, and policies in our healthcare system, and find scholarly articles
online about aspiration on these units. From this information, we will present our findings from the research. We will then teach others the importance of aspiration risks on the floors based on research.

The Effects of Parental Visitation in the NICU: What is the Effectiveness on NICU Patients Whose Parents Visit the Patient and Those Who Do Not in Regards to the Bonding Process and the NICU Hospital Stay?

Amber Boglitz  
*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Infants in the NICU may have impaired bonding with their parents because they did not get to bond after birth. Some parents do not visit their infant in the NICU. The relationship between parent visitation (time and frequency) and the infant’s length of stay and degree of parental attachment needs to be further explored. So this proposed study aims to answer the following research question: “What are the differences in length of stay and bonding relationships between NICU patients whose parents visit versus those who do not?” This submission reflects the discovery dimension of the Boyer model of scholarship. It represents coursework that centers the development of the nursing research question that can form a basis of a future research study.

Falls

Jariah Campbell and Doug Scheller  
*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Based upon recent experience, we both have come to an understanding that FALLS are a major concern on both our units at AHN Wexford. In addition to creating a survey on falls to distribute to healthcare workers, we will review all policies and guidelines within the facility as well. At Scholars Day, we will educate faculty and students on our research in hopes that they learn the importance of fall prevention and how we can successfully increase patient safety within our units and or overall.

Childhood Obesity and the Effects on Mental, Physical and Social Well-Being

Falyn Carr  
*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Over 14.7 million children (1 in 5 children) are affected by childhood obesity in America. Childhood obesity can increase a child’s risk for serious and chronic medical problems. Studies show that children who suffer from obesity are more likely to suffer from anxiety, depression, and bullying. Interventions currently in place for childhood obesity include family-based approaches. These interventions have been moderately successful in reducing the percentage of children with obesity, but their effects on mood and weight loss are understudied. So, this proposed research study will seek to answer the following question: “Does a family-based intervention lead to better weight loss and bettered mood (anxiety, depression) for children with obesity as opposed to normal care?” This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

Socioeconomic Effects on the Development of Type 2 Diabetes

Ella Driggers and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Type II diabetes is highly prevalent in the US population. It is well known that certain lifestyle factors contribute to the increased risk of its development (e.g., poor diet, smoking, lack of physical exercise, alcohol consumption, etc). These modifiable behaviors and risk factors are more prevalent in individuals with low socioeconomic status. However, the role that preexisting mental health conditions (e.g., anxiety, depression) plays is relatively understudied. Thus, the purpose of this proposed research is to examine the relationship between mental health problems, low socioeconomic status, and development of Type 2 diabetes. This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

Does the Education that Women Currently are Provided with lead To A Decrease in Quality Of Life? Education and Quality of Life in Women Approaching/Experiencing Menopause Symptoms

Marissa Fabac and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Menopause is an inevitable process that all middle-aged women experience. Current treatment and management options are not “all inclusive” for each woman experiencing symptoms, and many women experience decreased quality of life during this time. There is a lack of studies on educational interventions to prepare women for menopausal symptoms and experiences. Thus, the purpose of this proposed research study is to evaluate the effect that an educational intervention has on the quality of life for women starting menopause. This submission reflects the "discovery: dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that
centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**Myocardial Infarction**  
**Ava Forlini, Mikaela Vogel, and Leah Ramsey**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Maggie Myers, MSN, RN, CPN*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

For our presentation, we have created a false scenario with a patient who has experienced a myocardial infarction, more commonly known as a heart attack. Heart attacks are a common illness that presents often in a majority of health settings and can be fatal. We have presented key indications, treatment, and education regarding the illness to promote good heart health and prevent heart attacks from occurring.

**Patient Falls in Clinical Settings**  
**Malina Hall and Brittany Jenkins**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

My group will be presenting about an issue/problem we have identified within a clinical setting, research in regard to the problem and how it is approached, and how to implement interventions to fix and prevent this problem. Our topic is patient falls within clinical settings. We will be conducting research about falls statistics within certain hospitals, impact on patient outcomes, fall bundles, and their effectiveness, and more prior to determining an intervention strategy for this problem.

**Hospital Acquire Pressure Injuries: Protecting Patients in Healthcare Settings**  
**Amanda Hicks and Clara Niglio**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

For this project, the student nurses will show data and statistics on a quality improvement subject from assigned hospitals. This subject will be on hospital acquired pressure injuries (HAPI). With this evidence, the students will develop a plan for implementation to prevent HAPI from occurring. The project will look at factors that play into these injuries and a way to prevent them. Review of literature will be conducted to see what is already known about HAPI. A plan for implementation and evaluation will also be developed as well.

**Urinary Tract Infection**  
**Lillian Hope, James Stone, and Joshua Lee**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Maggie Myers, MSN, RN, CPN*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*
Our research is based on patient assessment, diagnosis, and teaching of Urinary Tract Infections. Our presentation embodied teaching and learning because we developed teaching material and diagnosis to advance learning in the patient's scope of theory.

**Reduction of Patient Falls**  
*Abigail Hresko and Victoria Tamborino*  
*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

Our project will focus on how to prevent patient falls within their hospital stay and once they are discharged. We will provide evidence based information that relates to falls within the hospital setting and what can be implemented within the patients home to prevent falls after discharge. We will also be speaking with staff members and others in leadership roles at UPMC hospitals about what they have noticed regarding inpatient falls as well as gathering information from UPMC policies regarding falls. Evidence based research will also be used to support interventions nurses can use to assess and determine what factors make a patients a risk for falling within and outside of the hospital.

**Hypertensive Urgency**  
*Isabel Olalde*  
*Faculty Sponsor: Angela Summer, MPA, MSN, RN, CVRN-BC*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Accelerated*

Hypertensive management and potential for increased risk or urgency is a vital concept to educate patients on preventatively, and therefore begin early intervention. As stated by The National Library of Medicine, “The one-year mortality for those experiencing an episode of hypertensive urgency is approximately 9%. Untreated hypertension is notorious for increasing mortality risk and is often described as a silent killer” (Alley and Copelin II, 2023). Patients who are not able to manage this disease and decline further may suffer from conditions as severe as stroke, multi-system organ failure to the heart, or kidneys, vision issues, experience myocardial infarction, etc. Comparing the policies of this article to those of AHN Jefferson hospital, they closely follow one another emphasizing key areas of finding the correct anti-hypertensive medications or combinations of medications that are most effective, implementing healthier adaptations, and recommending diligent follow-up with these patients.

**Importance of Telehealth for Maternal Health in the Rural Community**  
*Hayley Kerfoot and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*  
*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

Access to perinatal care is problematic for rural populations, lending to the term “healthcare deserts.” This is problematic, as irregular access to appropriate care contributes to risk of
maternal and fetal morbidity and mortality. Telehealth interventions provide an alternative care delivery model for rural perinatal patients. However, uptake and acceptance of this care delivery model is understudied. Thus, the purpose of this proposed study is to evaluate the effect that telehealth visits have on patients’ and providers’ perception of care quality. This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**Borderline Personality Disorder, Stigma, and Diagnostic Modality: A Comparison**

*Tina Krolikowski, Dynesha Drake, Abigail Crusan, Trinity Thompson, and Emily Polier*

*Faculty Sponsor: Tina Krolikowski*

*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

Borderline personality disorder (BPD) may be more stigmatized than other mental health disorders and is associated with poor mental health outcomes. Currently, the DSM-5-TR diagnosis of BPD is utilized in American mental health treatments. The Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) model offers an alternative, dimensional perspective. The current investigation uses a within-subject survey design to compare stigma perceived by the public. Participants will be provided with a vignette containing the two different diagnostic modalities, each followed by a stigma survey comparing perceptions of each diagnosis. Other relevant information, such as demographics, perceived preference for either treatment modality, and perceived understanding of each treatment modality will be collected. It is expected that the DSM-5-TR diagnosis of BPD will be perceived with higher levels of stigma. This study will provide insight into stigma related to diagnostic modality. The results of this study may inform improved diagnostic practices.

**Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP)**

*A Alexis Lansberry and Ainsley Saf*

*Faculty Sponsor: Lindsey Krebs, RN, MSN, CPN*

*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

My partner and I plan to further research about the topic of Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP). Specifically, we plan to look at what interventions can be taken to prevent VAP from being so prevalent within ICU settings. VAP is an ongoing issue specifically in ICUs with critically ill patients who are on ventilation for prolonged periods. We plan to collect data from our hospitals' unit policies, survey/interview staff members on the units, and utilize published recommendations on how to prevent VAP in articles as well as our textbook.

**Readmission Rates in the Hospital Setting**

*Hannah Llewellyn and Autumn Bauer*

*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*

*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*
In our research, we will be discussing readmission rates within the hospital setting. Autumn and I both have seen many situations where people are discharged without the correct education or references in order to exceed with their care at home.

**Preventing Pressure Ulcers in the Hospital**  
*Mallory Locke and Hannah Ratti*  
*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

The goal of this presentation is to find how common pressure injuries are within the patient population in the hospital. Researching interventions that can be beneficial in preventing pressure ulcers in the hospital. By looking through multiple nursing research articles and hospital policies, we are able to create a plan that could be implemented in the hospital that can further prevent these pressure injuries from occurring.

