



### **Doctoral Faculty – Research Interests and Dissertation Chair Eligibility**

**PATRICIA BRADLEY, PhD, RN, FAAN** (Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence and Associate Professor). Dr. Bradley is a leading expert in psychiatric mental health nursing. She has a particular expertise in the psychosocial aspects of breast cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship among African American women, and has developed training programs and materials focusing on the needs of the African American community. She also has a strong interest in diversity and developing cultural competency in healthcare providers and eliminating disparities in the health problems of the underserved.

**LINDA CARMAN COPEL, PhD, MSMFT, RN, PMHCNS, BC, CNE, ANEF, NCC, CGP, FAPA** (Professor). Dr. Copel received a BSN from the University of Delaware, an MSN (in Adult Health Advanced Clinical Practice/Education) from the University of Texas at Arlington, an MSMFT (in Marriage and Family Therapy) from Texas Woman's University, and a PhD (in Nursing Research and Theory Development/Psychology) from Texas Women's University. Her clinical areas are Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing, Adult Health Nursing, Community Mental Health and Individual, Group, Marriage and Family Therapy. She is certified as an Advanced Practice Nurse in adult psychiatric mental health nursing by the American Nurses Association Nursing Credentialing Center, as a National Certified Counselor by the National Board for Certified Counselors, as a Family Life Educator by the National Council for Family Relations, as a Certified Bereavement Counselor with Palliative Care Certification by the American Academy of Bereavement, as a Certified Group Psychotherapist by the International Group Psychotherapy Association, and as a Certified Trauma Psychotherapist by the American Psychological Association. In addition, she has earned the designation of Fellow in Psychotherapy and Fellow in the Psychological Specialty of Trauma by the American Psychotherapy Association. She has completed research on intimate partner violence, trauma, stigma, mental health, and women's health issues. She has conducted research using quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods.

**ELIZABETH B. DOWDELL, PhD, RN, AFN-C, FAAN** (Professor). Dr. Dowdell received a BSN from Vanderbilt University, an MS (in Nursing – dual focus: clinical specialist and pediatric nurse practitioner) from Boston College, and PhD. from the University of Pennsylvania. Her clinical area is Pediatrics, Maternal/Child Health Nursing, and she is certified as a forensic nurse. She has completed research in the areas of health risk behaviors, grandmother care givers, child/adolescent exposure to violence, pediatric health and nutrition knowledge, and child maltreatment. She is currently continuing her research with children, adolescents, care givers, issues of violence and trauma.

**SUNNY G. HALLOWELL, PhD, APRN-BC, PPCNP-BC** (Associate Professor). Dr. Hallowell earned BS (Environmental Science and Biology) and BSN degrees from the University of Toronto in Toronto, Canada and continued her studies to earn her MSN (Acute Care Pediatrics) and PhD (Nursing) degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her postdoctoral work in Advanced Training in Nursing Outcomes Research at the Center for Health Outcomes Research where she is a Senior Fellow. She is trained as a health services researcher

with expertise in the nursing workforce and work environment. Dr. Hallowell investigates the impact of the nursing workforce on pediatric health outcomes (growth and development, brain development) in hospitals, at home, and in the community. Her current work focuses on school safety (firearms safety), educational innovation (virtual games, simulation), and pediatric health system outcomes associated with the nursing workforce (work environment, staffing, education).

**ANDREA HOLLINGSWORTH, PhD, RN** (Fellow). Dr. Hollingsworth received a BSN from Villanova University, and an MSN from the University of Pennsylvania and a PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Pennsylvania. Her clinical area is health care of women. She has conducted funded research in this field and is widely published. She has had a career in nursing education both as a faculty member and as an administrator. She is the Dean Emerita of the Frances M. Maguire School of Nursing and Health Professions of Gwynedd Mercy University. Her areas of interest are nursing education, curriculum and instruction, health care of women and health and public policy. She was recognized by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing as Advocate of the Year in 2018 for her work in government affairs for the organization and nursing education.

