RESEARCH OFFICE NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

UMSL | Nursing
University of Missouri–St. Louis

SUPPORTING RESEARCH

Our overall mission is to raise the research profile at the College of Nursing. This means fostering an environment that is conducive to faculty scholarship and developing the next generation of nursing researchers by helping Ph.D., DNP, and undergraduate students with research and evidence-based projects.

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DISSEMINATING RESEARCH FINDINGS

Research Abstracts

Presenting posters at local, regional or national conferences is an effective way to disseminate research findings. Below are tips to creating effective research/evidence-based practice nursing posters. Additional tips for poster presentations can be found here or here.

Research posters have standard headings. Other than the title and authors, sections should include: abstract/summary, introduction, methods, results, discussion and acknowledgments. Make sure that any organization that has provided funding support is included in the acknowledgments.

Follow Directions. All conferences provide directions regarding the poster sizes, presentation methods and space for additional information. Make sure deadlines are met. For many conferences posters must be submitted electronically prior to the event. Make sure you leave yourself plenty of time to have printed posters produced.

Keep in mind readability and design. Try following these basic rules:

- Don't overcrowd your poster and break up text with graphics or tables when possible. Bullets can also help.
- Posters should flow right to left.
- Use fonts that are easy to read. Highly stylized fonts can look fancy but can be hard for those viewing your poster to read.
- Plan your poster so the main points really stick out. Expect those browsing posters to only spend 3-5 minutes during in person poster sessions.
- Consider that your audience may not be experts in what is being presented.

Use resources provided. The College of Nursing offers resources to help with designing posters including poster templates and support from the College of Nursing Research Office. Also ask colleagues or faculty chairs and mentors to provide feedback.

Be prepared. Anticipate questions that poster viewers may have and be prepared to answers these questions. Use these poster events as network opportunities.

College of Nursing Research Office Update

Please joint the College of Nursing for this month's Brown Bag on Thursday, April 7th at 1PM. Dr. Anne Fish will discuss the adequacy of models currently available in the literature. This will be a great event for those preparing to work on research or evidence-based practice projects.

May will be our final Brown Bag of the semester:

- 5/5 Dr. Anne Thatcher will be discussing her action research project about mental wellness and resiliency that is being development along with other DNP faculty.

All brown bags are held on Zoom.

Put the following events on your calendar:

- The Undergraduate Research Symposium will be held on April 29th in person. More information is available here. We will have at least one student presenting so try to attend if your are available.
- The College of Nursing will also have representation at the Graduate Research Fair on April 22nd. Additional information will can be found here.
- UMSL's Office of Research Development final brown bag is Friday, April 8th at noon. Click here to for additional information and to register.

WHAT IS NEW ON THE RESEARCH SIDE

Here is a summary of some of the new nursing education related research published in the last month.

Evaluating Clinical Placements Using Quantiative Methods. The need for additional clinical placements has increased in many areas in the US. A southern university conducted a survey of nursing students, supervising clinical staff, teaching assistants and clinical faculty collecting information on the quality of clinical placements. Specifically this study looked to measure the quality of clinical learning environments from both the student and educators perspective. The validated Quality of Clinical Placement Evaluation was the instrument utilized. From both the educator and student perspective quality of the clinical learning environment was high. Students feeling supported, confidence, welcomed and belonging heavily influenced their perception of high quality environments. Whitcomb et al. A commitment to caring when preparing the bedside nurse: Evaluating perceived quality across university academic and clinical learning environments. Int Journal for Human Caring 2022;26(1):10.20467.

Effectively Measuring Poverty Attitudes in Nursing Students. Nurses are in a good position to make important transformative changes in health care including more effectively caring for patients form marginalized communities. It is important that nursing students are exposed to curricular components providing learning experiences about poverty from the start of their programs. Eleven studies were included in the integrative review with most studies taking place in the United States. There were four tools identified with the most commonly used tools being the Attitude Toward Poverty Short Form and Attitudes about Poverty and Poor People. The other two measures included Perceptions of the Poor and questions included in the Survey by Centers for Healthy Communities. The review found that attitudes towards poverty assessment tools can be effective in measuring attitude change among nursing students before and after poverty focused curriculum components. It is important to integrate poverty assessment tools into nursing programs to assess the impact of teaching methods. Neto et al. Tools used in nursing education to assess attitudes about poverty: An integrative review. Public Health Nurs 2022;00:1-9.

Using Augmented Reality in Nursing Education. This particular study evaluated the use of augmented reality (AR) on nursing student heart/lung assessment skills. AR technology overlayed the heart, lungs and rib cage to build student understanding of organ placement and assessment. A quasi-experimental study with a study and control group was utilized for evaluation. With the group receiving access to the AR showing improved performance and knowledge over that of the control group. AR can be an effective tool when used in nursing education. Menon et al. Augmented reality in nursing education - A pilot Study. Clinical Simulation in Nursing 2022;65:57-61

Virtual Simulation Tools Can Be Effective when In Person Learning Isn't Available. The COVID-19 pandemic forced nursing educators to use virtual/online tools to provide education to nursing students who could not be in the classroom. Authors turned to virtual computer based simulations when public health rules didn't allow for student to be in classrooms or simulation lab rooms. An online survey was used to compare the effectiveness of three virtual simulation tools in meeting learning objectives. Tools were compared on facilitating debriefing, improving clinical ability, help problem solving, helping confidence and improve collaboration. The tools evaluated included I-Human, Ryerson and RSC (Resource Simulation Center). RSC was designed by the study authors. Cumulative performance scores for RSC were significantly higher with specific areas with the most difference being effective debriefing, helping confidence, and ability to collaborate. Online tools played an important role in nursing education during the COVID-19 pandemic. Schiavenato et al. Comparing the learning effectiveness of three simulation tools with nursing students during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Clinical Simulation in Nursing 2022; doi:10.1016/j.ecns.2022.03.003

Copies of articles can be found at the Research Office teams site.

CON SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Congratulations to Dr. Sheila Grigsby on being recognized with the Trailblazer Award. You can read the full article from UMSL Daily here. Also congratulations to Dr. Kimberly Warner for receiving Tenure.

Congratulations to Dr. Umit Tokac whose abstract "Relationship Between Years of Nursing, Mental Health and Work Impairment During the COVID-19 Crisis" was accepted for oral presentation at the National Summit on Promoting Well-Being and Resilience in Healthcare Professional.

Dr. Sheila Grigsby and Dean Annie Vandermause have recently submitted an abstract for consideration at the Annual Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities Conference. Dr. Tonya Haynes and the LGBTQIA+ team have submitted for consideration to the upcoming Missouri League of Nursing Conference.

The College of Nursing currently has grants in preparation for funding consideration for Sigma (Koetting & Thatcher), the Department of Defense (Tokac) and the Office of Violence Against Women (Werner).

Please share your academic and scholarly achievements with the Research Office so that we may highlight the accomplishments of the College of Nursing.