



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
**College of Nursing**  
NURSING.USASK.CA



# COLLEGE OF NURSING **RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP SNAPSHOT**

**BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS**

NOVEMBER 2024



## Message from Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies

Our healthcare system is under tremendous pressure related to post-COVID effects compounding an existing acute local and global shortage of nurses characterized by burnout and low retention affecting the nursing workforce. Planetary health represents a major global health concern affecting health and quality of life. Nursing continues to grapple with racism, ethnocentrism, ableism, and other ideologies that sustain structural injustices and maintain social and health inequities. Finally, artificial intelligence, advanced robotics, and big data will influence nursing and we need to explore these innovations and their impacts on nursing research, education, and practice. As nurses we are accountable to critically examine and provide answers to these challenges. As nurse researchers we have moral, ethical, cultural, and social commitments to address complexity while advancing the future of nursing and improving health and nursing care delivery locally and globally.

Through its three signature areas, the College of Nursing engages in the future of nursing research that aligns with the University of Saskatchewan's research mission of being the "University the World Needs". Also, inspired by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, our researchers and scholars address a variety of challenges facing the discipline of nursing with the aims of enhancing the health, well-being, and quality of life of individuals, groups, communities, and populations, while promoting and sustaining community development and engagement, empowerment, equity, and justice.

As part of the fabric of research and scholarship at the University of Saskatchewan, faculty and staff in the College of Nursing are active researchers in healthcare facilities, homes, schools, communities, and organizations. The profiles of the nurse scholars in this booklet highlight how the research being done at the College of Nursing addresses the needs of the people of your local community, Saskatchewan, Canada, and the world.

As you scroll through the following pages, you will notice our research and scholarship work is highlighted as three signature areas; 1) Innovations in Health Systems and Education Research, 2) Community-Engaged Health and Nursing Research, and 3) Health Equity Research. Individually and collectively the work



**Dr. Louise Racine**

being done in these three signature areas contributes to innovations, collaborations, and a local-global reach.

This snapshot was prepared with a lens towards discovery, scholarship, and community engagement.

Dr. Louise Racine RN PhD FTNSS  
Associate Dean Research and Graduate Studies  
Professor and Transcultural Nursing Scholar  
College of Nursing  
University of Saskatchewan

## College of Nursing | Research Signature Areas

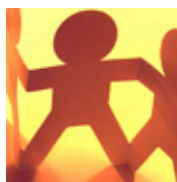
College of Nursing researchers aim to create equitable and sustainable solutions to improve health experiences and outcomes for individuals, families and communities provincially, nationally, and internationally.

In alignment with the *University of Saskatchewan Plan 2025* and the College of Nursing's *Philosophy Statement*, the College of Nursing plans to achieve its research mandate through three research signature areas.



### INNOVATION

In the College of Nursing, **Innovations in Health Systems and Education Research** pertains to innovations, ideas, and evidence-based strategies that influence nursing education, interprofessional education, leadership, and management. Our researchers explore how innovation can lead to new or better ways to solve problems in a relevant and meaningful manner. Through this research, we challenge existing ideas and assumptions of current health systems and education approaches, practices, and technologies; exploring how these are leveraged to provide the best outcomes for health care providers, patients, educators, and students. Research in this signature area contributes to improvements in the delivery of nursing care.



### COMMUNITY

Our researchers in **Community-Engaged Health and Nursing Research** collaborate with communities and local partners to achieve mutually agreed-upon goals of addressing health needs, building capacity, and promoting improved health outcomes. We work with local agencies, urban and rural municipalities, faith-based organizations, school boards, advocacy groups, settlement organizations, Indigenous communities, and government agencies. Through giving voice to communities in research, we create and disseminate knowledge to advance the discipline of nursing, empower individuals and communities, and strengthen the health and well-being of communities. Our research aims to be responsive, respectful, and inclusive.



### EQUITY

Nursing researchers in **Health Equity Research** acknowledge that health inequities arise from social injustice inscribed in systematic differences related to race, gender, social class, culture, and geographic locations. We embrace a social justice lens that emphasizes the notion of fairness. Health inequities occur when this notion is challenged by structural barriers that lead to poor health outcomes across social, demographic, and geographic populations and subgroups. We believe that exploration of social determinants of health is likely to inform health policies and translate into health and social interventions that will reduce health inequities. Through our research, we strive to identify, prevent, and remove these barriers.

For more information on our signature areas and researchers, please visit [nursing.usask.ca/research](https://nursing.usask.ca/research).



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

College of Nursing researchers work in a variety of settings, study a wide array of topics, and conduct research with diverse populations. In many cases, the research they are working on directly aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).

Throughout this booklet, we have included SDG icons on a number of research profiles to highlight the individual researchers work and the SDG goal(s) with which it aligns.



## Indigenous Research Chair in Nursing

In April 2020, University of Saskatchewan's Dr. Holly Graham (PhD) was awarded an Indigenous Research Chair in Nursing. The goal of this Chair is to improve the health of Indigenous peoples.

The Indigenous Research Chair in Nursing will support and mentor Indigenous and non-Indigenous undergraduate and graduate student nurses to conduct research that will advance reconciliation in nursing practice, research, education, and administration.