**MICHELLE M. KELLY, PhD, CRNP, CNE** (Professor). Dr. Kelly received her BSN and PhD from Villanova University, MSN as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner from University of Pennsylvania, and postmasters Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Certificate from Thomas Jefferson University. She is dual certified as a pediatric and neonatal nurse practitioner. Her clinical expertise includes both acute and primary care of infants and children, with a focus on children born prematurely. Michelle completed a post-doctoral fellowship with Dr. Mary Sullivan and the RHODE STUDY: Allostatic Load and Epigenetic Mechanisms in Lifecourse Trajectories of Premature Infants at Age 30 [NIH NINR R01 NR018147]. Her program of research focuses on the life-course outcomes of preterm birth survivors, including neurodevelopmental, physical, mental/behavioral and perception of health. She is the Co-Director of the Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment, providing education and consultation to healthcare professionals, communities and families. Additional research interests include the education and professional development of nurses and nurse practitioners.

**SUSAN KILROY, PhD, RN, CHSE** (Professor). Dr. Kilroy is the Inaugural Kreider Endowed Professor in Healthcare Simulation and Innovation. Dr. Kilroy comes to us from Temple University School of Public Health where she was an Associate Professor and Director of The Paley Interprofessional Simulation Lab and previously from the University of Illinois Chicago as the Director of the M. Christine Schwartz Experiential Simulation Lab where she collaborated with leadership to open the new 15,000 square foot simulation space. Dr. Kilroy earned her BSN from Villanova, her MSN from Gonzaga, and her PhD from University of Illinois, Chicago. Her nursing background includes time in NICU, PICU, and Pediatric transport team. Her research utilizes simulation-based education to evaluate interprofessional collaborative practice behaviors, nursing clinical skills, and community indicators such as bias, racism, and social determinants of health when caring for underserved populations. Dr. Kilroy is a certified healthcare simulation educator (CHSE) and is the Chair of the pediatric section for the Society for Simulation in Healthcare. She is enthusiastic about advancing nursing science through simulation-based education and collaborations with underserved communities.

**BETTE MARIANI, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN** (Vice Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor). Dr. Mariani received her BSN from Villanova University, her MSN from the University of Pennsylvania and her PhD in Nursing with a focus on nursing education from Widener University. Dr. Mariani's area of scholarship is focused on educational strategies and advancing the science of nursing education through simulation to improve student learning outcomes such as clinical judgement and decision making and quality outcomes for

people throughout various healthcare settings, as well as in the community. Dr. Mariani also has experience in instrument development and psychometric testing and has developed several instruments. Dr. Mariani has worked with nursing students in global clinical sites. Additionally, Dr. Mariani has studied the effects of mentoring on nursing and nursing faculty.

**DEBORAH K. MAYER, PhD, RN, AOCN, FAAN** (Fellow and Emerita). Dr. Mayer is an advanced practice oncology nurse who has consulted with organizations on issues to improve cancer care and has 50 years of cancer nursing practice, education, research, management, and health policy experiences. Dr. Mayer earned a PhD from the University of Utah, her MSN from Yale University, her BSN from Excelsior College, her Nurse Practitioner Certificate from the University of Maryland, and her diploma from Pennsylvania Hospital School of Nursing. Dr. Mayer served as the Editor for the ONS' Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing and has published over 200 articles and book chapters on oncology and oncology nursing issues. Her research program focuses on the issues facing cancer survivors and improving cancer care. She has extensive research expertise using quantitative research designs and methods and extensive experience mentoring PhD students. She is available to chair dissertations, serve as a committee member, and to consult faculty regarding research methods, analytic plans, and interpretation of study findings.

**GAIL McCAIN, PhD, RN, FAAN** (Fellow). Dr. McCain received a Diploma in Nursing from Fairview General Hospital, Cleveland OH, a BA from Baldwin Wallace College (Sociology), a MA (Sociology and Anthropology) from Kent State University, a MS (Child Health Nursing) from SUNY Buffalo, a PhD (Nursing Science) from Case Western Reserve University, and she completed a Robert Wood Johnson Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania. The focus of her NINR/NIH funded research has been the development and feeding of preterm infants. Her studies have included randomized clinical trials, mixed methods, and the use of bio-behavioral outcomes. She has past clinical experience as a PNP in primary care, and as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in the NICU. She is the Research Editor for Neonatal Network, *The Journal of Neonatal Nursing*. She retired in 2021 from the position of Dean and Professor, the School of Nursing, Hunter College, CUNY.

