



SCHOLARS & DOLLARS

Welcome to Scholars and Dollars, a monthly Boise State University Department of Nursing newsletter aimed at sharing information regarding nursing scholarship, funding opportunities, and achievements. Your Scholars and Dollars team includes: Marian Graham, editor, Terri Soelberg, and Jeri Bigbee. We welcome input and suggestions. Just contact the editor at mgraham@boisestate.edu.

Funding Agency Highlight

Sigma Theta Tau International Small Research Grant Program

Deadline: December 1, 2009

Funding cap: \$5,000 for a one-year project
This program focuses on applicants with a minimum of a Masters degree. Preference is given to STTI members and 'novice' researchers who have not been yet been funded nationally. Ten to fifteen grants are awarded annually.

Research priorities of Sigma Theta Tau include health promotion, implementation of evidence-based practice, vulnerable populations (not limited to race/ethnicity, includes health status and economic factors), and capacity development for nursing research.

For more information, visit: http://www.nursingsociety.org/Research/SmallGrants/Pages/small_grants.aspx

If you meet the criteria above (especially the funding preferences) and have an idea for a small research project, please contact Terri Soelberg by September 15th for assistance with proposal development and application submission.

Grant/Funding Opportunities

Several clinical research grant opportunities (up to \$15,000 each) are available through the American Association of Critical Care Nurses. Go to <http://www.aacn.org> for more information. Deadline: 10/01/2009

ONS/Sigma Theta Tau International Research Grants. \$10,000 grants to stimulate oncology nursing research. Required letters of intent are due October 1, 2009. Applications are due November 1, 2009. <http://www.ons.org/awards/foundawards/sigma.shtml>

Announcements/Congratulations!

Dr. Cynthia Clark has been accepted for induction into the National League for Nursing (NLN) Academy of Nursing Education. The induction ceremony will take place in September at the NLN Summit annual meeting. The purpose of the NLN Academy of Nursing Education is to foster excellence in nursing education by recognizing and capitalizing on the wisdom of outstanding individuals in and outside the profession who have contributed to nursing education in sustained and significant ways. Fellows are expected to provide visionary leadership in nursing education and in the Academy, and to support the vision of the National League for Nursing.

Ingrid Brudenell Honored by Head Start



Dr. Ingrid Brudenell and Omair Shamim, Health and Nutrition Services Manager for Friends of Families and Children, Head Start.

Dr. Ingrid Brudenell was honored with the "Compassionate Partner of the Year" award from Head Start in June. The award recognizes the service of a volunteer or volunteer group working on behalf of children and families. Dr. Brudenell worked with a group of 10 students to prepare and distribute emergency response guides for centers and develop an emergency response plan for Head Start. Head Start is a federally funded preschool program for children and families with low income. The students who worked with Dr. Brudenell on the project include Joanna Beard, Courtney Brokaw, Charis Douglas, Kenneth Edwards, Christine Foy, Melissa Gorozpe, Adreeanna Scrivner, Heather Taylor, Carmen Vance and Heidi Messengale. Dr. Brudenell has been working with Head Start for five years on various projects.

Calls for Abstracts

Global Health & Innovation Summit, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 17- 18, 2010. Submit an abstract online at <http://www.uniteforsight.org/conference>. The final abstract deadline is September 15.
The Western Institute of Nursing (WIN) 2010 Annual Communicating Nursing Research Conference, April 14-17, 2010 in Glendale, Arizona. Call for Abstracts: <http://www.ohsu.edu/son/win/conference/2010%20Call%20for%20Abstracts.pdf>. Deadline is October 15, 2009.

Mosby's Faculty Development Institute, January 3-5, 2010 in San Diego, CA. To submit an abstract for a poster presentation go to <http://www.contemporaryforums.com/abstracts/default2.aspx?conf=411010>. Deadline: November 15, 2009.

The Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science 2010 State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research, September 27-29, 2010 in Washington, DC. Abstracts are due by January 15, 2010. For more information go to: <http://aan.confex.com/aan/cans10/cfp.cj>.

Journal Profile

Research in Nursing & Health is a general, peer-reviewed, research journal devoted to publication of a wide range of research and theory that will inform the practice of nursing and other health disciplines. The editors invite research reports on nursing practice, education, administration, and history; on health issues relevant to nursing; and on the testing of research findings in practice. Papers on research methods and techniques are appropriate if they go beyond what is already generally available in the literature. Theory papers are accepted if knowledge is advanced; preference is given to papers in which theory is developed, rather than simply reviewed. Integrative reviews of the literature are accepted if gaps in knowledge are identified and directions for future research are provided. Letters to the editor commenting on published articles or research and theory issues are welcome. For author information go to: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/33706/home/ForAuthors.html>.