With the guidance of an Indigenous Advisory Committee, both Indigenous and Western research paradigms will be utilized, and both First Nation and Métis worldviews will be integrated into the nursing curriculum. The overall goal is for all College of Nursing graduates to have an understanding of the traditional Western, First Nation, and Métis perspectives of health and wellness. Having this holistic understanding will enhance all aspects of nursing practice.

Entitled "wahkohtowin (we are all related)", the program will create the opportunity for personal, community, and collective wellness for Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples, with the ultimate goal of transforming current relationships. The Medicine Wheel will provide the framework for the holistic approach that considers the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual aspects of the individual. The Seven Sacred Teachings will provide the foundation for human conduct towards others by instilling the values and virtues of humility, honesty, respect, courage, wisdom, truth, and love in all interactions.

Funding for the Indigenous Research Chair in Nursing is \$1.05 million, with contributions of \$666,500 from Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), \$308,500 from the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF), \$10,000 from the Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF), and \$60,000 from the University of Saskatchewan.



[holly.graham@usask.ca](mailto:holly.graham@usask.ca)



306-966-2126

### About Dr. Holly Graham

*Dr. Graham is a member of the Thunderchild First Nation. She has worked as a registered nurse in a variety of northern communities, in addition to various other health care environments since 1985. She maintains an active practice as a registered doctoral psychologist, working primarily with individuals who have experienced trauma and symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Holly's research is strength-based and focuses on Indigenous health, mental health, and wellness.*



## **FACULTY RESEARCH PROFILES**



I engage with interdisciplinary researchers, family and community members, and students to develop accessible supportive resources and care for families of children with serious and chronic illness. We build on past research to develop and test community driven and patient-centred interventions to inform effective pediatric family care.

**Jill Bally** BSN, RN, BA (Psych), MN, PhD  
Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[jill.bally@usask.ca](mailto:jill.bally@usask.ca)



306-966-7391





I am interested in the scholarship of teaching and learning. My most recent endeavors explore the concept of creating spaces for students to thrive, and peer mentorship.

**Tania Bergen** RN, BSN, MN  
Instructor, Saskatoon Campus



[tania.bergen@usask.ca](mailto:tania.bergen@usask.ca)



306-966-3274



I am interested in the scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL), focusing on teaching innovations and providing effective feedback to enhance student learning in the clinical setting.

**Cheryl Besse** BScN, RN, MN  
Associate Professor – Academic Programming  
Saskatoon Campus



[cheryl.besse@usask.ca](mailto:cheryl.besse@usask.ca)



306-966-6248





My current research focuses on the health equity of women and gender diverse populations and seeks to create community partnerships that work to develop comprehensive services and improve health.

**Jodie Bigalky** RN, BScN, MN, PhD, PNC(C)  
Assistant Professor, Regina Campus



[jodie.bigalky@usask.ca](mailto:jodie.bigalky@usask.ca)



306-337-3801





My research focuses on co-developing educational tools to improve treatment option decisions for Indigenous peoples living with Chronic Kidney Disease. Other interests include the prevalence of undiagnosed prediabetes and diabetes in Indigenous adolescents.

**Carol Bullin** RN, BScN, MCEd, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Saskatoon Campus



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306-966-7540



Using a patient-oriented research approach, older adults living in long term care, their close ones, staff, and communities are meaningfully engaged to build models of care that support “caring in relation” to improve quality of life.

