

CCN Research Newsletter

Issue 1 Fall 2016

Faculty Spotlight – Interview with Dr. Marietta Stanton

Dr. Marietta Stanton has amassed a number of degrees and certifications during her nursing career including a PhD in Educational Administration/ Instructional Communications, bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing, a master's in business and most recently her certification as a nurse practitioner. Her nursing experience has been varied and includes hands-on nursing, active military duty, teaching, administration, and research. Today, she focuses on her research projects and teaching duties – guiding UA graduate students through case management clinicals.

1. In your twenty years of research, you have dedicated a significant amount of time to military and veteran research. Could you please elaborate on what motivated you to pursue this research trajectory?

While in New York, I was inspired to pursue veteran/military research after taking part in a panel discussion concerning nurses who had come back from different wars. The stories of these nurses across time were quite similar.

In the early 90s, I was one of the first ever recipients of the Tri-Service military research grant. My project looked at how nurses reacted to war and to taking care of fellow soldiers. I found that nurses suffered from some of the same problems as other soldiers who were involved in various combat or deployment situations.

In 2004, I was called to active duty and then studied nurses from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. I found they had several problems with reintegration, but those who had taken part in mindful exercises (such as prayer) and social media had an easier time coming back to the U.S. because their resilience



Dr. Marietta Stanton

was improved when they participated in these activities and could communicate with people who were not in their situation.

2. In the past year, you have dedicated a significant amount of time to ICU acquired weakness (ICUAW). Could you elaborate on what inspired you to pursue this relatively uncommon path?

I became ill with pneumonia and was in a coma for ten days. When I woke up, I was unable to move – a very shocking realization. Nobody could explain what was wrong. After an extensive amount of physical therapy to regain my muscle ability, I began to research the problem.

I found the cause to be associated with ICUAW, a disuse syndrome that causes physiological changes at the nerve and muscle level. Fifty percent of those who suffer from this condition die.

In an attempt to make this condition more well-known and evaluate current understandings of it, I plan to survey nurses and physicians to find out how much they know about ICUAW. I want to help decrease the mortality rate associated with this preventable and widely unknown condition.

3. What makes you most proud?

I am proud of my 1996 article on nurses' reactions to war and taking care of soldiers. My findings were published by the Institute of Medicine Report on Military Research and I was asked to speak on several occasions regarding this project. Many nurses were appreciative of the research because their story was finally being told.

I am also proud of my ICUAW research because I have a voice for those who end up not as fortunate as me. The research is very applicable and can be applied to not only the ICU community, but other medical facilities as well.



Capstone College of
Nursing

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

February 5th

- NIH R01 Federal Research Grants

February 16th

- NIH R03/R21 Federal Research Grants

February 25th

- NIH R15 Federal Research Grants
- STTI/National League for Nursing Grant – \$5,000
- NLN Nursing Education Research Grants – \$25,000

March 15th

- STTI/Emergency Nurses Association Foundation Grant – \$6,000

April 1st

- STTI/Association of Nurses in AIDS Care (ANAC) Grant – \$2,500
- STTI/Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses Grant – \$5,000
- STTI/Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation End of Life Nursing Care Research (HPNA) Grant – \$10,000
- STTI/Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) Grant – \$5,000

Publication Highlight On – Sleep Apnea Study

King, S. & Cuellar, N. (2016). Obstructive Sleep Apnea as an Independent Stroke Risk Factor: A Review of the Evidence, Stroke Prevention Guidelines and Implications for Neuroscience Nursing Practice. *Journal of Neuroscience Nursing*, 48(3), 133-142.

The purpose of this article was to present evidence supporting Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) as an independent stroke risk factor in national Stroke Prevention Guidelines (SPG). King and Cuellar's article utilized a systematic search in Medline, CINAHL, and PubMed to identify evidence based research that showed that OSA was an independent risk factor for stroke.

After reviewing twenty-eight research articles, strong evidence was presented that supported the hypothesis. King and Cuellar also reported the evidence that treatment of OSA decreases stroke prevalence and mortality. The article engages neuroscience nurses to incorporate OSA assessment and interventions into the nursing process.

Spotlight On – Undergraduate Student Research

Undergraduate nursing students have assisted Drs. Michele Montgomery and Paige Johnson on numerous research projects. These include: "Improving Pickens County Residents' Knowledge of Risk Factors for Cardiovascular and Type 2 Diabetes," "Assessing Overweight and Obesity and Associated Risk Factors in Rural Preschool Children," "Assessing Community Readiness For and Attitudes to Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Pickens County," as well as a secondary analysis of Tuscaloosa Pre-K health screening data.

