



SOUTHERN CONNECTIONS

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Demetrius Porche

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Connections
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Charleen McNeill,
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President's Pen Demetrius Porche, DNS, PhD, ANEF, FACHE, FAANP, FAAN



As I assume the Presidency of SNRS, it is a privilege to continue to serve our prestigious nursing research society. It has been my pleasure to work under the mentorship of Dr. Nan Smith Blair for the past two years and with the dedicated SNRS Board of Directors. Dr. Smith Blair has ensured that SNRS maintained a positive trajectory of growth and development with a stable financial base. As your President, I want to ensure that SNRS remains relevant to our membership and strategically focused on membership engagement.

To establish an organizational infrastructure for continued relevance, our Board of Directors will develop organizational tenets that provide the framework to guide generative organizational decisions and determine strategic SNRS initiatives. Our Board will focus on developing core values, core business functions, organizational behaviors, and key relationships. SNRS Board of Directors will analyze membership, the annual conference, and other evaluative data to ensure membership relevance and guide SNRS initiatives. It is

our desire to enrich our membership base while engaging nursing schools/colleges, industry representatives, and other professional organizations. We anticipate activities to provide opportunities for year long membership engagement. Membership engagement may include but will not be limited to webinars and Research Interest Group (RIG) activities. SNRS will also serve as your "southern voice for nursing research." We anticipate engaging in policy statements to support the advancement of nursing research in the South.

It is my pleasure to serve as your leader for the next two years. The achievement of our vision is dependent upon all our members working synergistically. As Dr. Nan Smith Blair stated in her introductory President's Pen message in the Spring of 2016, "when we work synergistically, all of our members are working together and we can accomplish more than we can alone."

Respectfully,
Demetrius Porche, DNS, PhD, ANEF,
FACHE, FAANP, FAAN
President, SNRS

Editors' Notes

Dear Members of SNRS,

The 2018 SNRS Conference was entitled, "Expanding Nursing Science in Population and Global Health." As I listened to Dr. Baernholdt speak of "Expanding Nursing Science in Global Rural Healthcare Quality" and her use of the word "ubuntu", meaning "I am what I am because of who we are," I had a moment of clarity. In nursing, we guide the future of our art, our science. As nurse scientists, we are the rudder of the proverbial ship, guiding the course of the future of nursing. Truly, we are what we are because of who we are. As professionals, researchers, and scientists, it is our responsibility to guide nurse science, expanding it within all aspects of healthcare in novel ways to reach the most vulnerable among us. The impact of what we do is far reaching and we must remember its importance. As I visited all the research posters, sessions, and workshops, I was struck by the importance of attendance at SNRS conferences. These important conferences serve as a touchstone for our science and renew and rejuvenate the spirit of inquiry burning within each of us. So, my take away from the 2017 SNRS Conference is UBUNTU!

Charleen McNeill, PhD, RN
East Carolina University

Associate Editor

Like Charleen, I was so impressed by the quality of research and presentations featured at our SNRS meeting in Atlanta, showcasing nurse scientists working hard to improve health outcomes for so many people and to steer the field into the future. I especially appreciated the efforts of the organizers of the Community Town Hall Atlanta: A Bridge to Engage Community Members and Researchers. They brought the opioid crisis to a local level by including local speakers and researchers, as well as SNRS members. The problems the presenters discussed and the solutions they surfaced, however, went beyond local into models that could be replicated and adapted across the country. Seeing the local face of our organization so deeply tied to national issues was inspiring. Attending our SNRS conference is a way to stay in touch with each other and with emerging research - all of which can invigorate us to continue striving to support better health for all, locally and globally.

Maryellen Potts, PhD
University of Kansas
Editor

2018 Annual Conference

Awards and Grants Awarded at the SNRS 2018 Annual Conference

2017 SNRS Award Winners

Distinguished Researcher

Marcia Holstad
Emory University

Leadership in Research

Jeannette Andrews
University of South Carolina

Research in Minority Health

Gaynell Magwood
Medical University of South Carolina

Mid-Career Researcher

Tracey Yap
Duke University

Early Science Investigator

Julie Ann Zuniga
University of Texas at Austin

RINAH Authorship

Debra Brandon
Duke University

Clinical Researcher

May Lou Affronti
Duke University

2017 SNRS Grant Recipients**STTI/SNRS Grant:**

Patricia B. Wright, PhD, MPH, RN
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences
Title: A Pilot Study of Barriers and Facilitators to Utilizing
Antagonist Medication-Assisted Treatment from the
Perspectives of Persons Seeking Treatment for
Prescription Opioid Use Disorder

SNRS Dissertation Grant:

Whitney Thurman, RN, MSN
University of Texas at Austin
Title: A Grounded Theory Study of Adults with Disabilities
Living in Rural Texas

CANS/SNRS Dissertation Grant:

Karen Trister Grace, PhDc, MSN, CNM
Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing
Title: Exploring Correlates of Reproductive Coercion
among Low-Income Latina Women

SNRS Research Grant:

Theresa Wadas, PhDc, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Title: Telomere Length, Cardiometabolic Risk, and
Psychosocial Factors among African American Women