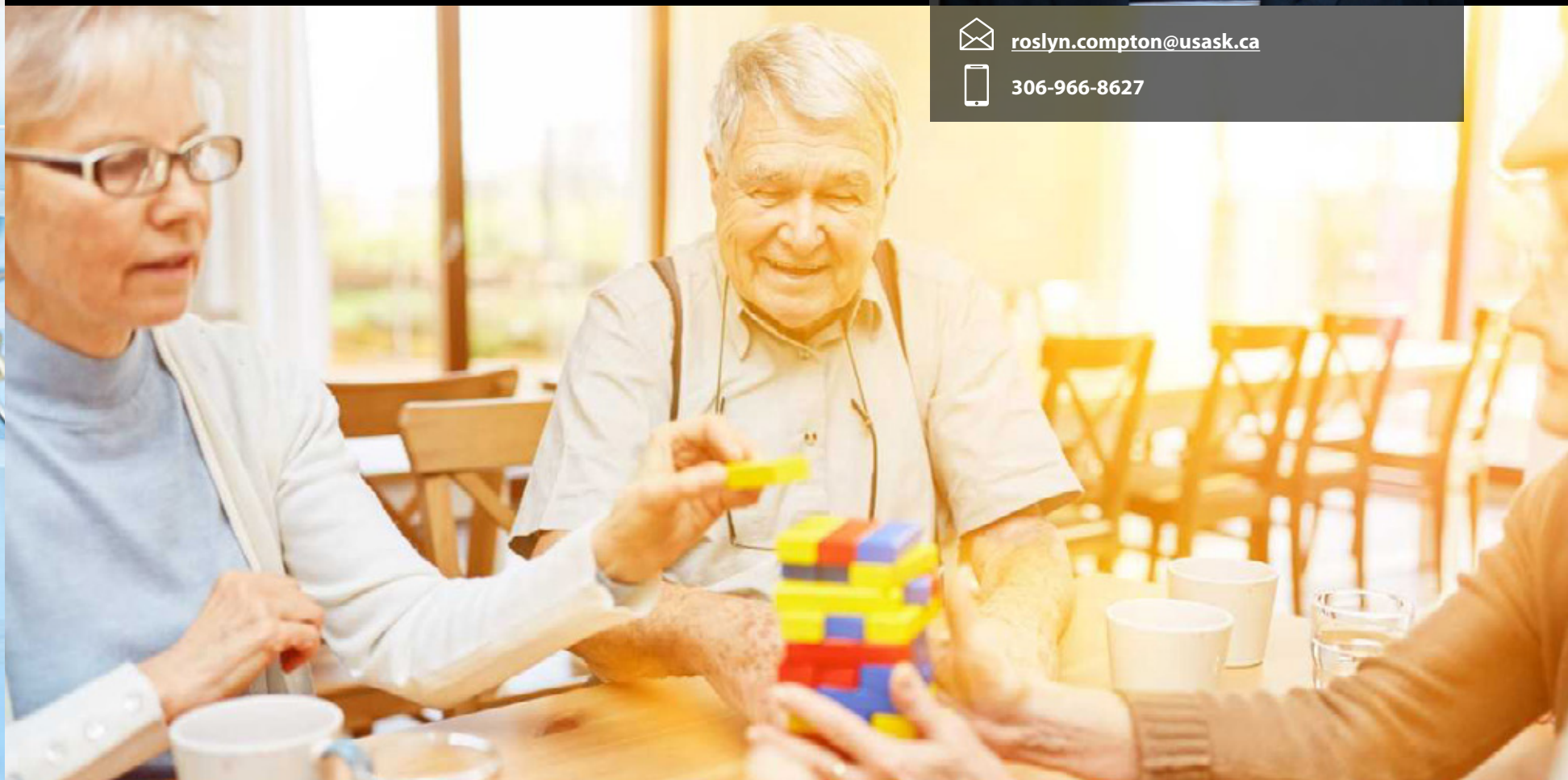
**Roslyn Compton** PhD, RN, GNC (C)  
Associate Professor, Saskatoon Campus



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306-966-8627





My research goal is to engage Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, organizations, and individuals in order to achieve a more equal partnership within the health care system.

**Anthony de Padua** RN, BScN, MSc, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Prince Albert Campus



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306-765-3885





My research focuses on reducing pediatric death in Uganda, where children have high mortality rates after leaving the hospital. I use predictive modeling to identify high-risk children so patient education and follow-up care within the community can be undertaken.

**Brooklyn Derksen** RN, BSN, MN  
Lecturer, Saskatoon Campus



[brooklyn.derksen@usask.ca](mailto:brooklyn.derksen@usask.ca)



306-966-8681





My program of research emphasizes the rights of individuals and communities to access health care services, in the areas of paediatric palliative care, adolescent reproductive health education, and culturally competent care for refugee woman and children. I aim to build capacity between and among communities, stakeholders, policy makers, educators, and researchers at the local and global levels.

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



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306-966-6214





One quarter of us are caregivers. I partner in research and development of education initiatives to support belonging for caregivers who assist friends, family, and neighbours to live well, safely, and affordably, in their communities.

**Natasha Hubbard Murdoch** BScN, RN, MN, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[natasha.hm@usask.ca](mailto:natasha.hm@usask.ca)



306-966-6184





My current work in this area explores the healthwork of parents and caregivers who have declined some or all routine childhood vaccines for their children. This nuanced approach provides insights into the health and advocacy work that caregivers engage in after their initial decisions about vaccination rather than solely focusing on their perspectives and opinions.

**Christine Huel** NP(F), BN, MScN, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[christine.huel@usask.ca](mailto:christine.huel@usask.ca)



306-966-2325





I am interested in medical-surgical nursing, patient care quality, quantitative methodology, and use of the latest technologies in patient care and health systems. My goal is also to create linkages between surgical nursing and disease prevention to collaborate with other nursing disciplines within an educational approach based on technological developments to create culturally safe health care.

