



Research & Scholarship Newsletter

March 2021

Call for papers! Witness: Canadian Journal of Critical Nursing Discourse

(Guest Contributor: Dr. Wanda Martin)

The Canadian Journal of Critical Nursing Discourse has announced a special issue, *Nursing(on) a Sick Planet: Critical Consciousness and Action in a Time of Planetary Decline*. This special issue invites nurses to dive into the complexities of the ecological determinants of health and consider essential concepts such as environmental justice; activism and advocacy; sustainability; power and privilege; and ecological, and systems-based approaches as they relate to nursing.

Dr. Wanda Martin, co-editor of this upcoming issue of Witness, shared “I am excited to be a co-editor of an upcoming issue of Witness, along with June Kaminiski, my colleague from the Canadian Association of Nurses for the Environment. While nursing has long engaged with maintaining healthy environments, we are entering a new era of global crisis that will be demanding our attention. I hope you find something in the potential topics of this call that speaks to you, or that you submit an additional perspective that can provide some transformative insights and discussion on nurses’ role and contribution to a healthy planet.” If you are interested in contributing to this issue, submissions will be accepted until July 1, 2021. Please contact Wanda for more information.

Researcher Q & A

Dr. Hua Li



Q: Tell us three quick facts about yourself.

A: Three facts about myself:

- 1) I enjoy going for walks
- 2) My teaching philosophy is focused on understanding the learning needs of my students.
- 3) My research area of focus is mental health.

Q: What is one thing you are most proud of that you’ve accomplished in your academic career?

A: I am proud of my contribution to teaching and research in the area of vulnerable populations, specifically in the area of mental health and addiction (MHA).

Q: Describe a current research and/or scholarly work project in three sentences or less?

A: I’m currently focused on three research projects: 1) MHA-related visits to emergency departments in Saskatoon, 2) supporting caregivers of adolescents with MHA disorders, and 3) a maternal mood study.

Q: If you have received funding for your research, is there a particular grant or donor funds you would like to highlight?

A: I would like to acknowledge funding from the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF) for my Establishment grant and the Jim Pattison Children’s Hospital Foundation (JPCHF) for my Research grant.

Interested in learning more? Check out Hua’s profile on the College of Nursing website.

USask Research Excellence and Innovation Reviews the Ethics Approval Process

Ethics approval is a critical, important and sometimes hair-pulling part of the research process. The ethics team at USask has taken measurable steps to try to better understand the researcher point of view with the goal of improving the overall process. Below is a summary of findings from a quality-improvement survey the newly-named Research Ethics Board (REB) conducted in the spring of 2020 to researchers, seeking feedback on the USask research ethics processes. The survey was open for 8 weeks and a total of 183 researchers responded. 100 of the respondents submitted feedback in the category of Behaviour (BEH), which is the ethics stream most commonly used in the College of Nursing.

Of the three ethics streams BEH received a satisfactory rating of 64/100 rating, the lowest of the three categories (biomedical and animal were 66/100 and 69/100 respectively). The report highlighted aspects of the BEH approval process that are going well including: professionalism, responsiveness and helpfulness of staff (mentioned by 40%); thoroughness and helpfulness (25%); reasonable/improving timelines (17.5%); Good communication with the applicants (17.5%). The report also identified aspects of the process that need improvement including: Delays (54%); Scope creep (15%); Inconsistency in reviews (9.75%); Confusing, complex, onerous process (8.5%).

Delays with ethics approval is a common frustration for researchers. The average number of days from submission to approval is 60.4 days (document being with the researchers for an average of 17 days) and an average of 116 days for a full board review. The REB recognizes that the “turnaround timelines are longer than we would like. We share researchers’ concerns about that”. The main reason for the delays is increased applications with no additional resources. The REB strongly encourages researchers to complete the helpful and informative TCPS2 training module to help with the efficiency of the process.

This survey was not intended to be a one-time only gathering of feedback; to provide feedback, concerns or suggestions, please contact Dion Martens, Director of Research Excellence and Innovation (dion.martens@usask.ca). If you would like to read the full report, please contact Caitlin for a copy.