**RUTH McDERMOTT-LEVY, PhD, MSN, MPH, RN, FAAN** (Professor and Co-Director, Mid-Atlantic Center for Children's Health and the Environment (Region 3 PEHSU). Dr. McDermott-Levy received her BSN from Wilkes University, a MSN (in Community Health and Nursing Education) from Villanova University, a Master's in Public Health (focus: global and environmental health) from University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and a PhD (in Nursing Education) from Villanova University. She earned a certificate in Climate Change and Health from Yale University School of Public Health. Her clinical area of focus is Public Health Nursing. She has completed research in the areas of international student experience studying in the U.S. and returning home, community health workers in Nicaragua, Arab immigrants in the U.S., health concerns in fracking communities, and climate adaptation. She has relied primarily on qualitative (descriptive and phenomenology), Community Based Participatory Research, and Delphi methods. Her areas of scholarship include health environmental health with a focus on climate change, mortality and adaptation, and extraction communities.

**AMY McKEEVER, PhD, CRNP** (Associate Professor). Dr. McKeever is a certified women's health nurse practitioner and has been practicing for over 20 years. She currently maintains her clinical practice at Lifecycle Womancare: The Birth Center. She received her undergraduate degree in nursing (BSN) from Gwynedd-Mercy University, her graduate degree (MSN) and women's health nurse practitioner from University of Pennsylvania, and her PhD in nursing education from Villanova University. She has worked in every area of women's health, including: low and high risk obstetrics, ambulatory gynecology, and gynecologic oncology. For the past 11 years she has worked with marginalized underserved populations who are low-income, undocumented, and have complex maternal child health care and social issues. Her area of research and scholarship understanding the

impact of perinatal healthcare and health education with a focus on re-envisioning how we as a country deliver prenatal care and prenatal education using a life-course perspective, and complex and chronic women's health issues that affect the reproductive life course.

**HELENE MORIARTY, PhD, RN, FAAN** (Professor, Diane and Robert Moritz, Jr. Endowed Chair in Nursing Research) since 2013 and Nurse Scientist (Corporal Michael J. Crescenz Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Philadelphia) since 1993. Dr. Moriarty received a BSN from Villanova University, an MSN in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing from University of Pennsylvania, and a PhD in Nursing with a related field in Family Systems from University of Pennsylvania. Her clinical areas of expertise are Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing and Family Nursing. In her VA (Veterans Affairs) role, Dr. Moriarty directed a robust nursing research program that addressed the complex needs of our nation's military veterans and their families. Dr. Moriarty's entire career has focused on improving our understanding and care of individuals and families experiencing severe stressors, with a special emphasis on veterans and their families. Her current NIH-funded randomized controlled trial evaluates the impact of an innovative in-home intervention for veterans and civilians with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and their families. She is also conducting two VA-funded feasibility studies: one of a rehabilitation intervention for veterans with post-TBI depression and another of a rapid housing program for veterans experiencing homelessness. Her other areas of research include: chronic illness, trauma, mental health, infection control, patient safety, and patient/family engagement in health care. She has led research using quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods and has received funding for multiple studies from NIH, VA, and other funding sources.

**TRACY L. OLIVER, PHD, RDN, LDN** (Associate Professor). Dr. Oliver received her BS from the University of Pittsburgh (in Clinical Dietetics and Nutrition) and both her MEd and PhD from Temple University (in Kinesiology with a concentration in Exercise Physiology). She has completed research in the areas of obesity and weight management. Her areas of interest also include obesity prevention and management, childhood nutrition and obesity, nutrition and wellness, nutrition education, behavior modification and physical activity. She is presently researching weight bias and conducting weight sensitivity education in nursing students to combat obesity stigma. She is also involved in research addressing food insecurity and healthy eating through the "Community Cooks" program which provides nutrition education within an emergency food pantry.