**Guarding the Lifeline: Advancements in Central Line Infection Reduction**  
*Gianna Lorenzo and Jenna Cannon*  
*Faculty Sponsor: Lindsey Krebs, RN, MSN, CPN*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

Central line-related bloodstream infections (CLABSI) pose a significant threat to patient safety, particularly in nursing care. These infections, stemming from the use of central venous catheters, can lead to severe complications and increased healthcare costs. Nurses play a pivotal role in preventing CLABSI through meticulous adherence to aseptic techniques during catheter insertion and maintenance. Strict compliance with evidence-based protocols, including proper hand hygiene, dressing changes, and catheter site care, is essential. Continuous education and training for nursing staff on infection prevention measures can further enhance patient outcomes. Emphasizing a culture of safety and vigilance in monitoring for early signs of infection enables timely intervention. Mitigating CLABSI demands a collaborative effort from healthcare professionals to ensure the highest standards of care and reduce the burden of preventable infections.

**The Effectiveness of Cognitive Therapy in the Recovery of Eating Disorders**  
*Natalie Makovics and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*  
*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*  
*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

Many Americans suffer from eating disorders (e.g., anorexia, bulimia, binge eating, etc). Cognitive behavioral therapy has been shown to be helpful in the recovery process of these patients. However, for cognitive behavioral therapy to be effective, patients must be motivated
by the therapeutic relationship and benefits the therapy promises. Thus, this proposed study aims to understand what aspects of cognitive behavioral therapy are most beneficial to maintaining the therapeutic relationship and aiding in recovery and which obstacles are most detrimental to this relationship. This submission reflects the discovery dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**Impact of Anxiety Disorders on Undergraduate student academic performance**

*Trista Miller and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*

*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Anxiety disorders are highly prevalent in young adult and adolescent populations. Prior research has shown the adverse effects untreated and under-managed anxiety can have on cognitive performance (e.g., inability to concentrate and memory impairment). Anxiety disorders cannot be treated nor managed unless they are properly diagnosed, but routine screening for these conditions in higher education settings does not occur. Thus, this proposed research study will explore whether routine screening results in increased referral and usage of mental health resources at the university level and if students self-report an increase in their academic performance abilities as a result of receiving support. This submission reflects the “discovery” dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on developing a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**Readmission Rates of Inpatient Hospitals**

*Javonna Perkins, Sapana Bhattarai, and Shaquala Austin-Mcmiller*

*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Working within the hospital system, there are several problems that are associated with discharging a patient either to their home or another healthcare facility. One of the most prevalent issues would be the readmission rates in acute care settings. This research is for the purpose of finding evidence that would support a decreasing rate in readmissions and ways to prevent recurrent hospital stays and prevent length of stays. Readmission rates are associated with medication discrepancies, unclear patient education and many other factors that are researched. With these specific policies and procedures, there should be a reduction in hospital readmission rates within 30 days of their discharge.

**Pneumonia**

*Julia Piatt, Jenna Cukrzynski, Addisyn Bruno, and Kashelah Patterson*

*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing
The creative scholarly work that our group wishes to present is a poster on Pneumonia, which embodies the teaching and learning scholarship dimension. The purpose of our poster is to promote patient teaching on Pneumonia. We included the patient’s problem, created one long-term goal and three short-term goals, content and strategies used in our education, and a summarization of the visual teaching aids. Lastly and most importantly, we outlined each step of the nursing process.

**Mothers Whose Babies are Admitted to the NICU & At Risk for Postpartum Depression**  
**McKenna Pierce and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Mothers of infants admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) are at higher risk of postpartum depression (PPD) than those whose infants are admitted to the newborn nursery. Despite higher incidence of PPD in this population, screening guidelines are not consistent and NICU nurses are not routinely taught/encouraged to offer support to affected mothers. Thus, the purpose of this proposed study is to: 1) explore whether routine screening and identification of NICU mothers with PPD increases staff nurse awareness of patients with this condition, and 2) whether a toolkit and in-service session for NICU nurses on how to provide emotional and supportive care to mothers with PPD increases maternal feelings of support and understanding. This submission reflects the “discovery” dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework. That centers on developing a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**FallsRelated to Gastrointestinal Disease**  
**Kylee Pry and Lydia Benjamin**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The findings of our research will include patients who are on a GI unit and how their diseases or surgeries are related to falls and how they can be prevented. The takeaway from this presentation is to educate nursing students and anyone else who is interested about how falls can affect patient outcomes and how important it is to understand the different fall risk levels and interventions.

**Nursing Students Clinical Decision Making Skills**  
**Alessia Pugliese and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Critical thinking, clinical decision making, and communication skills are essential for graduate nurses. The foundation for these is laid in undergraduate nursing preparation. However, there is
a lack of research in nursing education evaluating classroom strategies designed to build these skill sets especially when it comes to student confidence in nurse to client communication. Thus, the proposed research study seeks to explore whether incorporation of a skill-set learning module focused on this aspect of patient care in each junior and senior nursing course increases students’ confidence in communicating with patients and developing the nurse-client relationship. This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

Sepsis

Michael Randal, Samantha Kostishack, and Olivia Myers
Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Infection is a common adverse effect that occurs in the hospital setting. This risk increases with patients that have a compromised immune system like those who have cancer and are receiving treatment for it. Many times this treatment impairs their immune system, and by extension puts them at an increased risk of acquiring infection that another patient with an otherwise healthy immune system would be able to fight off. We intent to find ways that infection prevention can be promoted on the oncologic units at UPMC Shadyside Hospital. We intend to do this by performing surveys of the staff on these units, reviewing data that has been collected on the prevalence of infections on these units, and reviewing studies and research that has already occurred. Our goal is to find ways to improve the daily operations of these units so that infection is not spread to these at risk patients.

Postpartum Mood Disorders Associated with Breastfeeding

Skylyn Raypush
Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Research evidence is mixed regarding the relationship between breastfeeding and postpartum mood conditions (e.g., depression and anxiety). Some claim that breastfeeding is protective against the onset or worsening of these conditions, while others have found no relationship. More research is needed to understand how difficulties in the breastfeeding relationship contribute to the onset or worsening of mood conditions in postpartum women. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to determine if daily concerns related to breastfeeding are more prevalent in women with postpartum depressive or anxiety symptoms as compared to those without. The results of this inquiry may set the stage for future research into the relationship between these concepts. This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of future research study.
Surgical Smoke Evacuators Effect on Air Quality in the Operating Room

Amanda Redlinger and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Surgical smoke evacuators or local exhaust ventilation systems reduce the amount of surgical smoke inhaled by healthcare personnel working in operating rooms (ORs). They also reduce exposure to volatile organic compounds (VOCs). However, not all states require routine use of these systems. Thus, more research is needed to understand the long-term impacts nonuse of these systems has on healthcare personnel and the differences these systems make in OR air quality. This proposed study will explore the air quality in the operating rooms of states that use surgical smoke evacuators as compared to those states who do not require/use these evacuators as well as the rates of long-term healthcare problems in exposed versus nonexposed personnel. This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

Early Intervention and Nonpharmacologic Treatment of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in children and adolescents.

Anna Sanchioli and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) is a highly prevalent condition diagnosed in young children and adolescents. First line treatment options usually involve prescription of pharmacologic agents. However, research suggests that there may be long-term health consequences related to prolonged usage of these drugs. More research is needed to understand the potential of nonpharmacologic options in the management of ADHD. Therefore, the purpose of this proposed research study is to compare symptom burden and perceived management of ADHD conditions in a group of young children treated with pharmacologic versus nonpharmacologic interventions. This project reflects the discovery dimension of the Boyer model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of nursing research that can form the basis of a future research study.

Dehydration

Veronica Scanlan, Tessa McMichael, Akriti Rai, and Brielle Green
Faculty Sponsor: Katery Grindle
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Our presentation is about dehydration. The material is based on a fictional patient in the hospital, who is severely dehydrated. It includes goals, nursing assessments, and nursing diagnoses. We researched about teaching guidelines and strategies in order to best help our patient maintain hydration. The patient plan we came up with involves visual and motor learning.
The patient will lay out 8 cups full of water and follow a schedule throughout the day. To teach this strategy, we came up with different methods to best fit the needs of our patient. The goal of our presentation is to educate the importance of hydration and consider the implications of dehydration from a different perspective.

**Does Frequent Antibiotic Usage Affect the Gut Microbiomes of Pediatric Patients?**

*Madyson Scott and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*

*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Antibiotics are given as treatment for varying bacterial infections. However, frequent antibiotic use may adversely affect the gut microbiome. Further, the gut microbiome is not fully developed until age three, potentially threatening healthy gut development in young children with frequent antibiotic usage. More research is needed to understand feasible interventions for mitigating the negative effects of antibiotic usage in this population. Probiotic administration is known to balance microbiome environments; however parents are not routinely educated and counseled to administer these supplements to children with frequent antibiotic usage. Thus, this proposed research study aims to compare whether targeted education on probiotics increases parents’ use of these supplements. This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**Constipation**

*Jorja Sedlar, Paige Keller, Katie Duca, and Myah Trbovich*

*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Our poster presents a fictional clinical representation of constipation, in which a patient is experiencing constipation as a result of his opioid prescription post-surgery. We explain what the nurse's steps would be through the nursing process and how the nurse would educate the patient to ensure proper teaching and reaching health goals to ensure patient safety and improve his health.