Research Project Highlight

Title: Promoting the Health of Rural/ Frontier Custodial Grandparents: A Pilot Interventional Study

Amount: \$5,000 (12/08-12/09) (funded by the Jody DeMeyer Endowment)

The purpose of this recently completed pilot study was to provide the groundwork for further interventional research aimed at promoting the health of rural and frontier caregiving grandparents.

Background: Between 2000 and 2006, the number of grandparents raising grandchildren rose nationally 1.2%, but in Idaho during the same period, the number rose 20.7%! Health promotive interventional research with custodial grandparents has been limited, with most intervention programs involving primarily support groups. There has also been very little research focusing specifically on rural or frontier custodial grandparents. Using a nursing approach to health promotion intervention is consistent with the profession's focus on prevention and reinforces the independence and self-sufficiency of rural culture. This pilot study also built on the well documented effectiveness of nurse home visitation as a strategy in producing positive outcomes with high risk families. Adult resilience theory along with Pender's Health Promotion Model served as the conceptual framework for the study.

Methodology: A quantitative longitudinal quasi-experimental design was used, with a purposive sample of 11 caregiving grandparents residing in Owyhee County, Idaho. The assessment measures included the 25-item Resilience Scale, the Health-Promoting Lifestyle Profile II (HPLP), the SF-36 Health Survey, and biophysical measures including height, weight, BMI, total cholesterol, LDL, HDL, blood glucose, and blood pressure. The study was conducted over a six month period, with Barbie Vander Boegh (RN-BSN student), serving as the local research assistant, conducting monthly home visits and providing individualized health promotion interventions.

Results: The results indicated that this sample of frontier grandparents were at significant health risk. The most commonly reported health problems among these grandparents were diabetes, hypertension, hyperlipidemia, and fibromyalgia. Mean Resilience Scale scores were in the moderate category and HPLPII results indicated that the participants were strongest in the areas of spiritual growth, interpersonal relations and stress

management, and lowest in the areas of physical activity, health responsibility and nutrition. SF-36 results indicated that the pilot sample had higher than norm-based mental health scores, but lower than norm-based physical health scores. The initial mean BMI was 31 (obese), systolic blood pressure 133 mmHg, diastolic blood pressure 85 mmHg, HDL 42 mg/dL, and glucose 126 mg/dL. Following the 6-month health promotion nursing intervention, a significant improvement in nutritional practices and diastolic blood pressure levels were found.

The research team is currently applying for NIH funding to support an expanded research study, based on the results of this pilot study. Contact: Jeri Bigbee, PhD, RN or Molly Prengaman, MS, RN for more information.



Doctoral Program Profile

The University of Texas at Tyler College of Nursing on-line PhD program focuses on health in communities within the context of culture. It is built on a model of strengths, enabling nurses to study in the communities in which they reside while preparing them to serve as nurse educators and researchers who impact health locally and translate research findings globally. The program prepares nurse leaders to: 1. Design, conduct, and disseminate research that contributes to the advancement of nursing science, 2. Improve health through the application of evidence-based nursing practice, 3. Incorporate research outcomes to formulate policies pertinent to nursing and health, both nationally and internationally, 4. Construct and implement creative and innovative strategies related to education for nursing and health. The UT Tyler PhD in Nursing program is offered entirely on-line with the exception of a five-day orientation each summer prior to beginning coursework. For more information talk with Pat Lazare (a current UT Tyler PhD student) or go to: <http://www.uttyler.edu/nursing/phd>.

Recent Faculty Publication & Presentations:

- Bigbee, J.L. (2009). The relationship between state health ranking and population density. In *Urban Legends-Rural Dreams: Cultivating Rural Communities in an Urban Era*. Proceedings from the 33rd Annual National Institute on Social Work and Human Services in Rural Areas. Boise, ID.
- Lazare, P. (2009). Welcome to the INA legislative action center. *RN Idaho* 32(2), 9.
- Schrader, V. (2009). Becoming a Fulbright Senior Specialist leads to international opportunity in the Netherlands. *RN Idaho* 32(2), 5.
- Dr. Marty Downey, Dr. Susan Parslow, Carolyn Punt (2009) Poster Presentation—"Reflective Journals As A Source For Evidence-Based Practice". American Holistic Nurses' Association (AHNA) conference, Madison, Wisconsin.

The Department of Nursing was well represented at the **5th International Rural Nursing Conference** in Boise in June.

Presenters included:

- Dr. Sandra Nadelson, "Perceptions of Rural Families with Special Needs Children in Western States"
- Dr. Jeri Bigbee, Pam Gehrke, & Nancy Otterness, "Public Health Nurses in Rural/ Frontier One-Nurse Offices".

If you're interested in developing a manuscript please contact Jeri Bigbee for assistance at 426-2210 or via email

jeribigbee@boisestate.edu



Brown Bag Research Seminar, September 25th 12-1:00 (SN163). Kim Martz and Gail Gerding will be presenting on their current research project, Measuring Collaboration Between Skilled Nursing Facilities and Hospice Agencies.