SNRS/ANF Scholar:

Jinbing Bai, PhD, MSN, RN
Emory University
Title: The Gut Microbiome and Gastrointestinal Symptoms
in Children with Sarcoma After Chemotherapy: A Case-
Control Study

SNRS/NLN Grant:

Kelly Dyar, Ed.D(c), MSN, RN, CNN, CNE
University of West Georgia
Title: Phenomenological Exploration of Male Combat
Veterans in Baccalaureate Degree Nursing Programs
Julie Ann Zuniga
University of Texas at Austin

2018 Community Town Hall

The second Community Town Hall featured at the 2018 SNRS Conference in Atlanta was hosted by the Minority Health and Community/Public Health Research Interest Groups (RIGs) of SNRS on Wednesday, March 21, at the Glenn Auditorium, Emory University Hospital Midtown. The community event brought together local representatives from public health, law enforcement, and researchers to discuss the topic of "Community Members and Researchers Addressing the Opioid Crisis." RIG co-chairs Kristen Rawlett, Melodie Waller, Gaynelle Magwood, and Jen Collins were organizers of this event, along with Tracie Kirkland, a contributing member. Mary Gullatte of Emory University with the Minority Health RIG was also a key organizer.

While waiting for the conversations to begin, I spoke to a nurse sitting next to me from a hospital in an Atlanta suburb. She hoped to get information that would help her help those on her team learn more about how to deal with the opioid crisis and what were the local points of contact.

The speakers addressed her concerns: The session opened with words from Cindy Munro, PhD, RN, SNRS past president, and Elizabeth Corwin, PhD, RN, associate dean for research at Emory University. The baton passed to Jim Lankford, MBA, the executive director of the Georgia Drug Prevention Project; Jen Collins, PhD, RN, from Texas Tech University and co-chair of SNRS Community/ Public Health RIG; Lt. William Ricker from the Atlanta Police Department, and L. Lerissa Smith, MPH, a research associate with the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta and a member of the Southeast Addiction Treatment Transfer Center (SATTC).

Jim Lankford described the prevention activities and statewide initiatives in reducing the use of dangerous substances among youth, moving from methamphetamine in 2010 to opioids and heroin today. The mission now is to educate young people about opioid and heroin addiction and to offer substance abuse training programs to educators.

Jen Collins began with the poignant question from an African saying that assessed the health of a community: "And how are the children?" She spoke about the effects of the opioid crisis on children - children of parents who were addicted and who lost custody, children who were removed from the parental home into foster care, and the costs to those young lives. She pointed out that the effects of adverse events in childhood carried over into

adulthood, and that these children needed a social network to help them cope.

Lt. William Ricker of the Atlanta police spoke about the shift in narrative for himself and other law enforcement officers regarding people who were in crisis with opioids - he previously believed, "Why try to fix them if they don't want to be fixed?" But carrying Narcan in his vehicle and assisting people in overdose changed his mind about his job, making him realize that addiction was not really controllable by the patient. He noted one story where he stopped to help a young man in a suit who was in a neighborhood he likely shouldn't have been in, and who was turning blue. Ricker recognized the signs of O.D. and as he administered the Narcan, the young man's cell phone rang - it was his mother, asking if he had made it safely to Florida after leaving rehab in Atlanta.

Lerissa Smith brought to our attention the social determinants of health and the fact that drugs are used in early days for a specific purpose; users have the intention, for example, to mitigate social anxiety or a sports injury. These issues are different, she stressed, from other problem behaviors or mental health issues. She noted, however, that mental health and substance abuse are often linked. Medical students need to change their prescribing practices for opioids.

A beautiful Easter-themed reception rounded off the evening where community partners and members of the audience networked with each other, creating new ties and opportunities for collaboration.

--Maryellen Potts, Editor

Passing of the Gavel



Thanks for your outstanding leadership, Nan Smith Blair, PhD, RN, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville.

We look forward to more outstanding leadership from Demetrius Porche, DNS,

PhD, ANEF, FACHE, FAANP, FAAN, Louisiana State University Health, New Orleans School of Nursing.

RIG Corner

The Research in Clinical Settings RIG has been working on ways to encourage and highlight the work being done by our members in healthcare facilities. In 2017, we held two pre-conference sessions.

The first pre-conference session, "Models and Roles of Research in Clinical Settings: Theoretical Considerations on Getting and Keeping Your 'Foot in the Door,'" focused on providing an overview for research in clinical settings, highlighting the diversity in settings and the effect of the Magnet recognition program®. After a discussion on academic partnerships, the pre-conference session concluded with a panel of experts from academia and clinical settings who conduct clinical research.

The second pre-conference session, "The Nuts and Bolts of Advancing Research in Clinical Settings: Anticipating, Navigating, and Resolving Challenges," concentrated on legal and regulatory aspects of clinical research, including compliance issues, access for non-employees, data ownership, and institutional review issues. This pre-conference session also featured a panel of experts with various levels of experience in conducting research in clinical settings. They discussed the benefits and challenges that they experienced conducting research.