**Sepsis Education for Nurses**

*Elaina Serrao and Maria Iacoboni*

*Faculty Sponsor: Alexandra Burden / Katey Grindle*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The goal of this project is to identify if sepsis education for nurses allows for prompter treatment for patients. Time (in hours) from the first sign/symptom of sepsis to initiation of treatment with antibiotics/anti-fungal/anti-viral medications over the duration of a two-month period will be utilized.
Preventing Pressure Ulcers
Christina Smith, Sheila Fabio, and Kavya Rajaram
Faculty Sponsor: Tim Herzer
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

We will educate and include the factors and interventions that prevent pressure ulcers such as Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers (HAPI). We find that preventing HAPI’s will include frequent rotation, nutritional intake, and choosing the correct mattress for the patient. Our poster will encompass these factors by including images and eye-catching content.

Urinary Incontinence
Joelle Sprandle, Mackenzie Egley, Tatum Wiggs, and Lauren Crawford
Faculty Sponsor: Maggie Myers, MSN, RN, CPN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The scholarly work that we wish to present at the Carlow Scholars’ Day is a poster on the topic Urinary Incontinence. The sophomore level nursing students were all expected to create a dynamic visual of a specific disease process and the strongest groups would be presenting at Scholars’ Day. Our work embodies the teaching and learning dimension because we were given information to combine into a teaching material to inform people who attend this event. The poster will be presented by a group of 4 nursing students with the goal of engaging people in an overlooked topic.

Is There a Relationship Between the Use of Pet Therapy, the Alleviation of Symptoms of Mental Health Disorders, like Dementia and Depression, and Improved Outcomes for Elderly Patients in Assisted-Care Facilities?
Mikayla Starbuck and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Research evidence is mixed regarding the potential benefits of pet therapy in elderly assisted-living communities. Some research has found potential benefits of this therapy on the mental health and symptom burden of chronic conditions in elderly clients, while others have found no significant relationships. Thus, more research is needed to understand whether pet-therapy can provide a viable intervention to improve quality of life and reduce symptom burden of disease in this population. Thus, the proposed research study aims to determine the effects of regular pet-therapy on symptom burden and quality of life in a group of elderly-assisted living patients. This research has the potential to provide insight into the therapeutic efficacy of pet-assisted interventions. This submission reflects the "discovery" dimension of the Boyer Model of
Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**Access to Reproductive and Sexual Health Care in Low-Income Communities**

*Julia Stipetic and Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*

*Faculty Sponsor: Mary G. Hoberg, PhD, MSN-Ed., RN*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Rates of sexually transmitted infections, unplanned pregnancies, and poor birth outcomes are high in US populations and higher in women of lower socioeconomic status. Disparities in access to equitable care is especially pronounced in this group of women and leads to adverse health outcomes. Although accessible healthcare options are becoming increasingly available (e.g., mobile clinics, community events, telehealth appointments, etc.), not all at-risk or disadvantaged women take advantage of them. Thus, the purpose of this proposed study is to investigate the effects of a social media campaign on health-seeking behaviors of women's health populations. Specifically, the study will look at whether referral and utilization of available resources increases after the social media intervention. This submission reflects the “discovery” dimension of the Boyer Model of Scholarship. It represents coursework that centers on the development of a nursing research question that can form the basis of a future research study.

**Inadequate Patient Turning & Repositioning in the ICU**

*Kenna Swauger, Kenna Swauger, Kelly Giger, and Emily Cynkar*

*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

My group plans to research inadequate patient turning and repositioning in the ICU setting. Many patients in ICUs are completely immobile, relying on staff for position changes. Many of these patients are also unconscious and not able to communicate when they are uncomfortable. When the staff is busy, patient turning is not a priority. Inadequate turning can lead to skin breakdown, pressure injuries, and other complications.

**Elder Abuse Awareness**

*Victoria Tamborino*

*Faculty Sponsor: Tiffany Johnson, DNP, MSNEd, RN*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

The poster presentation will include the three core functions of public health related to elder abuse. This will include assessment, assurance and policy related to elder abuse in the community. This details of the poster presentation will encompass what elder abuse entails and reflect the importance of awareness. I will present study findings highlighting the seven different forms of abuse, those being, neglect; physical abuse; sexual abuse; abandonment; emotional or psychological abuse; financial abuse; self-neglect. I will explore factors that make an older adult
vulnerable to abuse. These include dementia and social isolation. My research will focus on abuse of older adults in America and what warning signs to look out for.

**Inpatient Falls**  
**Meaghan Walt and Johnathan Brougher**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Patient falls are one of the most common adverse events reports in hospitals. The goal of this project is to identify ways to limit the number of inpatient falls on hospital units and promote a safe stay for patients. Literature and policy reviews will be used to determine the most effective ways to decrease falls during an inpatient hospital stay.

**Evidence Based Practice: Asthma Control**  
**Maci Ward**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Angela Summer, MPA, MSN, RN, CVRN-BC*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 2nd Degree Nursing

Asthma exacerbations can range from minor to life-threatening therefore applying evidence based practice to control symptoms quickly is important when caring for patients. Various policies address controlling asthma symptoms and exacerbations through pharmacologic agents such as selective β2-agonists (Albuterol) and systemic corticosteroids (Prednisone). These policies also explore non-pharmacological agents such as avoiding triggers, self management of symptoms in the outpatient setting, and patient education ensuring they have an informed plan of action when symptoms do arise. The asthma exacerbation protocols from the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine and Allegheny Health Network (Jefferson Hospital) will be compared and contrasted for effectiveness in treating asthma exacerbations and patient application of the education they received through these policies.

**Catheters and UTIs**  
**Nicholas Williams and Kristen Davies**  
*Faculty Sponsor: Katey Grindle*  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

My partner and I will be presenting information on urinary tract infections that result from urinary catheters being inserted for extended periods of time. These types of infections are often referred to as CAUTIs (Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infections). We intend to bring to light the dangers of using a catheter as a long-term intervention with patients.
Bachelor of Social Work

Achieving Equity by Empowering Lived Experience

Hollyann Christley
Faculty Sponsor: Jessica Friedrichs, MSW, MPA
Bachelor of Social Work

The poster will raise awareness about some of the lesser-known job roles of social workers, such as research, policy design, and program planning. Along with this, the project will cover research I have done on incorporating the voices of people with lived experience in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of services. The findings presented could be adapted to other disciplines and areas of practice and are a practical way to combat systems of oppression that traditionally devalue and ignore BIPOC voices and experiences. Central to its goals are the inclusion of those that policies directly impact, equitable access to decision-making, and transparency.

Master of Arts in Psychology

Does Listening to Music Improve Focus?

Meghan Alexander
Faculty Sponsor: Taylor McMillen, PhD
Master of Arts in Psychology

This study is designed to look into the effects of music on focus. Previous studies, with participants with ADHD (attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder) have demonstrated that EDM (electronic dance music) has a positive effect on the brain and focus due to the rough average of 130 beats per minute. This stimulates the brain, causing an increase in dopamine neurotransmitters. I am interested to see if music has the same effect on students, with or without ADHD. This study will be completed using EDM music as well as an attention-based task such as a memory game, concluding with a brief focus-based survey.

Caffeine vs Workplace Productivity

Julia Draper
Faculty Sponsor: Taylor McMillen, PhD
Master of Arts in Psychology

For my research I am looking into whether or not caffeine helps or hinders workplace productivity. The tag line of a majority of caffeine sellers is that it “wakes you up” or “keeps you going”. Many people that I work with on a daily basis consumed 2-4 caffeinated drinks just in the 8 hours I see them, and most still are tired or exhausted. This led to me digging through
research articles to see what has already been studied. I will be sending out survey questions soon to get the data prior to Scholar’s Day!

Job Satisfaction and Perceived Organizational Support in Police Officers

Logan Hanley  
Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio  
Master of Arts in Psychology

In the 2020’s, police organizations in the United States have encountered difficulty in retention and recruitment, particularly in larger departments serving urban communities. Elected officials and police executives are often placed in the tenuous position of ensuring the integrity and quality of their respective law enforcement organizations, and officers are tasked with providing these services under increased public and official scrutiny. This dynamic may have a significant impact in job satisfaction and perceived organizational support among members of law enforcement. This study will aim to measure job satisfaction currently among law enforcement officers, controlling for various demographic variables, along with perceived organizational support. Time in a law enforcement position will also be measured, as time in the field may be negatively associated with job satisfaction and perceived organizational support.