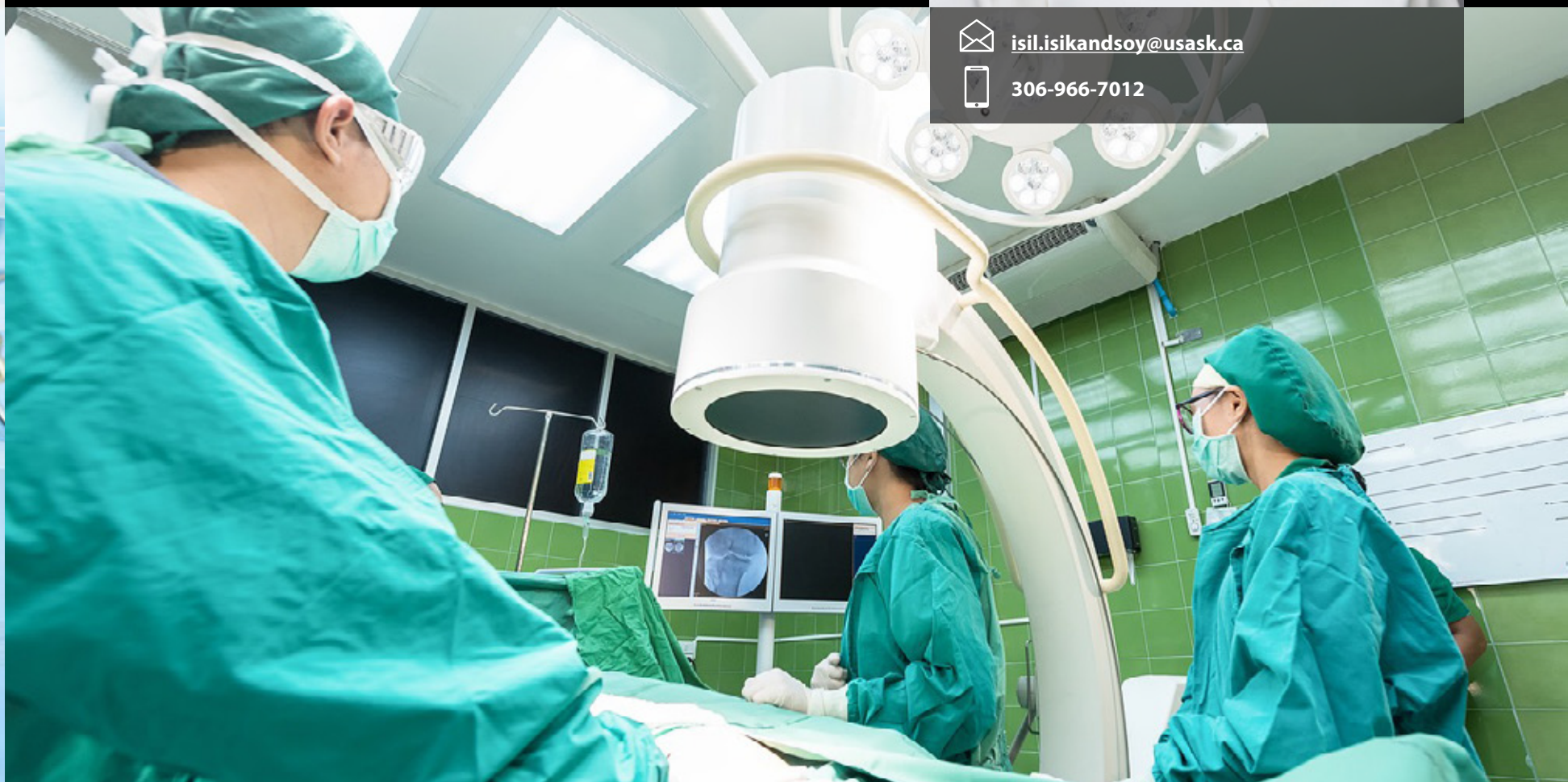
**Isil Isik Andsoy** BSc, MN, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Saskatoon Campus



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306-966-7012





My research fosters working relationships among older adults, Indigenous community members, healthcare providers, and researchers to co-develop knowledge sharing strategies for chronic disease management.

**Lynn Jansen** BSN, MN, PhD  
Associate Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[lynn.jansen@usask.ca](mailto:lynn.jansen@usask.ca)



306-765-3871



My research focus is pain management; specifically pediatric procedural pain, chronic pain across the lifespan, and interprofessional education (IPE) in pain. My research approaches include Participatory Action Research (PAR) and Community Based Participatory Action Research (CBPR) with patient partners.

**Karen Juckes** BSN, MN, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Regina Campus



[karen.juckes@usask.ca](mailto:karen.juckes@usask.ca)



306-337-3813





My research areas include mental health within offender populations, Indigenous health, forensic nursing education, and study abroad experiences. My expertise is in qualitative methodologies; specifically interpretive design (ID) and mixed methods.

**Arlene Kent-Wilkinson** RN, CPMHN, BSN, MN, PhD  
Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[arlene.kent@usask.ca](mailto:arlene.kent@usask.ca)



306-966-6897





I work in community partnerships and school-based health promotion, where the family comes first as a critical partner for health and wellness. My work focuses on relationships for health promotion and health education, media production, policy development, and advocacy.

**Tish King** RN, BSN, MN  
Instructor, Saskatoon Campus



patricia.king@usask.ca



306-966-8179





I am interested in using simulation as a teaching strategy, to promote clinical decision making and build confidence in nursing students.

**Tania Kristoff** RN, PhD, CCSNE  
Associate Professor – Academic Programming, Prince Albert  
Campus



[tania.kristoff@usask.ca](mailto:tania.kristoff@usask.ca)



306-765-3873



My research focuses on rural and remote nursing practice (including advanced practice nursing) and the delivery of primary health care to address the determinants of health of populations in rural and remote communities.

