

**University of Central Florida
College of Nursing
Faculty Research Expertise
2009-2010**

<p>Nancy Ahern nahern@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Adolescent resilience, maternal-fetal attachment, web-based learning, cultural competence</p>
<p>Allred, Kelly kallred@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Pain management and the effectiveness of nursing intervention in adults. Theory testing, related to pain management. Improving clinical outcomes.</p>
<p>Andrews, Diane Andrews@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Environmental and worker analysis to gauge the impact and outcomes associated with employment within health care settings, particularly in light of current workforce projections. Special interest in the physical and psychological stressors associated with work in a health care environment and the coping response of individuals to those stressors. Health services research including the dissemination and implementation of nursing research. Health systems and policy research.</p>
<p>Aroian, Karen karoian@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Stress, coping and adaptation, immigrant and minority health, health care access and utilization, qualitative and multi-method research, instrument development</p>
<p>Ark, Pamela park@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Health risk behaviors and coping strategies of children/adolescents. Family Fitness and Nutrition Lifestyle Intervention. Religious coping styles, religiosity, life stressors, and health service use among elders. Community health/public health nursing aggregate studies</p>
<p>Blackwell, Christopher cblackw@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Health disparities among gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender clients, including issues related to HIV/AIDS, sexually-transmitted infections, substance abuse, and mental health, cancer, workplace discrimination, and social inequity. Currently completing a regional study examining gay men's baseline knowledge and attitudes toward anorectal carcinoma screening and their knowledge regarding the relationship between HPV infection and anorectal cancers.</p>

<p>Bushy, Angeline abushy@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Rural and community/public health studies. Critical Access Hospitals' nurses educational needs. Factors that influence students in nursing educational programs to choose rural practice settings. Studies related to nursing in the military. Qualitative studies including historical studies Qualitative approaches with vulnerable populations.</p>
<p>Byers, Jacqueline jbyers@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Strategies to decrease physiological and psychological stress in the acute care environment (neonatal to elderly patients and families) Cardiac and respiratory critical care outcomes research. Health services research Health systems and policy research Patient safety and work environment research</p>
<p>Chase, Susan chase@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Decision-making by nurses, nurse practitioners, patients and families; faith-based nursing.</p>
<p>Covelli, Maureen covelli@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Blood pressure and hypertension in African American adolescents (14-18 years) The relationship of low birth weight to blood pressure and salivary cortisol changes. The relationship of family history of hypertension to blood pressure and salivary cortisol changes. Physiological risk factors and biological markers of hypertension Salivary cortisol measurements Prenatal health and birth weight The effect of nutrition and exercise programs on blood pressure and salivary cortisol levels. The effect of a school based intervention program for adolescents with above normal or high blood pressures.</p>
<p>Dennis, Karen kdennis@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Obesity and sedentariness as risk factors for cardiovascular disease and the corresponding lifestyle modifications (weight loss and exercise) to mediate these risks. “Home vs. Center-based Weight Loss and Exercise in Menopause” evaluates the effectiveness of home-based weight loss/exercise interventions on an individual basis in contrast to traditional group sessions at a central facility. Funded by NIH/NINR. “Get Active Orlando” establishes innovative approaches to increase</p>

<p>Dennis, Karen kdennis@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>physical activity through community design, public policies, and communications strategies. Funded by NIH/NHLBI with ARRA (stimulus) funds to UCF and the Robert Woods Johnson Foundation to the City of Orlando.</p>
<p>Desmarais, Paul pdesmara@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Cardiovascular diseases and cardiac rehabilitation.</p>
<p>Kijek, Jean kijek@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Therapeutic touch – Effectiveness and outcomes. Complementary health practices related to subtle energies. International and global perspectives of health and nursing (primarily Eastern Europe and countries of the former Soviet Union). People with Alzheimer’s Disease and their caregivers.</p>
<p>Leuner, Jean jleuner@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Educational research, critical thinking and diagnostic reasoning, quality of life, breast cancer and information fluency.</p>
<p>Loerzel, Victoria vloerzel@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Quality of Life; Survivorship issues Older women; Breast Cancer; Ovarian Cancer Mixed methods; Qualitative methods</p>
<p>Norris, Anne anorris@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Public health issues, particularly immigrant and minority health; Statistics and research methods, including measurement; and Utilization of computer-based gaming technology to teach wellness and prevention topics.</p>
<p>Rash, Elizabeth erash@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Health promotion and behavior change. Currently working on a pilot study assessing an adaptation of motivational interviewing on self-efficacy, outcome expectancies and physical activity in a group of hypertensive women between the ages of 40-60.</p>
<p>Ruland, Judy jruland@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Educational research in the areas of program evaluation, effect of curricula on learning outcomes, efficacy of classroom environment on personal engagement and critical thinking, information fluency and evidence-based practice and writing and reflection as tools for fostering critical thinking.</p>

<p>Sole, Mary Lou msole@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Assessment and application of technology and physiological monitoring in the clinical setting and classroom. Airway management of mechanically-ventilated patients; prevention of ventilator-associated pneumonia. Web-based triage in a college-health setting. Process improvement and outcomes of critical illness, including infection prevention. Simulation and Web-based learning.</p>
<p>Talbert, Steve stalbert@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Trauma, emergency and transport services, clinical decision support.</p>
<p>Wink, Diane wink@mail.ucf.edu</p>	<p>Clinical teaching-process and outcomes. Outcomes in primary care.</p>