Analyzing the Effect of Substance Abuse on Impulsive, Risk-Seeking, and Psychopathic Behaviors in an Undergraduate Sample

Annamarie Owoc  
Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio  
Master of Arts in Psychology

Research indicates that impulsivity and alcohol use may be related. Additionally, previous research indicates that group mentality may be related to risk-seeking behaviors. Therefore, this study seeks to further this knowledge by examining the relationship between drinking alcohol and exhibiting impulsive, risk-seeking, and psychopathic behaviors while being under the influence. This study will use data collected with an online survey of Carlow University students. It is hypothesized that drinking will exacerbate these behaviors.  
Keywords: drinking, impulsivity, risk-seeking, psychopathic, students

Evaluating Criminology Students’ Understanding of the Difference Between Competency and Sanity

Annamarie Owoc, Avery Dudek, Kennedie Yagel, and Marissa Schuckman  
Faculty Sponsor: Rachael Seamans, MA
Competency and sanity are two frequently used terms within the legal system. Research suggests that it is common for the two concepts to be confused and/or conflated. According to research, a number of additional concepts are involved in understanding the differences between competency and sanity. They include malingering, assessment questions, misconceptions, etc. This study seeks to explore if undergraduate criminology students understand the difference between competency and sanity through both theoretical and applied practice.

Keywords: Competency, Sanity, Legal, Students, Malingering, Assessment, Misconceptions

Thematic Differences Between LGBQIA+ and Transgender People

Myla Stiegler
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Master of Arts in Psychology

Meaningful transgender research, though gaining popularity in recent years, is practically nonexistent. Identifying and understanding the nuances that define populations, that make us who we are, is an important step for building both mental health and medical treatment plans and guidelines. This study focuses on finding the thematic differences in a therapy-attending self-identified Transgender population versus a therapy-attending self-identified LGBQIA+ population using the Thematic Apperception Test (TAT). 13 black and white TAT picture cards will be presented to 30 participants. Their elicited responses will then be scored by 2 raters using the Social Cognition and Object Relations Scale - Global Rating Method (SCORS-G)'s 8 criteria, hopefully yielding a measurable difference.

How Do Levels of Sexism on a College Campus Impact the Levels of Substance Abuse in Female Students?

Laney Burke
Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio
Master of Arts in Psychology

Before 2023, many believed that sexism was declining. However, sexism remains an issue in the United States. Sexism can cause women to have high stress levels which strains their abilities to participate in daily life activities. Sexism can affect women in college. Due to the availability of substances on a collegiate campus, individuals may resort to substance and alcohol abuse to use maladaptive coping skills. Substance abuse can further strain a person's mental health, interpersonal relationship, image of oneself, and stress levels. Combining stress from discrimination, substance use, and daily college stress a person can continue to engage in maladaptive coping with drugs and alcohol resulting in the possibility of developing a substance
use disorder. This study aims to examine the relationship between sexism and substance use in college women and then discuss the findings in further detail.

The Relationship of Parenting Styles and Hyper Sensitive Narcissism

Alexis Hahn  
*Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio*  
Master of Arts in Psychology

Research shows that parenting styles have a monumental effect on their child’s personality; including affecting personality traits such as narcissism. As such, this study will use a self-report survey given to adults in a digital format to examine the possible relationship between certain parenting styles and Narcissistic traits. The parenting styles that will be looked at are authoritarian, authoritative, neglectful, and permissive; while narcissistic traits will be measured by using the Hypersensitive Narcissism Scale by Holly M. Hendin and Jonathan M. Cheek. It is hypothesized that authoritative parenting will positively correlate with hypersensitive narcissistic traits. Gathering this information can put society one step closer in promoting healthy parenting that best promotes their child’s personal development.

The Role of the Teacher in Improving Students’ Academic Resilience: A Survey-Based Analysis

Bailey Ryan  
*Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio*  
Master of Arts in Psychology

The present study seeks to determine the role that the student’s perceived closeness with teachers may have in influencing positive educational outcomes through academic resilience. The participants will consist of adults who will complete a self-report survey comprised of both an adapted version of the Academic Resilience Scale (ARS-30), to assess academic resilience during their high school experience, as well as an adapted version of the Network of Relationships Inventory (NRI-BSV) to examine perceived closeness with a high school instructor. The resulting data from the distribution of this survey will determine whether a strong correlation exists between student-teacher closeness and academic resilience, offering a possible predictor of positive educational outcomes for student success.

How Seeing Queer Representation in Television and Movies Affects the Perception of Real-Life Queer People

Sabine Harvey  
*Faculty Sponsor: Taylor McMillen, PhD*  
Master of Arts in Psychology, Assessment
My research is a two-pronged qualitative effort to examine a question plaguing the internet: Does representation matter? I wanted to research how queer representation in TV and movies specifically not only affects how queer people in real life are viewed by cisgender heterosexual people but also how that representation affects the real queer people seeing it. I believe this fits into the Discovery aspect as it utilizes not only a rather common method (Qualitative Surveys) but also delves into a question that I feel will be relevant for a long time as queer representation on all platforms expands and more cishet people see more openly queer characters and people.

Internet Gaming Disorder- A Look at The Current Climate of Video Games and the Effects It Has on the Brain

Evan Antes  
Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio  
Master of Arts in Psychology, Forensics

Internet gaming disorder (IGD) was first included in the DSM-5 in 2013 with the condition of needing more research, and in 2018, gaming disorder (GD) was included in the ICD-11. However, in the last four years, video games have changed their monetization strategies from a pay-and-play or subscription model to a model that places game elements behind a paywall, requiring players to pay more money if they want to play with their friends or acquire items that would make the player more powerful. Sometimes, these models implement a slot machine-like approach called “loot boxes,” which encourages multiple attempts to get the necessary items to continue playing. This has led the literature around IGD and GD to become outdated, leading to a need for a better scale to assess IGD and its connection to gambling disorder. This study aims to examine this, and possibly develop a comprehensive IGD scale.

What Impact Does Fear of Crime Have on Mental Health in College Students

Savannah Davis  
Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio  
Master of Arts in Psychology, Forensics

Mental health has long been an important topic surrounding the quality of life of university students. Fear of crime is a serious social problem that impacts the ability to lead a happy and healthy life. Recent research shows that fear of crime is rising in the United States. The purpose of the present research is to measure the impact of fear of crime on the mental health of Carlow University students. Specifically, the researchers will conduct a quantitative study through a self-report survey measuring variables such as mental health, fear of crime, and student demographics. Variables will be measured through scales such as the GAD-7 and Fear of Crime Questionnaire. Implications of conducting this research include raising awareness among campus police and students to create a more comfortable campus environment and open dialogue around these fears.
The Impact of Mass Shooting Coverage on College Student's Anxiety

Torri Malkos  
*Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio*  
Master of Arts in Psychology, Forensics

Over the past few years, research has shown an increase in mass shootings, specifically within the United States. This hasn’t gone unnoticed by news outlets, social media, or the general public. These events seemingly can have a serious effect on an individual's mental health, precisely college students who are primary users of social media and attend a common location that is known for its tragic shootings. Evidence shows that exposure to these events can cause decreases in feelings of safety and an increase in anxiety levels. Other factors may contribute to this, such as age, sex, social media exposure, or previous trauma. This paper will assess college students' levels of anxiety due to the increasing dangers of mass shootings and the amount of media reporting.

What are the Effects of Anxiety on Isolation During the Covid-19 Pandemic?

Emilee Matz  
*Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio*  
Master of Arts in Psychology, Forensics

Several studies have reported that there has been a significant impact on mental health due to social isolation during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Specifically, this research investigates the effects of anxiety on isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study aims to explore the isolative period in the year 2020; and how it affected college age students psychologically. A convenience sample of college students from Carlow University from ages 18 years old to 25 years old will be used to collect data to represent the findings. Two self-reported measures, the GAD-7 and UCLA Loneliness Scale will be utilized to conclude how past experiences of isolation affected current anxiety levels in individuals.

Existential Angst & Depression

Alera Nelson-Elias  
*Faculty Sponsor: Piacquadio, Alexa*  
Master of Arts in Psychology, Forensics

Depression affects millions of college students everyday with symptoms ranging from moderate to severe. There are many different medications and psychotherapy treatments that are used to help lessen the effects of this psychiatric illness. A symptom of depression can be anxiety that can cause a person to stop their whole life because they feel hopeless and despair. That is called
existential angst and there is a psychotherapeutic approach called Existential therapy to lessen that symptom. The Existential Anxiety Questionnaire measures existential angst and by knowing this information it would help to better suit the treatment options for college students suffering from depression.

**College Students' Beliefs and Perceptions of Serial Killers**

Annie Taylor  
*Faculty Sponsor: Joseph Roberts, PhD*  
*Master of Arts in Psychology, Forensics*

This research study explores the connection between college students' beliefs and their perceptions of serial killers and their levels of punitiveness. Understanding how individuals form opinions about notorious criminals and whether these attitudes impact their views on punishment is important for understanding broader societal attitudes toward crime and justice. By using surveys and analyses, this study aims to uncover potential connections between thought frameworks regarding serial killers and punitive tendencies. Findings from this research may contribute to the development of more targeted educational and intervention strategies that address misconceptions and improve informed perspectives on criminal justice matters among college students.

**Perception of Safety From School Shootings On Campus**

Miles Sonnenberg  
*Faculty Sponsor: Alexa C. Piacquadio*  
*Master of Arts in Psychology, Treatment*

School shootings have become an increased concern as they have become more frequent in the United States, which has affected student's perceptions of safety. A study did find that school shootings decreased in 2020 due to COVID, but then quickly rose again in 2021 (Katsiyannis et al., 2022). Regarding general safety, some studies show that college students felt safer off campus at night than on campus. Students who also changed their routine to avoid victimization felt safer on campus than those who did not (Maier & DePrince 2019). The purpose of this study is to find out how student perceptions of safety when it comes to school shootings change based on the number of classes that they have. The data will be collected through a self-report survey on how safe students feel when it comes to school shootings. The findings will add to existing research on college students' perception of safety about school shootings.