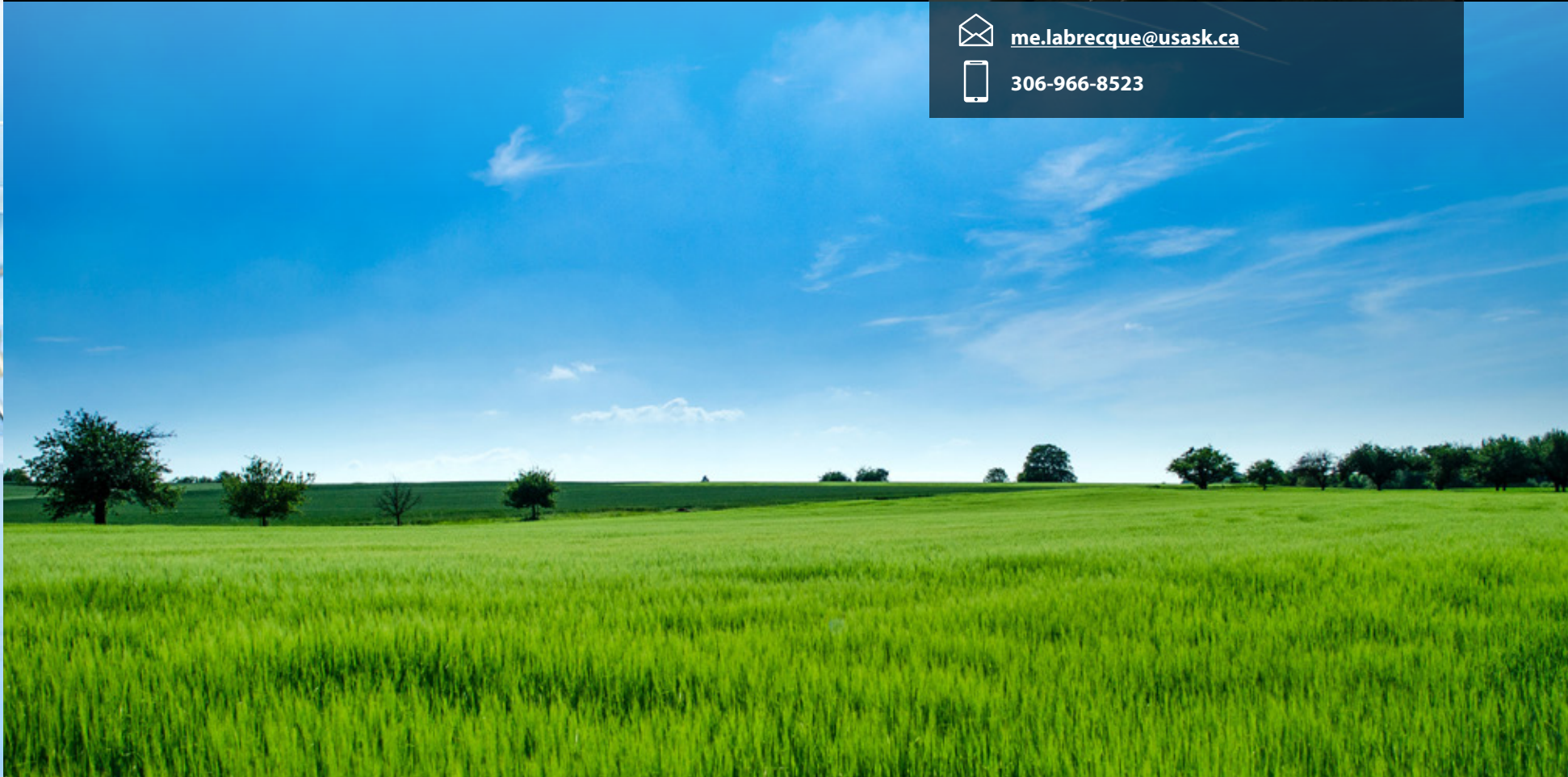
**Mary Ellen Labrecque** RN (NP), PhD  
Assistant Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[me.labrecque@usask.ca](mailto:me.labrecque@usask.ca)



306-966-8523





My research focuses on enhancing mental health and well-being; specifically in patients living with mental health and addiction disorders, and improving maternal mental health for new mothers.

**Hua Li** RN, BSN, MPH, PhD  
Associate Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[hua.li@usask.ca](mailto:hua.li@usask.ca)



306-966-2158



My research focuses on nurse practitioner education and integration of nurse practitioners into the health care system.

**Janet Luimes** RN (NP), MScN  
Associate Professor – Academic Programming  
Saskatoon Campus



[janet.luimes@usask.ca](mailto:janet.luimes@usask.ca)



306-966-8426





Through community engagement, I work with marginalized populations of women to promote development of agency and empowerment in the face of social injustice and health disparities.

**April Mackey** RN, BSN, MN  
Instructor, Regina Campus



[april.mackey@usask.ca](mailto:april.mackey@usask.ca)



306-337-3819



In my research, I partner with communities to identify health and social priorities and develop collaborative and community driven interventions to address health disparities.

**Geoffrey Maina** RN, BScN, MN, PhD  
Associate Professor, Prince Albert Campus



[geoffrey.maina@usask.ca](mailto:geoffrey.maina@usask.ca)



306-765-3887





I work with community partners, interdisciplinary teams, and people with lived experience to evaluate women's health, mental health, and the HIV/substance use/abuse prevention programs with a larger goal of advancing nursing in a global context and improving the lives of equity-deserving populations like women, youth, and students.

**Sithokozile Maposa** PhD, RN  
Assistant Professor, Prince Albert Campus



[s.maposa@usask.ca](mailto:s.maposa@usask.ca)



306-765-3875





I work with community partners to improve health through community food security, quality housing, and environmental sustainability practices.

