1. **What is the purpose of the PhD Program?**

   The purpose of the PhD program will prepare nurses with expertise to conduct research in patient care and outcomes, teach in baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs, demonstrate leadership in health policy development, and develop and evaluate models of care for vulnerable populations. Initially, the program will focus on aging populations, but new focal areas will likely be added as faculty expertise develops and the program grows.

2. **How do I apply to the MCN PhD Program?**

   To apply to the PhD program, you should have graduated with a Master of Science in Nursing from a CCNE or NLN-accredited program and had a minimum grade-point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for the last 30 hours of graduate course work. For the application process, please view information available on our website at [http://www.mcn.ilstu.edu/current_students/graduate/doctoral.shtml](http://www.mcn.ilstu.edu/current_students/graduate/doctoral.shtml).

3. **The application requires a personal statement. Who should I talk to for help with writing my personal statement?**

   Create a 2-3 page statement describing your educational objectives and focal research interest and forward it to the MCN Graduate Program office at mlohiki@ilstu.edu. Staff will review the document and determine which MCN faculty member has a similar interest and forward the information to that individual for feedback.

4. **What is the admission deadline for the PhD Program?**

   Applications will be accepted through April 1, 2008 and students will begin classes in the summer 2008 semester. Materials received after these deadlines will be considered on a space-available basis.

5. **How many credit hours are required to complete the PhD program?**

   A 66 semester hours beyond the MSN, distributed among core, focus, statistics and elective courses. A complete plan of study is available at: [http://www.mcn.ilstu.edu/downloads/plan_of_study_0208_001.pdf](http://www.mcn.ilstu.edu/downloads/plan_of_study_0208_001.pdf)
6. **Can I complete the program as a part-time student?**

Yes. Students will be required to take two courses per semester for the 2008-2009 academic year.

7. **Will I need to take courses at the University of Iowa?**

Yes. For the 2008-2009 academic year, students admitted into the program will take some core courses at the University of Iowa. Distance technology will be utilized to minimize travel.

8. **What is the tuition per credit hour?**

You can find information about ISU graduate tuition rates by going to: [http://www.comptroller.ilstu.edu/studentaccounts/tuition-rates/](http://www.comptroller.ilstu.edu/studentaccounts/tuition-rates/)

9. **Where can I find information on financial aid?**

A variety of scholarships and financial assistance are available to students who qualify to defray costs of the program. Information about financial aid can be found at: [http://www.mcn.ilstu.edu/current_students/graduate/do...](http://www.mcn.ilstu.edu/current_students/graduate/do...)

10. **What events are scheduled for learning more about the MCN doctoral program?**

   Wednesday, March 12, 2008 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.: Mennonite College of Nursing will host an Informational Meeting to discuss the PhD program. You can find information about the Informational Meeting by going to MCN calendar at [www.mcn.ilstu.edu](http://www.mcn.ilstu.edu).

11. **Who do I contact for more information?**

    MCN Graduate Program Office at 309-438-2463 or [mcninfo-l@ilstu.edu](mailto:mcninfo-l@ilstu.edu).