**Master of Business Administration**

Patient Success and Satisfaction Dashboard Integration Proposal  
Kelly Hinnebusch, Allison Heeter, Verneer Caldwell, and Ashleigh Griffin
This proposal details plans to integrate a patient success and satisfaction dashboard into the hospital setting to implement a data-driven dashboard to provide a comprehensive overview of hospital performance. With access to data integrated into a hospital performance dashboard, the goal is to increase hospital selection for care, elevate the hospital’s ranking, and empower patients through choice. Integrating a dashboard can allow for more efficient information management, but it may hinder operational efficiency if barriers arise. The dashboard will benefit patient experience, manage population health, and decrease readmissions by scaling accurate and secure data, assessing user group needs, and making continuous organizational improvements.

Keywords: Patient Reported Outcomes, Patient Experience, Dashboard, Hospital Performance

Solving Problems with Design Thinking Applied to JADA House International

Jill Schneider, Terri Shields, Candace Sloan-Lofton, Jake Stariha, and Sharon Williams
Faculty Sponsor: Enrique Mu, PhD
Master of Business Administration, HR Management

JADA House International focuses on generational community building and supporting residents to address basic needs to live sustainably. JADA House works as a hub to aid the community with health/family support information, educational workshops, local events, and seminars. A long-term goals of JADA House International is to expand beyond the local community, to reach city-wide and state-wide communities. This will require the organization to increase community engagement. We plan to examine how JADA House can apply design thinking so that increased community engagement can be achieved.

Master of Science in Nursing, Women’s Health

Does the Implementation of an Educational Service Enhance Knowledge of Stroke Risk Factors Among African American Women Aged 18-50?

Jo Elaine Smoot, Nadine Thompson, Lindsay Cornell, and Staci Plascjak
Faculty Sponsor: Alison Bauer, DNP, FNP-C and Ruth Foreman, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, CRNP, CNE
Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner

Stroke is the leading cause of death in the United States. Additionally, stroke disproportionately affects African Americans two times more than White Americans (Sharrief et al., 2016). Stroke
mortality and incidence have decreased at slower rates for African Americans, this has resulted in increased stroke disparities over time (Sharrief et al., 2016). Previous attempts to address stroke disparities in African Americans consisted of improving risk factor awareness and increasing stroke literacy (Sharrief et al., 2016). This dedicated study aims to answer the question: “Does the Implementation of an Educational Service Enhance Knowledge of Stroke Risk Factors among African American Women Aged 18-50?”

Master of Science in Physician Assistant

Evolving Treatments of Sickle Cell Anemia

Christina Obbo
Faculty Sponsor: Brenda Swanson-Biearman RN, MPH, DNP
Master of Science in Physician Assistant

Sickle cell anemia is a devastating and hereditary hematological disease that leads to the production of rigid, misshapen red blood cells. These “sickled” cells cause a multitude of other pathologies and medical complications that have incredibly significant implications on a patient’s health and quality of life. This literature review evaluates the longstanding pharmacological therapies, newly FDA approved medications, and the developing gene editing therapies that aim to treat sickle cell anemia. The mechanisms of action of these treatments will be discussed to evaluate their efficacy and ability to have a disease modifying effect. Other considerations such as cost and accessibility will be discussed as well to further explore the proposed benefits of these treatments and the prospect of new ones.

Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology

Outcomes of Prophylactic Swallowing Therapy in Head and Neck Cancer Patients: A Systematic Review

Emily Braithwaite, Megan Hull, Kirsten Redman, and Athena Hobbs
Faculty Sponsor: Jackie Gartner-Schmidt, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology

There will be an estimated 66,920 cases of HNC diagnosed in 2023 (Head and Neck Cancer Statistics, 2012). Research has shown that prophylactic swallowing exercises not only have a significantly positive effect on post-treatment swallowing function, but they can lead to less muscle atrophy and improve dysphagia related quality of life. (Baudlelet, et al., 2020). Using the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) framework, this systematic review aimed to determine the most effective and safe treatment approach that facilitates improved long-term recovery. Of the 34 articles originally identified as intersecting prophylactic swallowing exercises with HNC patients, 7 matched the research criteria. Although
this review confirmed that prophylactic swallowing exercises may reduce aspiration along with improving swallowing performance, the literature was insufficient to generate best practice guidelines due to lack of consistency and coherence in the intervention protocols and measurements.

**Speech-Language Pathology**

**Quantification of Meta-Therapy In Conversation Training Therapy**

Jackie Gartner-Schmidt, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, Sarah Martineau, PhD, SLP, and Leah Helou, PhD, CCC-SLP

What differentiates novice from expert voice clinicians? The primary differentiator is likely not how one group performs different therapy techniques as compared to the other group. Rather, expert clinicians’ clinical dialogue likely differentiates them from novices. Meta-therapy (MT) refers to the dialogues, schemas, and reflective tasks clinicians employ during voice therapy to shape the therapeutic process and patient response (Helou, 2017; Helou, Gartner-Schmidt, Hapner, Schneider, Van Stan, 2021). It is proposed as a key skill that makes expert clinicians more efficient and effective than novice clinicians. MT appears to be a clinical entity that is woven throughout voice therapy. For this first empirical study of MT, we leveraged a convenience sample of video recordings from a previous study. (Gillespie et al., 2019). Our primary goal was to quantify the time spent by voice-specialized clinicians in meta-therapy and its specific goals, as judged by voice-specialized speech-language pathologists (SLPs).

**What is the Efficacy of Preventing Aspiration Pneumonia Through the Utilization of Thickened Liquids as the Primary Dysphagia Management Method for Infants with Down Syndrome?**

Sofia Wedner, Paige Ziggas, Abby Reardon, and Katie Davis

*Faculty Sponsor: Samantha Dalessio, CScD, CCC-SLP*

*Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology*

This research was conducted to examine the efficacy of using thickened liquids as the primary dysphagia management method for infants with Down syndrome (DS) to prevent aspiration pneumonia. Aspiration pneumonia is a significant concern for individuals with DS, thus understanding the effectiveness of thickened liquids in reducing the risk of aspiration pneumonia is crucial for informing clinical practices and improving outcomes for this vulnerable population. Through a comprehensive review of existing literature, this systematic review aimed to synthesize the evidence and provide insights into using thickened liquids as a preventive measure against aspiration pneumonia in infants with DS. By addressing this question, student researchers hope to address a gap in clinical research that will pave an avenue for future research on this important topic.
Master of Social Work

Numerical Data Analysis to Drive Behavioral Health Diagnostic and Intervention Decisions

Jennifer Carlson  
Faculty Sponsor: Larry Breitenstein, PhD  
Master of Social Work

This poster presentation highlights the use of numerical and statistical analysis in the behavioral health field to guide decisions regarding: diagnosis, pharmacology, and environmental changes. This project is a four year single case study design that tracks behavioral data (6 targets, numerical rating scale) within an adult client with multiple diagnosis. The presentation displays the variety of measures that can be created from numerical behavior scales, including: correlation and composure, frequency, duration, and latency data. This work will establish this particular data tracking methodology as an effective treatment guide for clients diagnosed with mental health disorders. In the case study presented, I am able to show how the data uncovered an underlying mood disorder in conjunction with an Autism diagnosis, the effects of medication changes, and environmental influences. In summation, this data will also show a tremendous positive effect on the case study’s mental health status.

The Power of Kindness and Positive Approaches: Single Case Study

Jennifer Carlson  
Faculty Sponsor: Larry Breitenstein, PhD  
Master of Social Work

This poster projects aims to teach and reinforce the use of positive behavior approaches/intervention. The 6 month single case study highlights the differences in problem based intervention versus strengths based intervention in an adult client with Autism. Data is reflective of the proposed effects.

Embedding Environmental Justice into Social Work Education

Fabiana Licata  
Faculty Sponsor: Ken Smythe-Leistico, EdD  
Master of Social Work

Green eco-social work recognizes that social justice is inextricably linked with the environment (built and natural) and our political economy. Neoliberal capitalism, imperialism, colonization, and white supremacy have created and perpetuated immense power differentials and degraded
the environment with disproportionate effects to vulnerable communities. Recognizing these interconnections, the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) has added Competency 2: Advance Human Rights and Social, Racial, Economic, and Environmental Justice as a curriculum requirement for accreditation. This presentation briefly examines how social work intersects with environment and climate change (preventively and in response to) and recommends some ways that environmental education and justice can be embedded in social work education to promote sustainability.