**Wanda Martin** RN, BScN, MN, PhD  
Associate Professor, Saskatoon Campus



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306-966-5429





I work with community partners using a strength-based approach to improve the health outcomes of the pediatric population in the area of substance use disorder and oral health.

**Marcella Ogenchuk** BSN, MN, PhD  
Associate Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[marcella.ogenchuk@usask.ca](mailto:marcella.ogenchuk@usask.ca)



306-966-1757





My research is in the area of older adults living with dementia and their family carers. I partner with community organizations to improve the support and care that persons with dementia and their family carers receive in long-term care and acute care settings.

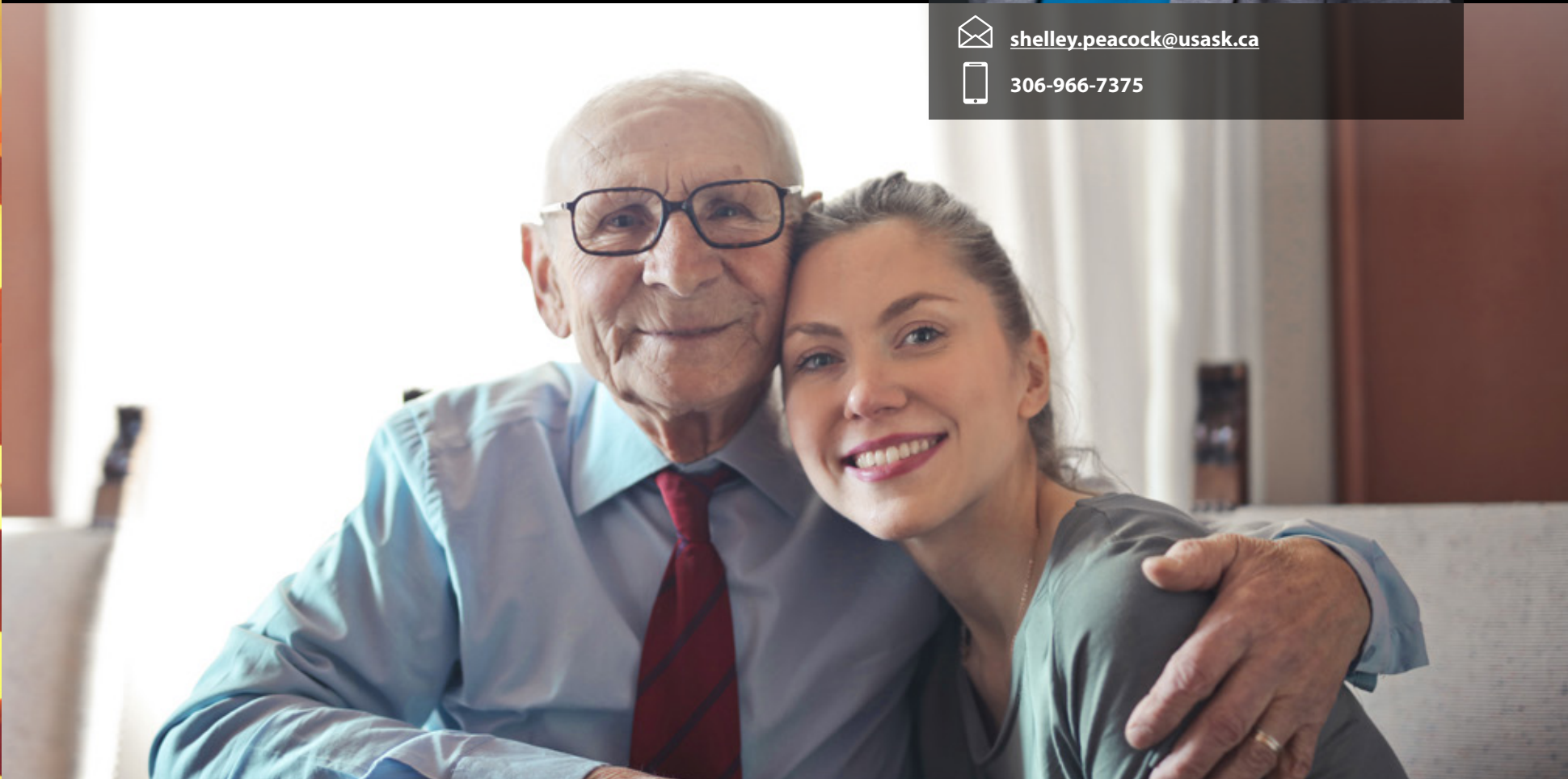
**Shelley Peacock** RN, BSc, BSN, MN, PhD  
Professor, Saskatoon Campus



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306-966-7375



My program of research explores the nature of practice and psychosocial wellbeing of health care professionals who provide care in demanding and under-resourced areas (e.g., palliative and end of life care, rural/remote settings) provincially and nationally.

**Kelly Penz** PhD, RN  
Associate Professor, Regina Campus



[kelly.penz@usask.ca](mailto:kelly.penz@usask.ca)



306-337-3812



# Professional Quality of Life

*“Who Cares for the Caregiver?”*



I conduct research with populations with potential (often seen as vulnerable or marginalized individuals), who are frequently left behind in terms of achievement of health outcomes at local and/or global levels.

