



BRENDA RECCHIA JEFFERS, PH.D., RN ETHICAL ASPECTS IN NURSING

MENNONITE COLLEGE OF NURSING AT ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

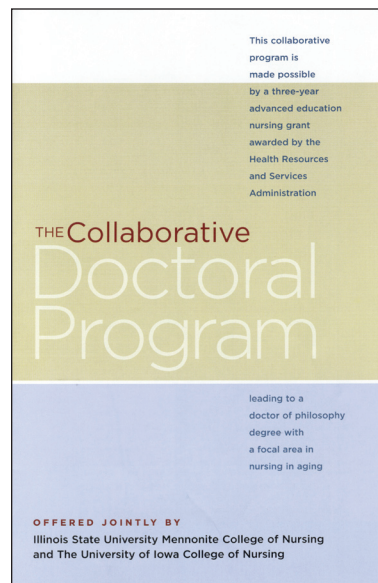
Dr. Brenda Recchia Jeffers is an expert in research ethics and integrity, and specifically ethical aspects of nursing. She has shared her findings related to protection of human participants in research and research integrity, surrogate decision-making, and end of life care in the older adult in a wide range of professional journals and at numerous conferences.

She actively seeks to collaborate with researchers in other disciplines to expand upon her work. Jeffers has partnered with investigators from the University of Iowa College of Nursing and Illinois State University Department of Speech and Audiology to study the healthcare decision-making issues specific to patients with Alzheimer's disease.

Included among her research activities have been federal, regional and state funded projects focused on the older adult. Her background in caring for older adults makes her a perfect fit for doctoral students with similar interests.



LEADING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING DEGREE PROGRAM



Dr. Brenda Recchia Jeffers is the Principal Investigator for the Collaborative Doctoral Program—Focal Area Nursing in Aging, which is made possible by a three-year advanced education nursing grant awarded by the Health Resources and Services Administration. The collaborative degree program, designed to address a critical shortage of nursing faculty, is a collaboration with the University of Iowa College of Nursing.

Students enrolled in this program will be taught by nursing faculty from MCN and the University of Iowa's College of Nursing through a collaborative teaching arrangement using distance learning technology.

As the leader of this project she is guiding the development of a high quality Doctor of Philosophy degree. Pending program approval, Illinois State University will offer the degree starting Fall 2008.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2004 Graduate Program Teaching Excellence Award, Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University
- March 2004-2005
American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Leadership for Academic Nursing Fellow
- Summer 2003
Hartford Summer
- August 2001
American Association of Colleges of Nursing End-of-Life Nursing Consortium
- 1995 Sigma Theta Tau, Nu Pi Chapter, Research Award
- 1991 Shaw-Engler Scholar - St. Louis University
- 1979 Graduation with Honors - University of Illinois

EDUCATION

Dr. Brenda Recchia Jeffers began her nursing education at Lincoln Land Community College where she earned an associates degree in nursing in 1975. She continued her education by earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree in 1979 from the University of Illinois—Urbana.

Another University of Illinois campus, Peoria, was the site of her master's program studies. Jeffers received her M.S. in Medical-Surgical Nursing there in 1984.

A Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Nursing was conferred upon Jeffers by Saint Louis

University in 1995. Her research focus during this time was research methodology.

Since receiving her terminal degree, she has been awarded numerous internships and fellowships to continue to build upon her expertise in the field of research ethics in nursing.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In route to her current role as Director of Graduate Program and Research at Mennonite College of Nursing, Dr. Brenda Recchia Jeffers has worn many professional hats.

Her hospital experience includes staff nurse and staff specialist positions at Passavant Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, Illinois, Abraham Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Lincoln, Illinois and St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Illinois.

In 1986 she began her role as an instructor at St. John's Hospital School of Nursing. And from 1991—1997 she was promoted to assistant professor and then associate professor at the same institution.

After a brief stop serving as coordinator of the nursing program at the Capital Area School of Practical Nursing in Springfield, Illinois, Jeffers found a new home at Mennonite College of Nursing in 1997.

After two years as associate professor she earned graduate faculty status. In 2004 she was named director of graduate program and research. She continues to teach Ethics in Nursing in addition to fulfilling her administrative and research responsibilities. Jeffers will teach doctoral level nursing courses and oversee the doctoral program.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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Professor

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