**Blood Taboos: Exploring Why Ugandan Girls Leave School**

*Rebekah Thayer*
*Faculty Sponsor: Carrie Stott, PhD, LSW*
*Master of Social Work*

The last 40 years has been a representation of civil war, political upheaval, and terroristic torment of the northeastern Ugandan people. Reconstruction of these devastated areas has led to a multitude of nutritional, cultural, and physiological conditions needing research. One significant area regards keeping girls in school, however due to conflicts surrounding menstrual hygiene they face a several barriers. In 2017, the WHO estimated 2.3 billion girls and women worldwide lacked the ability to manage their menstrual hygiene. A lack of reproductive education and inaccessibility of supplies generate settings where girls find it easier and safer to leave school. Proposed resolutions involve three factors: general reproductive education for boys and girls aged 8-18; encouragement of schools to create “girls only” washing facilities to allow for safe sanitation; and development of a female empowerment program to teach girls how to make reusable menstrual hygiene products.

**Application of Social Work Theories and Tools to Assess Quy Lai’s Community in Hue, Vietnam**

*Thuan Bui*
*Faculty Sponsor: Dawn Diehl*
*Master of Social Work*

This presentation is an assessment and a reflection on the Quy Lai community in Hue, central Vietnam, using social work theory and social work community assessment practices. Social workers assess community needs by considering population, culture, and religion and use research, personal experiences, and interviews with people in the village to understand how culture, social practices, and economic conditions affect the well-being of members in the community. The theoretical frameworks for this assessment were Critical Theory, Feminist Theory, and Empowerment Theory. As a result of this assessment thought the Critical, Feminist, and Empowerment theoretical lens, improving the health care system, increasing resources for education, and balancing gender equality were community needs identified.
Healthy Mom, Healthy Home

Stephanie Costabile-Matour  
Faculty Sponsor: Ashley Soske, DSW, LSW, MBA  
Master of Social Work

The weeks after birth are a critical time for a mother and her infant as they lay the foundation for the family’s long-term health and wellbeing. However, mothers are sent home after delivery to navigate major changes on their own. The first follow up appointment for a woman and her obstetrician–gynecologist is not until 6 weeks post-partum, and many mothers do not attend this appointment.

Several social variables affect a woman’s ability to receive postpartum support. Factors such as transportation, medical and mental health concerns, substance use, domestic violence, number of children, social supports, location, and income are some of the variables impacting appropriate postpartum care. A program that understands and is guided by such social variables is necessary to successfully support and improve the overall health and wellbeing of mothers and their families.

Navigating Ethical Crossroads: The Dual Loyalties Conundrum for Social Workers in the Carceral System

Cliff Murphy  
Faculty Sponsor: Ashley Soske, DSW, LSW, MBA  
Master of Social Work

In the complex world of prison settings, social workers bear a unique ethical burden. Their duty, two-fold: first, to uphold their commitment to the well-being and rights of incarcerated individuals, and second, to navigate the intricate ethical dilemmas woven into the very fabric of correctional environments. These dedicated professionals shoulder the weight of ethical stress, a heavy burden indeed, as they seek to harmonize these objectives. The goal is to help people in need and to address social problems.

The carceral system refers to the network of institutions and processes related to incarceration, imprisonment, and the management of individuals who have been convicted of crimes. It encompasses the entire system of correctional facilities, prisons, jails, and associated legal and administrative structures. Moreover, it is designed to enforce penalties, ensure public safety, and ideally rehabilitate individuals within its purview. This paper addresses the two-fold duty of social workers.
Ceasefire Now: Why U.S. Social Workers Have an Ethical Duty to Promote a Ceasefire in Gaza

Stephanie Matour
Faculty Sponsor: Carrie Stott, PhD, LSW
Master of Social Work and Master of Business Administration

Today marks the 118th day of Israel’s bombing of and ground operations in the Palestinian Gaza Strip. The United States government continues to support Israel in the war on Gaza, and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) response is not enough for the Palestinian people. Using Elaine Congress’s ETHIC model, the NASW Code of Ethics, and the rights-based theory, this presentation will explore why social workers in the United States have an ethical duty to educate themselves and the public on the truth about the war on Gaza and its catastrophic impact, and to advocate within the government for a complete ceasefire and end of military aid to Israel.

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Utilizing Professional Development to Impact Nurse Faculty Burnout: A Quality Improvement Project

Alexis Greene
Faculty Sponsor: Renee Ingel, PhD, MSN, RN
Doctor of Nursing Practice

There is an increasingly high rate of nursing faculty turnover due to a greater influx of nursing students, thus leading to higher workloads and burnout in this population of nurses. Retention of qualified nursing faculty is essential in producing future nurses RN that are equipped with the critical thinking and clinical judgment skills necessary for entry-level practice. This evidence-based quality improvement project explored the impact of engaging professional development sessions in nursing faculty to determine if this collaboration and education had any impact on self-reported burnout. Forty-five faculty members teaching in a diploma nursing program in Southwestern Pennsylvania were invited to participate in the professional development sessions. Twenty-seven nursing faculty members with varied nursing backgrounds and levels of expertise agreed to participate in the project. The faculty participants were asked to complete the Professional Fulfilment Index to determine their status of self-reported burnout at the beginning of the first session and then again at the end of the last session. ***My data is currently being analyzed.***
Operating Room Efficiency and Communication: Can Routine Nurse Huddles Decrease Turnover Delays?

Kaitlyn Howland and Renee Ingel, PhD, MSN, RN  
Faculty Sponsor: Renee Ingel, PhD, MSN, RN  
Doctor of Nursing Practice

The topic of communication and efficiency is continuous within the operating room. 40% of a hospital’s cost and 60% of the hospital’s revenue stems from the operating room department (Parikh et al., 2021). A community surgery center in western Pennsylvania has discovered an issue on communication and efficiency, exceeding their 15-minute goal for operating room turnover. Operating room turnover and efficiency are team efforts. The study will examine if implementing charge nurse huddles using the AHRQ standardized tool decreases turnover delays compared to current practices within a four-operating room community surgery center. Surgical cases within an 8-week time frame will be analyzed to determine if the intervention of charge nurse huddles can affect the rate of delays compared to baseline data. During implementation, charge nurses from the perioperative environment, including pre-operative, post-operative, anesthesia, and the operating room, will conduct two daily huddles using the AHRQ standardized huddle tool sheet.

Preceptor Confidence in Orientation Competency Assessment & Evaluation

Kayla Jubic  
Faculty Sponsor: Kate Tennant, PhD, RN  
Doctor of Nursing Practice

Background: Competency is the foundation of preparing new nurses for independent practice. These competencies are based on core job functions needed to perform safe patient care. A state of practice assessment revealed gaps in competency identification based on evidence-based models, development/structure, and validation measures.  
Goals: To restructure the nurse orientation competency assessment process using a standardized evidence-based framework. The revised process aims to enhance consistency with knowledge delivery, define competency expectations & improve preceptor confidence with validation measurement.  
Results: Post implementation there were 61 competencies modified using the model. Training for preceptors yielded an overall 79.2% agreement for evaluation of three different simulated skills. There were 28 matched pairs that were analyzed. The matched paired t-test significantly increased from pre to post (mean difference 0.67, p <.0001). Spearman Rho correlation calculated a statistically significant negative relations between change in score and years of precepting experience (-0.47, p=.02).
Impact of Simulation on Self-efficacy in Clinical Nursing Faculty

Emilea Rippin
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. J. Ann Spence (DNP Chairperson), Dr. Kate Tennent (NU813 professor)
Doctor of Nursing Practice

There is a profound shortage of qualified nurses in the United States. This shortage is multifactorial, one of which is a shortage of qualified nursing faculty members to educate and mentor students into the novice nurse role. Because of this, expert bedside nurses are being employed in the novice faculty role. Literature suggests that nursing faculty members are not adequately orientated or mentored into this expanded role and lack efficacy in this role. The use of simulation is a cost-effective and meaningful teaching modality to provide a more robust onboarding experience to the novice faculty member. This evidence-based quality improvement project is aimed to explore the impact of the use of a collection of high-fidelity simulation experiences on the self-efficacy of nurse faculty teaching in the clinical setting.

Intervention for Blood Pressure Reevaluation

Wendy Thomas
Faculty Sponsor: Renee Ingel, PhD, MSN, RN
Doctor of Nursing Practice

Background/Significance: Situational stress and anxiety are known modifiable risk factors that could result in elevated blood pressure (American Heart Association, 2023).

Methods/Intervention: Adults presenting for occupational physical examinations with an initial blood pressure of ≥140mmHg systolic or ≥90mmHg diastolic were eligible to participate. Participants (n=45) completed the Relaxation State Questionnaire (RSQ) and were then randomly assigned to groups either with or without classical music for 5 minutes.

Results: A Chi-square test was performed to test if there was an association between mean of the musical intervention and passing blood pressure screening $\chi^2 = 0.02$ p-value = 0.89. Although no statistical significance resulted, the effect of classical music demonstrated clinical significance on reducing blood pressure for those patients that had an initial blood pressure of >140mmHg systolic or >90mmHg diastolic.

Conclusion: Utilization of music for individuals requiring an occupational physical examination may benefit from music to reduce blood pressure.