**MONIKA POGORZELSKA-MAZIARZ, PhD, MPH, CIC, FAPIC, FSHEA, FACE** (Professor). Dr. Pogorzelska-Maziarz earned her BA in Natural Sciences from Fordham University and an MPH and PhD from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. She is a Fellow of the American College of Epidemiology, the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America and the Association of Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. Dr. Pogorzelska-Maziarz currently serves as a Multiple Principal Investigator (MPI) of the AHRQ-funded study Prevention of Infections Through Appropriate Staffing (R01HS029023) and as a subcontract Principal Investigator on two NIH-funded studies: Infection Prevention in Home Health Care (InHOME) Competitive Renewal (R01NR016865) and Paycheck Protection Program and Its Effects on Staffing and the Outcomes of Residents Living with Dementia (R01AG083173). A health services researcher and applied epidemiologist, Dr. Pogorzelska-Maziarz employs mixed methods, large-scale survey research, and analysis of Big Data (e.g., claims data, national surveillance system data) to examine patient safety and healthcare-associated infection (HAI) prevention across the continuum of care.

**BING BING QI, PhD, RN** (Associate Professor). Dr. Qi received a BSN from Peking University (Formerly called Beijing Medical University) in Beijing, China, an MSN in Nursing Education from Villanova University and PhD from the University of Maryland at Baltimore. Her clinical area is nursing care of adults and older adults (Med/Surg Nursing and Geriatric Nursing). She has completed research in the areas of health promotion and disease prevention among immigrants' populations. Her research interests are osteoporosis, bone health, hip fractures, fall prevention,



diet and nutrition, exercise/physical activities, obesity, self-efficacy theory and other areas of health promotion and disease prevention related topics. Other areas of research interests include: quantitative/intervention studies, psychometric testing of measurement tools, Rasch measurement and immigrant and multicultural populations.

**BRIDGETTE RICE, PhD, MDiv, APRN, FAAN** (Associate Dean for Research and Innovation, The Richard and Marianne Kreider Endowed Professor in Nursing for Vulnerable Populations) joined the FCN (Fitzpatrick College of Nursing) faculty from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in 2021. She received a BSN from Villanova University ('03), an MSN (Psychiatric-Mental Health Advanced Practice Registered Nurse specializing in children and families, '05) and PhD (Nursing, '09) from the University of Pennsylvania, and an MDiv from the Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University ('17). She was awarded the University of Pennsylvania's inaugural Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow (2009-2012)—now named the Provost's Postdoctoral Fellowship—and in 2011 was selected as one of four scholars from across the nation to serve as a two-year Visiting Research Fellow at the Yale University Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS (CIRA) through the Research Education Institute for Diverse Scholars (REIDS). She has led a myriad of federally funded research studies, primarily focused on HIV/STI prevention, mental health promotion and mitigating negative neighborhood-level influences on health. Her studies use novel mixed methods approaches (e.g., GIS mapping, community ethnography) to tackle complex health problems and ensure individuals have equitable opportunities to achieve their full health potential. Dr. Rice's scholarship advances our understanding of how individual, social and structural factors shape health outcomes, and contributes to the development of interventions and policies to promote health and prevent disease.

**JENNIFER GUNBERG ROSS, PhD, RN, CNE** (Professor). Dr. Ross received her BSN, MSN (Nursing Education), and PhD from Villanova University College of Nursing. Her clinical area of expertise is Adult Health. She is a Certified Nurse Educator. She has completed research in the effect of various innovative teaching strategies on undergraduate nursing students' knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Her areas of interest include simulation, evidence-based teaching, and nursing education research.

**MARY TERHAAR, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN** (Associate Dean for the Graduate Program). Dr. Terhaar joined the Fitzpatrick College of Nursing as Associate Dean for the Graduate Program in November 2022. Dr. Terhaar earned a PhD and an MSN from The Catholic University of America, a BSN with honors, from Emmanuel College in Boston, MA, and a Diploma in Nursing from Sisters of Charity Hospital in Buffalo, NY. Most recently, she served as Chair of the Department of Nursing at Temple University College of Public Health in Philadelphia, PA. Prior to her time at Temple, she was the Garvin Professor and Associate Dean at the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. She has published numerous manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals, 40 chapters in textbooks, and she is a lead author on 2 textbooks broadly adopted by DNP programs across the country that have been honored as "best in class" for a decade. This year, two additional books will be released with a focus on increasing success in doctoral study. Dr. Terhaar's career spans 40 years in practice, education, leadership, administration, re-search, and translation. Under her leadership teams have repeatedly raised the quality of instruction, improved performance on key outcomes, and accomplished challenging goals. Her career demonstrates deep and sustained commitment to advancing the careers of formidable clinicians, educators, scholars, researchers, and leaders and staff.