Future work for the RIG includes working on community outreach and engaging nurses in clinical settings to become more involved in conducting their own research.

Senior Researcher Spotlight Holstad honored as SNRS Distinguished Researcher 2017

Marcia Holstad, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN, professor at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, is the 2017 Distinguished Researcher award recipient. She is Director of Clinical and Social Science Integration for the Center for AIDS Research (CFAR) at Emory University, one of the few nurses with both an administrative and collaborative role within CFAR.

Dr. Holstad has made advances in nursing education and clinical care for people living with HIV and AIDS for over 20 years. Her research focuses on improving self-management for people living with HIV/AIDS and stresses adhering to medication, reducing risk behaviors, obtaining early referral to palliative care, and aging with HIV/AIDS. In 2014, Holstad served as the co-PI of an NIA/NIH-funded interdisciplinary national conference, "HIV and Aging: From the Mitochondria to the Metropolis." Now in its third year, the conference focuses on



the intersection of gerontology/geriatrics and HIV in order to foster collaborations in research. (adapted from Emory News Center)

1. What inspired you to become a nurse scientist?

My main reason to do research is to make a difference in people's lives on a larger scale. I have been a nurse practitioner since 1976 and still practice, providing primary care to HIV positive women. Clinical practice is very rewarding; however, you make a difference one person at a time. Research findings can translate to changes in practice or policy and affect groups of people.

2. What advice do you have for future nurse scientist researchers?

- Find a great mentor and follow their advice; surround yourself with a village of scholars.
- Be persistent; it often takes more than one try to be successful with your scholarship (publications, grant funding). Take constructive criticism and use that to improve your work.
- Find your creative side and incorporate creativity into research ideas.
- Stay on the edge -- novel and different research ideas enhance potential for funding.
- Think in terms of three's in terms of building on projects: 1) current project, 2) project in revision, 3) future project.
- Enjoy life and keep a reasonable work-life balance.

SNRS Student Network News



Malissa Mulkey, a third year PhD student studying the assessment of delirium at East Carolina University, is the new Student Network Coordinator for SNRS. She works as a Neurosciences Clinical Nurse Specialist at the Duke University Medical Center.

Why did you accept this position?

I accepted it because SNRS is extremely supportive of students, especially PhD students. Being a member of SNRS gives me and other students an opportunity to network and learn beyond our specialty areas. It is important for PhD students to take an active part and promote activities that will move us ahead in our studies and career.

What do you hope to accomplish over the course of your term?

For those students who attend SNRS, they can find experts in areas outside their specialty through networking who are from different colleges, and have different backgrounds and expertise. This networking is important because I believe our dissertation committees should be multidisciplinary; it gives you broader knowledge and perspective from different academic settings and brings other skill sets to the table. For example, on my committee, I have a neuro-electrical engineer, a

psychologist, and a statistician who are outside my college of nursing. We should think more broadly than just our college.

Why is being a member of SNRS important to you?

Being a member gets you out of your niche and forces you to think about research outside of your expertise and area. The phenomenon may not be the same as you are studying but the underlying frameworks may be and that will give us new perspectives on our work. We get to see many types of research that in turn broadens our perspectives on our own work. I encourage all students to not just to be a member of SNRS, but be an active member!

SNRS Student Spotlight Chante Washington-Oates, PhD, BSN, RN

Chante Washington-Oates, BSN, RN is a new Ph.D. graduate of the University of Miami's School of Nursing and Health Studies. She successfully defended her dissertation, "Protective Multi-Level Factors in Adolescents of Mothers with Mental Disorders" in December 2017 and her degree was conferred in May, 2018.

She received her BSN (2007) from the University of Miami's School of Nursing and Health Studies. She is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society and the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Cohort.



Minority health disparities inspired Chante to conduct research aimed at improving the well-being of minorities. Her dissertation examining multi-level protective factors among adolescents of mothers with mental disorders, including substance use, informed her first-place award winning 2018 SNRS conference poster presentation, "Parenting as a Protective Factor among Adolescents of Mothers with Mental and Substance Use Disorders." The dissertation was ancillary to an NIH-funded randomized clinical trial (grant P60MD002266) which tested "Healthy Home," a nurse-led, family-strengthening, home-health intervention. Her dissertation suggested that adolescent self-management strategies and mother's involvement protected youth's mental well-being and was awarded the Beta Tau Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International Graduate Research Award.

Currently, she is working on a grant proposal to NIH. Her research agenda includes multi-phase intervention development to improve adolescent and family well-being by promoting individual and family self-management and caregiver involvement among vulnerable families, e.g. families affected by mental and substance use epidemics.

She plans to use her research to develop community agencies that provide efficacious, evidence-based, protective-focused interventions.

Save the Date!



The 33rd Annual SNRS Conference will be held from February 27 - March 2, 2019 in Orlando, FL at the beautiful Rosen Centre Hotel. We wish to thank next year's sponsors: the University of Florida, the University of Miami, the University of Central Florida, and the University of South Florida. Get ready for another outstanding, energizing conference next year!

Southern Nursing Research Society, 10200 W 44th Avenue, Suite 304, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033