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Mental Health Screening Tools: Enhancing Clinical Assessment and Treatment Planning

Tyler Chrise and Josephine Karabinos
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip, ACLM
Mental health screening tools are essential instruments in clinical practice. They aid in the identification, assessment, and management of many mental health conditions. This abstract examines the clinical relevance and interpretation of four commonly used screening tools: ACE, GAD, PCL, and SWLS. The ACE evaluates childhood experiences and relationships. This offers valuable insight into past adversities that shape a person’s health and well-being. Adverse childhood experiences have a strong, graded relationship to the risk of lifetime and current depressive disorders that extend into adulthood. The GAD questionnaire for anxiety assesses the severity of anxiety symptoms. This helps aid in early detection and treatment planning. Anxiety disorders in somatic patients may lead to higher symptom burden, worse treatment adherence, and poorer health outcomes. The PCL is a standardized tool for assessing posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms, helping facilitate diagnosis and intervention. The SWLS measures subjective well-being and life satisfaction.
Nutrition is pivotal in cancer care, influencing treatment efficacy, symptom management, and overall well-being. The aim is to elucidate the multifaceted role of Physical Therapists (PTs) in managing nutrition-related concerns in cancer care, emphasizing the use of appropriate screening tools, the impact of social determinants of health, patient education strategies, and interprofessional collaboration. PTs utilize validated nutrition screening tools like the Malnutrition Screening Tool to assess cancer patients’ nutritional status. Patient education is integral to cancer rehabilitation, specifically on nutrition’s importance and practical strategies for managing treatment-related side effects. Within their scope of practice, PTs refer patients to registered dietitians when specialized nutrition expertise is warranted. This collaboration ensures that cancer patients receive holistic care. Interprofessional collaboration enhances communication, shared expertise, and optimizes patient outcomes in cancer care. Leveraging their expertise and collaborating with registered dietitians and other healthcare professionals, optimizes patient outcomes and promotes holistic cancer care.

**Nutrition and Health Conditions for Individuals with Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) and Cancer**

*Erin Leach and Sint Van Solkema*

*Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM*  
*Doctor of Physical Therapy*

Nutritional intake of individuals with cardiovascular disease (CVD) or cancer, we can strategize ways to overcome nutritional obstacles while reducing inflammation, pain, promoting healthier diets and active lifestyle. When evaluating the dietary habits of patients with CVD and cancer we can use screening tools such as WAVE (Weight, Activity, Variety, Excess) or Nutritional Screening Initiative. As physical therapists we can advise patients to seek healthier food options outside the grocery store, keeping a food log and finding a local nutritionist to educate them on proper food preparation. We need to also acknowledge the impact of family tradition, lack of nutrition/exercise knowledge, transportation, accessibility to healthy food options, and ability to afford treatment will impact an individual’s ability to create a healthier lifestyle. When treating patients with either disease, it is imperative that we look at factors that surround the individual rather than the disease.

**Beyond Boundaries: Integrating Acceptance and Commitment Therapy to Elevate Physical Therapy Outcomes**

*Caitlin Mann and Kelly Kraynick*  
*Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM*  
*Doctor of Physical Therapy*

The Acceptance and Commitment Therapy represents an empirical behavioral tradition. From the broader cognitive-behavioral therapy framework, ACT introduces strategies for promoting psychological flexibility through acceptance, mindfulness, commitment, and behavioral change.
ACT is founded on psychological suffering, which is an inherent aspect of the human condition. Instead of symptom reduction, ACT enhances psychological flexibility. Central to ACT are the six core processes: cognitive diffusion, acceptance, present moment awareness, self-as-context, values clarification, and committed action.

ACT can assess chronic conditions and address psychosocial aspects of personified pain and disability. ACT provides tools to help patients accept their pain, detach from unhelpful thoughts, overcome barriers, and commit to meaningful actions aligned with their values.

ACT offers a transformative approach to psychological well-being, emphasizing flexibility, acceptance, and value-driven action. Integrating ACT holds promise for addressing patient needs, fostering resilience, and optimizing rehabilitation outcomes.

**Exploring the Mind: Implementing Trauma Informed Care in Physical Therapy to Promote Health and Well-Being**

*Caitlin Mann and Cassidy Coiley*

*Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM*

*Doctor of Physical Therapy*

Experiences in childhood can profoundly impact behavior in adulthood. Rooted in deep trauma, spirituality can be a bridge to trauma-informed care (TIC), which considers trauma as spiritually rooted. Trauma is defined as events or circumstances perceived as physically or emotionally harmful or threatening, with lasting negative effects on functioning and well-being across physical, social, emotional, and spiritual aspects. TIC involves screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and toxic stress, aiming to promote healing and autonomy while preventing re-traumatization. In physical therapy, TIC is clinically significant for indicating additional health problems related to childhood trauma, including heart disease, cancer, and depression. It employs screening tools like the ACE test and Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Primary Care to identify trauma-related symptoms. By focusing on well-being and mental wellness through spirituality, TIC offers a collaborative approach between patients and providers, using strategies like meditation and positive social connections to improve treatment outcomes.

**The Role of Malnutrition in Muscle Weakness**

*Noelle Narvaez and Brietta Paternson*

*Faculty Sponsor: Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM*

*Doctor of Physical Therapy*

Muscle weakness occurs when an individuals’ body is unable to contract their muscles properly, which can lead to reduced strength in one or more muscles. However, in most cases, muscle weakness happens due to an underlying health condition or aging. In fact, malnutrition is one of the main risk factors of skeletal muscle loss contributing to the onset of sarcopenia (aging). Periods of decreased activity can lead to muscle loss and increased muscle weakness. This is due to the lack of intake or uptake of nutrients such as proteins, vitamins, and minerals leading to altered body composition (decreased muscle) and body cell mass. A diet consisting of
insufficient calories and protein results in weight loss and diminished muscle mass. So, as a physical therapist it is important to educate our patients and develop a treatment plan that can help improve muscle weakness and the quality of life.

Managing Type 1 Diabetes: Understanding and Addressing Influential Factors

Noelle Narvaez and Skylar Manning

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM
Doctor of Physical Therapy

The main findings indicate that daily living conditions, particularly diet and lifestyle, are pivotal in preventing Type 1 Diabetes (T1DM). Nutritional knowledge is crucial for managing carbohydrate levels, yet some individuals lack this knowledge, often due to educational gaps. Psychological stress correlates with poor glycemic control, suggesting that stressors can trigger or expedite the autoimmune process. Financial instability may prevent access to insulin, leading to the body breaking down its own fat and muscle, resulting in weight loss and possibly diabetic ketoacidosis. Understanding the social determinants of health related to T1DM is crucial, as individuals with diabetes are at high risk of cardiovascular and other complications. Physical therapists should consider these determinants and take a holistic approach to patient care, tailoring interventions to the patient's lifestyle for better outcomes. This information empowers therapists to advocate for their patients' specific needs.

Holistic Management of Metabolic Bone Disease: Integration Nutrition

Jillian Richardson and Skylar Manning

Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM
Doctor of Physical Therapy

Metabolic bone diseases require a holistic management approach including nutrition, physical activity, and consideration of social determinants of health (SDOH). Managing these diseases requires a multifaceted approach that goes beyond conventional medical treatment, including nutrition. Nutrition plays a pivotal role in managing metabolic bone disease, impacting inflammation, hormone regulation, muscle strength, and bone health. Strategies include optimizing calcium and vitamin D intake, promoting protein consumption, and moderating substance intake. The clinical significance of addressing metabolic bone diseases comprehensively should not be overlooked because conditions pose significant morbidity and mortality risks. Through holistic approach, healthcare providers empower patients to actively manage their conditions. Through the utilization of tools such as the WAVE (weight, activity, variety, excess) screening tool and interdisciplinary collaboration, patients can receive treatment specific to their unique needs. By addressing nutritional deficiencies, promoting healthy lifestyle behaviors, and addressing SDOH, clinicians can improve patient outcomes and overall quality of life.
Cancer Prevalence and Its Relationship to Social Determinants of Health

Jillian Richardson and Brietta Patterson
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM
Doctor of Physical Therapy

This study examines the social determinants of health (SDOH) and how they influence health and outcomes in individuals with cancer. Cancer affects all populations and many disparities disproportionately affect certain groups receiving treatment. Cancer is a disease that can be triggered by environmental factors, which are often related to SDOH, such as stress, physical activity level, nutrition, and access to healthcare. Obesity also is related to malignancy, which is closely related to low socioeconomic status. Once diagnosed, SDOH may influence accessibility to treatment, and ultimately decreases health equity. Recovering from cancer requires rehabilitation, so understanding the influence of emotional and financial health on an individual aids in creating the most effective plan of care. The effects of cancer last for a lifetime, so increasing health equity before, during, and after treatment will create better outcomes.

The Life Experience with Type I Diabetes

Cassie Shoupe and Connor Riisen
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM
Doctor of Physical Therapy

Type I diabetes causes an individual to be unable to produce insulin in reaction to rising blood glucose levels. Prior to acquiring type I diabetes, most SDOH relates to altering immune system and putting the individual at increased risk of developing the autoimmune response associated with the disease, such as the mother’s microbiota and premature birth. Once the individual has type I diabetes, factors, such as an abusive parent-child relationship, teen peer influences, and job status as an adult, can affect how well a diabetic can control their blood glucose level. This research has valuable information to clinically start to understand how the lifestyle of people who develop type I diabetes is growing up. It helps bring all the pieces together to show that different social determinants affect the development of this autoimmune disease. If we take all this into account, we can control the development of type I diabetes.