**Pammla Petrucka** RN, BScN, MN, PhD  
Professor, Regina Campus



[pammla.petrucka@usask.ca](mailto:pammla.petrucka@usask.ca)



306-337-3811





I work with First Nation and Métis mothers and community partners to promote Indigenous birthing traditions in hospitals, and cultural safety in all clinical care settings in Saskatchewan.

**Carrie Pratt** RN, BSN, MN  
Instructor, Prince Albert Campus



[carrie.pratt@usask.ca](mailto:carrie.pratt@usask.ca)



306-765-3874





My research focuses on the health and well-being of non-Western immigrants and refugees, including children and youth. I am interested in how nursing and health issues intersect with race, gender, and social class to affect equitable access and utilization of health care services.

**Louise Racine** RN, PhD, FTNSS  
Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[louise.racine@usask.ca](mailto:louise.racine@usask.ca)



306-966-6366





My research focuses on the social determinants of health and front-line practices that protect and promote the health of low socioeconomic populations. My current work focuses on the perceptions and lived experiences of how witchcraft impacts Ghanaian belief systems and African newcomers to Canada, as well as improving access and utilization to sexual and reproductive health services for kayayei (head porters) in Ghanaian markets.

**Solina Richter** MCur, DCur, RN  
Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[solina.richter@usask.ca](mailto:solina.richter@usask.ca)



306-966-6222





I am interested in how to mentor and support nursing instructors who teach nursing students in acute healthcare settings.

**Kathy Rodger** RN, MN, BSN, CMSN (C)  
Associate Professor – Academic Programming  
Regina Campus



[kathy.rodger@usask.ca](mailto:kathy.rodger@usask.ca)



306-337-3818





My research focuses on enhancing health service delivery and access to care in an effort to positively impact patient, family, and provider experiences and outcomes within the healthcare system. I have a particular interest in inflammatory bowel disease research.

**Noelle Rohatinsky** RN, MN, PhD, CMSN (C)  
Associate Professor, Saskatoon Campus



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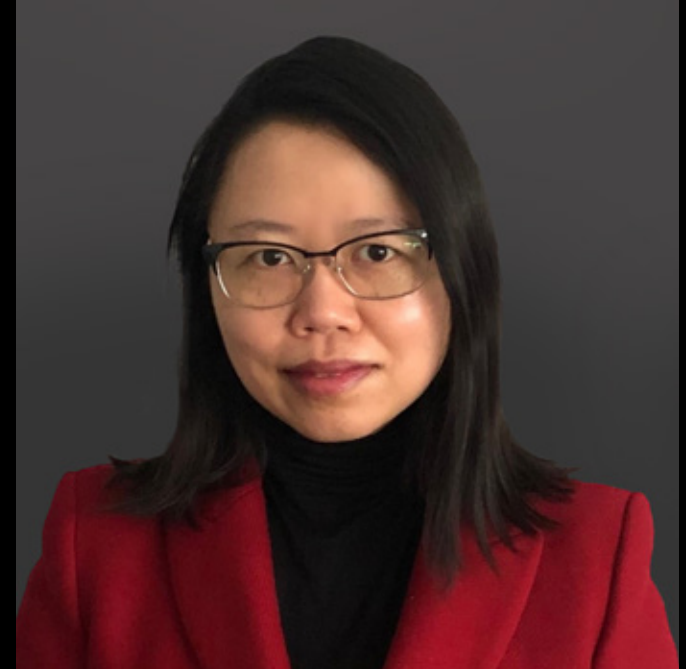
306-966-4096





My research focuses on physical performance measures, falls, and exercise intervention in older adults with cancer, with the goal to promote functional outcomes and quality of life of this population.

**Schroder Sattar** RN, PhD  
Associate Professor, Regina Campus



[schroder.sattar@usask.ca](mailto:schroder.sattar@usask.ca)



306-337-3817





My research is focused on promoting healthy lifestyles in children, adolescents, and their families. My goal is to co-design community-based interventions that will minimize risk of prediabetes and type 2 diabetes, and other co-morbidities (overweight, hypertension) in adolescents.

**Shelley Spurr** BSN, MBA, PhD  
Professor, Saskatoon Campus



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306-966-8663





I work with community partners to improve maternal-child health programs and create better overall health. I am especially interested in improving programs that serve Indigenous families.

**Charlene Thompson** BSN, MPH, PhD  
Assistant Professor, Saskatoon Campus



[charlene.thompson@usask.ca](mailto:charlene.thompson@usask.ca)



306-966-2906





My program of research examines the history of hospitals, health systems, and nursing in Western Canada during the early twentieth century. By tracing the development of Canadian health systems, I aim to inform contemporary thinking about health systems and contribute to discussions on their future evolution.