**KIMBERLY K. TROUT, PhD, RN, CNM, FACNM, FAAN** (Associate Professor). Dr. Trout received a BSN, MSN (in Nurse-Midwifery) and PhD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Dr. Trout is currently NIH-funded for a study testing a device that aims to detect early and manage promptly the condition of postpartum hemorrhage, the leading cause of maternal mortality worldwide. Dr. Trout has been responsible for teaching best practices in postpartum hemorrhage management to graduate students at Penn since 2014, as well as international presentations to faculty in Haiti regarding the use of Objective Structured Clinical Examinations (OSCEs) to teach

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hemorrhage management. Dr. Trout's scholarly pursuits have primarily focused on discovering the best evidence for women and infants in all aspects of health promotion and morbidity prevention, but especially with regards to the effects of nutrition on maternal and infant outcomes during pregnancy and the postpartum period. In 2019, Dr. Trout founded a postpartum support group called "Positively Postpartum" at Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia that was focused on a wellness model approach. This support group provided opportunities for sharing, peer support, lactation support, healthful eating and ways to increase physical activity for low-income parents, while caring for an infant. The group met face-to-face on a weekly basis until activity ceased in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Trout is currently funded (Harrison Grant) to begin a study on the promotion of fruit and vegetable intake in pregnant and postpartum women and their infants with the use of an electronic phone app called "Flavor Baby."

**JENNIFER YOST, PhD, RN, FAAN** (Professor). Dr. Yost joined the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing in 2018 from McMaster University in Ontario, Canada. Over the course of her nursing career, Dr. Yost has built a program of research aimed at promoting the knowledge and skills necessary for the use of research evidence in health care. In addition to teaching critical appraisal of research, research methods, statistics, and dissemination and implementation, Dr. Yost has conducted multiple studies and authored several papers around implementation science, specifically the use of implementation interventions to improve research use among nurses in tertiary care and public health. With clinical expertise in care of children in their families, Dr. Yost has also collaborated with partners to support community-based participatory action research internationally, included in Le Cayes, Haiti to reduce the rates of infant malnutrition. In Dr. Yost's most recent work, she utilizes her expertise in quantitative methods, systematic review methodology, and implementation science to advance the work of the Evidence-Based Research Network (EBRNetwork), an international effort of various stakeholders (e.g. patients, researchers, educators, funders) to reduce research waste across all sectors by advocating for no new studies without a systematic approach to reviewing existing research evidence and the American College of Physicians (ACP) to develop and disseminate clinical guideline recommendations and advice for health care decisions based on best available evidence.

**All the above faculty who are chair eligible may also serve as dissertation committee members.**

**Faculty available to serve as Dissertation Committee Members:**

**ELIZABETH BLUNT, PhD, MSN, APRN, BC** (Clinical Professor). Dr. Blunt received a BSN from Widener University, an MSN from the University of Pennsylvania, and a PhD in Educational Leadership and Technology from Drexel University. She is a family nurse practitioner with a practice focus on emergency department and primary care. She has completed research in pharmaceutical company influence on NP (Nurse Practitioner) prescribing practices and NP procedural skills. Her interests are in nurse practitioner roles and practice and international nursing issues.

**SHERRY A. BURRELL, PhD, RN, CNE** (Associate Professor). Dr. Burrell received her BSN from Thomas Jefferson University, MSN from Widener University (nurse educator and adult clinical nurse specialist), and a PhD in Nursing from Villanova University. Her area of clinical expertise is Adult Health and Oncology Nursing. Her research is focused upon improving quality of life in persons and families affected by cancer. Other areas of interest include symptom management, nursing education, and nursing care in cancer, chronic illness, and at the end-of-life.

**CATHERINE CURLEY, PhD, RN** (Clinical Assistant Professor). Dr. Curley came to Villanova full time in March 2020 with a background of education, hospital administration, business line strategy, and population and community health. Currently she is a faculty member in the BSN Express program and teaches Health Promotion, Global and Public Health Imperatives in both the traditional and express programs. She obtained her MSN, Clinical Specialist in Community Health from West Chester University in 1997. Dr. Curley received her PhD in 2016 from Widener University with a focus in nursing science. The theme of her research was knowledge assimilation into practice. Dr. Curley's research interests include social determinants impact on health outcomes, patient education and chronic disease, and has developed an instrument measuring knowledge assimilation to practice.