New SSHRC Leader Appointed

Dr. Dawn Wallin (College of Education) has been appointed as the new SSHRC Leader at the University of Saskatchewan. She joins Dr. Darcy Marciniuk (CIHR Leader) and Dr. Ron Borowsky (NSERC Leader) in this role. These individuals play an important part in supporting researchers and elevating tri-agency performance by building awareness, engaging faculty, and providing mentorship throughout the research development lifecycle.

World Health Day is on April 7th!

This year’s theme is building a fairer, healthier world. On April 7th, we will celebrate what USask College of Nursing researchers in the *Health Equity Signature Area of Research* are doing to build a fairer, healthier world.

[Health Equity Research](#): We embrace the notion of fairness. Health inequities occur when this notion is challenged; leading to poor health outcomes across social, demographic and geographic groups of people. Through our research, we strive to identify, prevent and remove these barriers to health.

Keep an eye on our social media channels for more information! Use hashtags #WorldHealthDay #USask to follow along throughout the day!

Celebrating Nursing Research & Scholarship Success!

In the News...

Nursing faculty awarded SHRF Solutions grants:

Congratulations to our faculty who received Solutions funding from the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation! Awarded project include:

- Innovation grant: Drs. Noelle Rohatinsky and Juan-Nicolas Pena-Sanchez (College of Medicine) were awarded \$47,000 to study virtual care experiences of individuals with inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and gastroenterologist providers.
- Innovation grant: Drs. Tracie Risling and Dr. Don Leidl will examine creating virtual reality tools to help both patients and practitioners deal with chronic kidney care with a grant of approximately \$43,000.
- Impact grant: Drs. Gerri Lasiuk and Tracie Risling are part of Dr. Bridget Klest's (URegina) team that was awarded \$133,000 to develop an online self-help resource for patients who have experienced adverse events and/or institutional betrayal in healthcare.

More information available [here](#) and [here](#).

Research Chair brings Indigenous view to nursing education: Dr. Holly Graham's work as the Indigenous Research Chair in Nursing has been featured in a recent article in Eagle Feather News.

Congratulations Holly! More information available [here](#).

USask sees a surge in medical and nursing school applications: The College of Nursing has seen a 12 percent overall increase in applications this year. The Nurse Practitioner program has seen an 58 percent increase in applications! More information available [here](#).

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

Nursing Research Spotlight

Innovations in Health Systems and Education Research



Tania Bergen RN, BSN, MN
Instructor

College of Nursing Campus: Saskatoon, SK

I am interested in fostering mentorship and innovative teaching and learning approaches in acute health care settings.

Community-Engaged Health and Nursing Research



Lorraine Holtslander RN, BSN, MN, PhD, CHPCN
Professor

College of Nursing Campus: Saskatoon, SK

My research is focused on supporting family caregivers, including how the experience of caregiving in a palliative care context impacts grief and bereavement.

Health Equity Research



Susan Fowler-Kerry BA (Psych), BSN, MN, PhD
Professor

College of Nursing Campus: Saskatoon, SK

My program of research focuses on child, youth, and maternal health with a specialty in pediatric pain and palliative care. A further focus is directed towards building capacity for partnerships and collaboration to address global health related issues targeting good health and well-being.

A selection of peer-reviewed journal articles indexed in Scopus from 2020:

- Burns, M., Bally, J., Burles, M. and 2 more (...) (2020). Influences of the culture of science on nursing knowledge development: Using conceptual frameworks as nursing philosophy in critical care nursing. *Nursing Philosophy*.
- Maina, G., Phaneuf, T., Kennedy, M. and 5 more (...) (2020). School-based interventions for preventing substance use in indigenous children ages 7-13: A scoping review protocol. *BMJ Open*,10(2).
- Wakibi, S., Ferguson, L., Berry, L. and 2 more (...) (2020). Teaching evidence-based nursing practice: A systematic review and convergent qualitative synthesis. *Journal of Professional Nursing*.
- Nightingale, G., Burhenn, P.S., Puts, M. and 4 more (...) (2020). Integrating Nurses and Allied Health Professionals in the care of older adults with cancer: A report from the International Society of Geriatric Oncology Nursing and Allied Health Interest Group. *Journal of Geriatric Oncology*,11(2) 187-190.
- Peternelj-Taylor, C. (2020). Introducing the 2020 Journal of Forensic Nursing Editorial Board. *Journal of Forensic Nursing*,16(1) 1-5.
- Peternelj-Taylor, C. (2020). Journal of Forensic Nursing 2019 Articles of the Year. *Journal of forensic nursing*,16(3).

Stay Connected!

Want to learn more about Nursing Research and Scholarship?

Check out our [Webpage](#) and [Faculty Profiles](#)!

Want to keep on top of upcoming funding opportunities?

Consider joining the USask Health Science and/or Social Science [listserv](#)!

Want to know more about upcoming training opportunities?

- ✓ Check out the Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR) [Events Calendar](#).
- ✓ Find upcoming and archived CIHR Webinars [here](#)!
- ✓ Join a [CIHR SPOR Network](#)!
- ✓ Find out more about the [CIHR IIPH Indigenous Mentorship Network Program](#)

Get Involved!

Call for Abstracts: Research & Scholarship Day 2021

We are inviting all College of Nursing faculty and students to submit abstracts to present their work at our upcoming Research & Scholarship Day on June 3, 2021.

Deadline to submit: April 16, 2021

Contact Raeleen Wilson for details.

Call for Judges: 2021 Life & Health Sciences Research Expo

PhD-prepared faculty, trainee, and research facilitator volunteers to serve as judges for research presentation sessions at the 2021 Life and Health Sciences Research Expo taking place on Thursday, May 6, 2021. Register [here](#).

Deadline to submit: April 9, 2021

Contribute to the Newsletter!

- ✓ Do you have feedback to share about this newsletter?
- ✓ Are you interested in joining as a Guest Contributor?
- ✓ Do you have a research story and/or image you would like to share?

Contact Robin to share your thoughts and/or contributions.

Important Dates:

College of Nursing Activities

NURS 990 Sessions (12 – 1 pm)*

April 7: Anti-Racism Education – Part 2 (Speaker: Sharissa Unger Hantke)

***Contact Raeleen for details!**

Upcoming Research Events

Feb-Apr: Arctic Health [Webinar Series](#)

Apr 7: Evidence Synthesis & Real Time Monitoring (SCPOR). Register [here](#).

Apr 15: Pediatrics Virtual Child Health Research Trainee Day. Contact Robin for details. Register [here](#).

May 6: USask Life and Health Sciences Research Expo. Registration and abstracts due April 9. Details [here](#).

Jun 3: College of Nursing Research and Scholarship Day 2021. **Abstract submissions due April 16.** Contact Raeleen for details.

Upcoming Grant Competitions

Spencer Foundation Small Research [Grant](#)

Apr 1: Program launch

May 19: Submit to UnivRS

Jun 1: Submit to funder

USask International Travel Grant

Apr 19: Submit to Raeleen for LOS

Apr 23: Due to International Office

SHRF Research Connections [Grant](#)

Apr 21: Submit to UnivRS

Apr 30: Submit to SHRF RMS

College of Nursing CIHR Seed Grant

May 10: Submit to Raeleen Wilson via email.

Interested in learning more about any of the above opportunities? Contact Robin for details.

Key Contacts:

[Dr. Tracie Risling](#): Interim Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies

[Raeleen Wilson](#): Assistant – Research and Graduate Studies

[Robin Thurmeier](#): Research Facilitator (Pre-Award)

[Caitlin Olason](#): Research Coordinator (Post-Award)

[Jill Brown](#): Graduate Program Coordinator

[Kylie Kelso](#): Communications Officer

[Tammy Morrison](#): Financial Analyst

[Brit Tastad](#): SBA – Human Resources