The Detection of Mental Health

Mia Talley and Cassie Shoupe
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM
Doctor of Physical Therapy

Mental health influences emotional, psychological, and social well-being that can affect everyday life. Physical Therapist (PTs) can utilize mental health screening tools like ACE and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) to evaluate the mental health status of individuals or detect indications of
psychological distress to tailor treatment. ACE questionnaire evaluate how childhood experiences were and PTSD screening tests if patients suffered from any traumatic events that could play a role in current health condition. PTSD and ACEs Questionnaires can start the conversation between the patient and the PT on what triggers the patient, ways to make them feel comfortable and strategies to prevent experiences that could affect an individual's future. As PT's we should not just focus on a patient's physical condition but how mental health could be affecting their physical ability. We can improve mental health through proper evaluations, therapy, and medical care with a start from these screenings.

Social Determinants of Health Impacting Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

Yousef Tamimi and Erin Leach  
*Faculty Sponsor: Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM*  
Doctor of Physical Therapy

The purpose of this abstract is to examine the impact of social determinants of health (SDOH) on systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). SLE is an autoimmune disease that can impact any part of the body and has many hereditary and mental triggers/factors. In addition to those factors, SDOH play a crucial role in intensifying the risk factors of SLE. SDOH demonstrated a link to manifesting or increasing the risk of SLE. By looking at the micro level, SLE can be provoked through factors that can be present from infancy to adulthood. Moreover, meso and micro levels can be risk factors for SLE through conditions of daily living and adverse experiences. These findings reveal that SDOH are linked to development or exacerbation of SLE symptoms. Knowing the SDOH impacting SLE will help health care providers understand the extent to which the patient’s world can affect their condition.

The Importance of Assessing Nutritional Habits in PT Practice

Carolina Wong Giansante and Yousef Tamimi  
*Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM*  
Doctor of Physical Therapy

The purpose of this abstract is to identify the role of nutritional assessments in physical therapy practice. This analysis examined how nutrition can influence health by investigating its effect on obesity and dementia. Whole grains, vegetables, and fruits, were found to help decrease the risk of developing the conditions. Whereas red/processed meat, sugared drinks, sweets, and refined carbohydrates were found to increase the risk of developing these conditions. Financial difficulties, food security, and education were indicated as nutritional barriers that should be addressed to improve a patient's diet and health outcomes in general. By utilizing nutritional assessment tools, involving social determinants of health, physical therapists can gauge the client’s health condition. Poor nutritional habits can exacerbate the symptoms of obesity and
dementia. Healthy foods can improve the symptoms of those diseases while processed foods can increase the detrimental effects of those ailments.

The Relationship Between Social Determinants of Health and Chronic Respiratory Diseases

Carolina Wong Giansante and Sint Van Solkema
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Navpreet Kaur, PT, DPT, PhD, Dip. ACLM
Doctor of Physical Therapy

The purpose is to investigate the social determinant factors that may impact chronic respiratory disease. From fetal development through childhood and into adulthood, circumstances like maternal use of drugs during pregnancy, low birth weight, second-hand smoking, and peer influence to start smoking in adolescence create a micro-system that contributes to the development of Chronic Respiratory Disease. Community and public health factors create meso and macro-systems that can further influence an individual’s ability to access fair treatment in healthcare. For example, living in pollution, being exposed to chemicals in the workplace, not being educated about Chronic Respiratory Diseases, and not having access to medical interventions are elements to be considered when investigating the topic. With roughly 460 million people diagnosed with CRD, clinicians have to recognize social determinants of health and how they will influence quality of life. These factors can influence a patient’s ability to continue or stick with care.

Panel and Group Presentations

Bachelor of Arts in Communication

Is Hybrid Work the Future?

Jane Windsheimer, Jordan McClure, Laney Jessell, Anna Formaini, Kenny Pegher, and Denise Barnes
Faculty Sponsor: Jennifer Snyder-Duch, PhD
Bachelor of Arts in Communications, Advocacy & Social Change Communications

This panel discussion will focus on the current research and commentary about the use of remote and hybrid work arrangements by organizations in a post pandemic world. It is a relevant topic of public discourse featured in dozens of newspaper articles, studies, interviews and podcasts over the past six months alone. We will bring the audience up to date on what the research proves and pose critical questions about changes and possible improvements to work life. As students in CM-232 Organizational Communication, we’ve used this semester to research and analyze the topic, evaluate solutions (and conflicts) and apply it all to creating the
most effective organizational communication. We hope to engage the audience in discussion about this very timely and important topic which can be applied to all our lives.

The Critical Point

The Critical Point Presents the 36th Issue
Keegan Flanagan, Faith Otey, Claire Stevens, Kayla Rickman, Aleah Ansari, Gavin Moore, Rene Taiyrova, Emily Leong, Mandy Ruffing, Devon Gerow, Lee Butler, Jasmine Adams, Grace Fritsch, Anna Love, Allison Patton, Claudia Schirda, Zamar Ushery, Jane Windsheimer, and Maura Thomas-Wright

Faculty Sponsor: Anne M. Rashid, PhD

The Critical Point

The Critical Point is Carlow University's Undergraduate Literary and Art Journal. It comprises students’ creative and critical writing as well as a variety of 2D art including photography, painting and drawing. We are excited to announce the winning submissions in each category and have the winners share their work with us.

Interdisciplinary International Jamaican Student Experience

Interdisciplinary International Jamaican Student Experience

Faculty: Susan Mihaljevic, Bernadette Sherman
Students: Maria Capozzi, Ragan Clark, Latoya Worthy, Marely Green, and Madyson Scott

Interdisciplinary International Jamaican Student Experience

Both the CHW and CAS college

This Boyer Model Application-like project combined efforts of interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate students to improve awareness on common comorbidities that afflict native Jamaican individuals, specifically Diabetes Mellitus and Hypertension. Student education and patient testing related to these comorbidities may improve quality of living as well as equip them to monitor their current health status via use of donated medical equipment. Subsequent follow-up is planned for Spring of 2025 when another interdisciplinary, international student experience is anticipated to commence.
Placing Woke Horror on the Map: Woke Horror Cultural Artifacts and Their Sociohistorical Contexts

Tessa Adams, MA

In 2017, Jordan Peele released his racial horror debut film, Get Out. The film introduced the term woke horror into society. Since then, other films and television series deemed woke horror have been released: The First Purge (2018), Us (2019), Antebellum (2020), Bad Hair (2020), Lovecraft Country (2020), Candyman (2021), and Them (2021-) for instance. Colloquially, woke horror is defined as films and series that heavily and predominantly critique social elements such as racism, sexism, and classism (Surrey, 2018). While it seems that woke horror suddenly appeared in 2017 due to Get Out, using the conceptual framework of conjuncture and articulation, I argue that woke horror is actually built on four key historical moments: Barack Obama’s election to presidency, murders of Black people by police, the rise of peak television and prestige television, and aesthetic and narrative changes in the horror genre.

International Poetry Forum and Manchester Craftsman's Guild Creative Collaboration

Sarah Shotland, MFA

The International Poetry Forum, youth artists from Manchester Craftsman's Guild, and my ENG200: Introduction to Creative Writing class, have collaborated this semester to research the work of Naomi Shihab-Nye, a poet featured three times in the International Poetry Forum. The collaboration resulted in a series of poems and photographs in response to Shihab-Nye's work and also the work of each other. We aim to present the poems and photographs in our presentation, partially in fulfillment of a CIC grant the ACE Department received to bolster community partnerships.
**Collaborative: Grace Library + College of Health & Wellness**

**Essential Thrombocythemia**

Richard Brzustowicz and Ruth Foreman, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, CRNP, CNE

Essential thrombocythemia, a myeloproliferative neoplasm (MPN), causes excessive clonal platelet production of poorly formed platelets. Medical management includes treatment to reduce symptoms and exacerbations of thrombosis and hemorrhage. Care in the primary care setting includes awareness, diagnosis, and co-management for this complicated disease.

****disclaimer: we are also happy to do a PPT presentation, if there's more need for that! :)

**Nursing**

**Pediatric Anxiety in Primary Care**

Ruth Foreman, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, CRNP, CNE

New guidelines for identifying anxiety in pediatric patients constitute important changes in screening for primary care providers, including primary care NPs. This article seeks to guide NPs in both following the screening guidelines and providing strategic care for patients and their families.

**Empathy in Pre-Licensure Nursing Education: An Observational Research Study in simulation**

Maria Flavin, DNP, MSN, CRNP, FNP-C and Deborah L. Evers, DNP, CNS, BC

Many think that those who enter the healthcare profession intrinsically have a sense of empathy for their patients. Empathy is an essential skill for registered nurses to deliver patient care. Empathy in the context of caring for patients in the clinical setting affords human connectedness, which is essential for the health and well-being of patients and their outcomes. It is essential to engage undergraduate nursing students in comprehending and learning about empathy to address their shortcomings and bolster their strengths. Incorporating experiential learning methods, like simulation, encourages reflection and critical thinking. This observational research study portrays events, actions, norms, and from the perspective of the people being studied. This research employs a controlled observation method specifically in a simulation lab using a live actor for empathy-based scenarios, in which each 2nd year-level nursing student either takes part or observes the simulation.
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