Students help with data collection in the Pre-K Initiative each fall, and are also involved with other aspects of the research process such as data entry, data analysis, and manuscript development.

Two are co-authors on a manuscript detailing the results from the "Assessing Community Readiness For and Attitudes to Health Promotion and Disease Prevention in Pickens County" study. Drs. Montgomery and Johnson also currently fund one undergraduate Nursing student who works as a paid research assistant. Responsibilities include coordinating activities for the "Improving Pickens County Residents' Knowledge of Risk Factors for Cardiovascular and Type 2 Diabetes" research project and mentoring other nursing undergraduates in research.

Thanks to the following undergraduate student researchers: Melissa Clark, Colleen Anusiewicz, Caitlyn Taylor, Lucas Urbi, Lauren Longobardo, Anna Peeler, and Hannah Browdy.



Recent Grant Awards

Carter-Templeton, H. (PI), “Diffusing Nursing Research in a Nurse Residency Program via a Twitter Online Journal Club” awarded by STTI/Chamberlain, \$9,533, 1 year. This study aims to address the effectiveness and feasibility of an asynchronous online journal club via Twitter among a single group of participants in a nurse residency program at a regional medical center.

George, S. (PI), Mugoya, G. (Co-PI), Kirkpatrick, B (Co-PI), “Affordable Housing and Community Advocacy for People Living with HIV: Assessing Best Practices and Health Impact” awarded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, \$225,000, 3 years. The project assess the best strategies for and the health impact of affordable housing programs and case management for PLWH in West Alabama.

Graves, A. (PI). “Access to Diabetes Education Services in Alabama: A Geographical Information System Analysis.” Awarded by the Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS). \$7,438. The project explores the geographical accessibility in Alabama to diabetes education services (DES) and determines the contribution of distance to DES to county age adjusted diabetes mortality rates while adjusting for age, sex, race, education, socioeconomic status, and rurality.

March, A. L. (PD). Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students: BAMA Tide to Success for MSN. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration. \$2,400,000, 4 years. The grant provides scholarships to eligible nurses from disadvantaged backgrounds, including ethnic minorities or members of other underrepresented groups, who are seeking a master’s of science degree in nursing.

March, A. L. (PD). Nurse Faculty Loan Program. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administrations, Bureau of Health Professions. \$431,646, 1 year. The purpose of this project is to provide funding through loans to assist registered nurses in completing graduate education to become qualified nurse faculty.

Upcoming Research Events & Training

CCN Research Colloquia

December 6, 2016, 12 p.m.
CCN Room 1008

Presented by Dean Elmore
“Sympathy & Empathy Research with Adults”

Register through Skillport!

Identifying Funding Opportunities

December 14, 2016, 2 p.m.
Rose Administration Bldg., G54

Register through Skillport!

Interprofessional Research Breakfast

December 15, 2016,
7:30-9:00 a.m.
Capstone Village,
Rast Dining Room



Our new CCN Research Ambassadors (from left to right): Julia Kessel and Makenzie Plyman.

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CCN Research Ambassadors

The Capstone College of Nursing has selected two outstanding students to represent the CCN Office of Scholarly Affairs as our official Research Ambassadors. Selected were Ms. Julia Kessel (Sophomore) and Ms. Makenzie Plyman (Sophomore). They will support the OSA staff during various research events and workshops held during the academic year.

Julia Kessel is from Hickory, North Carolina and plans to finish her undergraduate Bachelors degree in Spring 2019. Her hobbies and interests include: playing tennis, hiking, and volunteering within the community with her two siblings. She hopes to pursue a career in OR Nursing or Nurse Anesthesia. Makenzie Plyman is from Trussville, Alabama and expects to graduate in Spring 2019 with her Bachelors in Nursing as well. Her hobbies and

interests consist of: spending time with family, running, and cooking.

The Office of Scholarly Affairs thanks Ms. Kessel and Ms. Plyman for their support with this newsletter. Research Ambassadors will continue to support the Office of Scholarly Affairs during the academic year.

If you are hosting a research event and require ambassadors or want to highlight your scholarly project in an upcoming issue of this newsletter, please contact Mrs. Stefanie O'Neill at soneill2@ua.edu to arrange for their services.



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