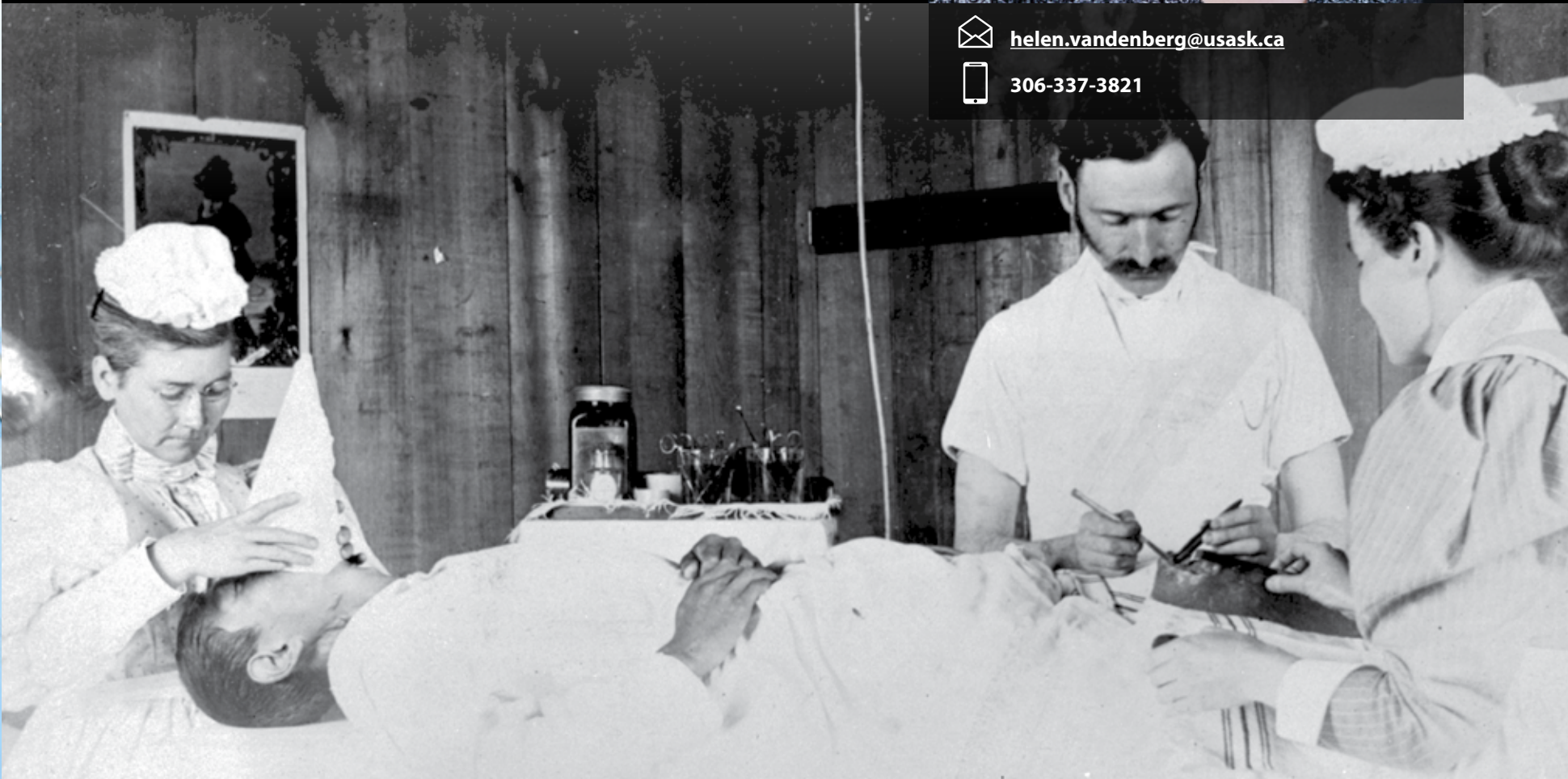
**Helen Vandenberg** RN, PhD  
Associate Professor, Regina Campus



[helen.vandenberg@usask.ca](mailto:helen.vandenberg@usask.ca)



306-337-3821





My research interests are in violence predication, risk assessment, and management for persons who experience mental health challenges.

**Phil Woods** PhD, RPN, RMN  
Professor, Saskatoon Campus



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306-966-6244





## **EMERITAE FACULTY RESEARCH PROFILES**



## Emeritae Faculty Research Profiles

The following Emeritae Faculty have retired from the College of Nursing, but continue to remain active in their areas of research. For more information on the research interests of each emerita, please visit their contact pages on the College of Nursing website.



**June Anonson**  
RN, PhD  
[june.anonson@usask.ca](mailto:june.anonson@usask.ca)



**Sandra Bassendowski**  
BEd, MEd, EdD, RN  
[s.bassendowski@usask.ca](mailto:s.bassendowski@usask.ca)



**Lois Berry**  
RN, BN, MEd, PhD  
[lois.berry@usask.ca](mailto:lois.berry@usask.ca)



**Angela Bowen**  
RN, BSN, MEd, PhD  
[angela.bowen@usask.ca](mailto:angela.bowen@usask.ca)



**Linda Ferguson**  
RN, BSN, PGD (Cont Ed.), MN, PhD  
[linda.ferguson@usask.ca](mailto:linda.ferguson@usask.ca)



**Lorraine Holtslander**  
RN, BSN, MN, PhD, CHPCN  
[lorraine.holtslander@usask.ca](mailto:lorraine.holtslander@usask.ca)



**Cindy Peternelj-Taylor**  
RN, BScN, MSc, DF-IAFN  
[cindy.peternelj-taylor@usask.ca](mailto:cindy.peternelj-taylor@usask.ca)



**Donna Rennie**  
BSN, MN, PhD, CAE  
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**Karen Semchuk**  
RN, PhD  
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