Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University
Faculty and Areas of Interest

Tenured Faculty

**Sara L. Campbell, DNS, RN, CNAA, BC:** Professor. Leadership; gerontology; quality care initiative aimed at improving care and outcomes of nursing home residents; and exploring the influence of “attractiveness” in long-term care. **Current Projects:** The Joe Warner Teaching Nursing Home Expanding the Teaching Nursing Home across the State of Illinois, examining the use of a conceptual model of attractiveness for improving quality of care in nursing homes. (slcampb2@ilstu.edu)

**Mary J. Dyck, PhD, RNC, LNHA:** Assistant Professor. Gerontology Research Focus: Quality of care in nursing homes, administrative issues in nursing homes. **Current Projects:** Educational needs assessment of Illinois nursing home directors of nursing, UTI and delirium in nursing home residents, Gerontological Clinical Simulation Laboratory. (mjdyck@ilstu.edu)

**Susan Kossman, PhD, RN:** Associate Professor. Nursing and consumer informatics. **Current Projects:** Using information technology to increase self-management of chronic illness, improve continuity of care across care settings, and address health disparity issues. Impact of Electronic Health Records on nurses’ work and patient outcomes. People’s use of personal health information. (skossm@ilstu.edu)

**Janet Krejci, PhD, RN:** Dean, Professor. Nursing education and leadership development so nurses at all levels may be equipped to redesign and improve the health care system, allowing vulnerable humans to better access quality care. (jkrejci@ilstu.edu)

**Caroline Mallory, PhD, RN:** Associate Professor. Dr. Mallory conducts research related to the prevention of the HIV/AIDS among women marginalized by race/ethnicity, poverty, drug use, and trading sex. Her research program has two components, exploratory research and intervention/experimental research. The exploratory research concentrates on developing health behavior theory that helps explain why women engage in risky behavior that may result in exposure to HIV. The interventions arm of the program is presently focused on pilot testing interventions to prevent HIV infection among women exiting county detention and substance abuse treatment centers. (cmmallo@ilstu.edu)

**Denise Wilson, PhD, APN, CNP:** Associate Professor. Family and Adult Nurse Practitioner. Quality of care; Evidence-based practice; Clinical decision-making of advanced practice nurses; lab and diagnostic testing. **Current Projects:** Primary care providers’ use of evidence-based guidelines; primary care providers’ decision-making in care of elderly. (ddwilso2@ilstu.edu)

Tenure Track Faculty

**Kim Astroth, PhD, RN:** Assistant Professor. Medical/Surgical Nursing. Adherence in women, hypertension. **Current Projects:** Measuring exercise adherence (Stages of Change) in women with High, Normal, and Stage 1 Hypertension, tobacco cessation. (kmastro@ilstu.edu)

**Marcena L. Gabrielson, PhD, RN:** Assistant Professor. Interest: Gerontological nursing; Qualitative methods. Focus: Vulnerable populations, health and health care disparities of marginalized
Ezra C. Holston, PhD, RN: Assistant Professor, Gerontology Research Focus: Examine molecular mechanisms related to the onset and progression (Specifically the early stages) of Alzheimer’s disease (AD), (2) explore biological mechanisms to improve the screening, diagnosing, and prognosis of AD, (3) investigate the relationship among ethnicity, genes, and electrophysiology in AD, and (4) examine the electrophysiological and molecular changes in limbic system neurotransmitter receptors associated with the cognitive, behavioral, and functional systems of AD. Current Projects: Developing manuscripts related to an electrophysiological profile for Alzheimer’s disease, identifying abnormal electrophysiological features that are associated with poor functioning in the elderly, and diabetes management in the aging; developing grants to examine the association between limbic system genes and theta activity in the elderly with and without a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease; and co-developing research proposal on interventions to treat victims and survivors of intimate partner violence.

(echolst@ilstu.edu)

Sheryl Jenkins, PhD, RN, MSN: Assistant Professor. Research Focus: critical thinking, clinical decision-making, rapid response teams, and civility/social capital. Current Projects: Civility/social capital among nursing students, clinical decision-making of nursing students in simulated rapid response situations, and clinical decision-making of nurses in calling the rapid response team.

(sjenkin@ilstu.edu)

Cindy Kerber, PhD, APRN, BC: Assistant Professor. Gero-psychiatric Research Focus: Older adults both community dwelling, assisted and long term care with mental health concerns. Current Projects: Gambling and perceived health among incarcerated older adults, perceived health among community-dwelling pathological gamblers, and disrupted sleep among nursing home residents.

(ckerber@ilstu.edu)


(mkim2@ilstu.edu)


(pllinds@ilstu.edu)

Wendy Woith, PhD, RN: Assistant Professor. International Nursing and health, Tuberculosis, Treatment adherence, and Stigma. health care workers’ knowledge of tuberculosis infection control to the list. Current Projects: collaborating with colleagues in Russia on the development of a project that will be conducted in three phases. Phase 1 is designed to obtain data that will be used to identify learning needs of Russian health care workers in TB facilities related to the pathophysiology, transmission, and treatment of tuberculosis, as well as barriers, supports, and motivators to use of infection control measures. In Phase 2 a peer group intervention will be designed and piloted. The peer group intervention will be implemented and evaluated in Phase 3.

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