**ANNE M. FINK, PhD, RN, CNE** (Associate Dean for College and Student Services). Dr. Fink received a BSN from Thomas Jefferson University, an MSN (in Nursing Education) from DeSales University and a PhD from Villanova University. Her clinical areas of expertise are Maternal/Child Health Nursing and Community Health. Her research agenda and publications focus on early maternal discharge, health and healthcare disparities, and culturally competent care for Puerto Rican new mothers. Other areas of investigation include academic administration and regulation, evaluation and measurement of learning, professionalism, and professional identity formation in nursing. She has experience using qualitative methods.

**GAIL E. FURMAN, PhD, RN, CHSE (Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator)** (Clinical Professor and Executive Director, Simulation and Learning Resource Center). Dr. Furman received a diploma in nursing from Barnes Hospital School of Nursing. Her BSN and MSN(R) in Gerontological Nursing are from Saint Louis University School of Nursing. She earned her doctorate in Education from Saint Louis University School of Education. Dr. Furman is a Certified Healthcare Simulation Educator. She spent over 20 years in medical education as the Director of Clinical Skills, and course director of the communication skills, death and dying, human sexuality, and physical diagnosis courses. She was the Director of Educational Development and Design at the National Board of Medical Examiners, in the administration of an assessment of clinical competence using standardized patients. She has completed research related to the use of standardized patients to teach and evaluate clinical skills. Dr. Furman's interests include simulation methodology, interprofessional education, diversity, and patient-centered care.

**BRITTANY KOONS, PhD, RN** (Assistant Professor). Dr. Koons received her BSN, MSN and PhD from Villanova University Fitzpatrick College of Nursing. Dr. Koons is a clinically active nurse on the

Cardiothoracic Surgical Intensive Care Unit at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She has clinical expertise in managing complex care needs of patients requiring cardiac surgery, heart transplantation, and lung transplantation. She is an expert in caring for patients with the most advanced critical care technologies including advanced mechanical circulatory support devices and continuous renal replacement therapy. Her doctoral work focused on using big data in organ transplantation to examine risk profiles of international kidney transplant recipients and live donors. She completed a two-year postdoctoral research fellowship, supported by a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Future of Nursing Scholar postdoctoral fellowship and sponsored by the National Institute of Nursing Research training program in Individualized Care for At Risk Older Adults at the NewCourtland Center for Transitions and Health at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Her postdoctoral work focused on patient centered outcomes in lung transplantation. Dr. Koons' research interests are in symptom science, physical frailty, quality of life, psychosocial assessment/outcomes, aging, and clinical outcomes in thoracic transplantation. She has conducted retrospective studies using data from large national registries and electronic health records, and prospective studies using patient reported surveys.

**EVIE LENGETTI, PhD, RN-BC** (Associate Dean of Continuing Education in Nursing and Healthcare and Assistant Professor). Dr. Lengetti received her BSN from The Catholic University of America, MSN in Prenatal Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania and PhD from Duquesne University. She has worked on the service and academic sides of the profession of nursing. Starting in an acute care pediatric hospital, Evie has experience as a Neonatal CNS, Nurse Manager, Nursing Professional Development Specialist and Director of Nursing Education. Dr. Lengetti currently practices as an Assistant Dean and Director of Continuing Education. Collectively, these experiences create a foundation for her research interests which focus on testing teaching strategies and the impact on providing safe quality patient care by improving nurses' clinical competence.

**CATHY LOVECCHIO, PhD, RN** (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs). Dr. Lovecchio brings more than 25 years in higher education most recently as the Director of the Undergraduate Program at the University of Scranton. She brings experience in other roles including oversight of all aspects of Nursing Department Programs including the following: BSN, RN-BSN, MSN, CRNA (certified registered nurse anesthetists), and DNP (Doctor of Nursing Practice). She has been responsible for hiring faculty and staff, mentoring new faculty, faculty evaluations, program planning, curriculum planning and Middle States evaluation.

**MICHELLE A. MCKAY, PhD, RN, CCRN** (Associate Professor). Dr. McKay received a BSN, MSN (Nursing Education), and PhD from the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing, Villanova University. She was the recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Future of Nursing Scholar at Independence Blue Cross Foundation Scholarship. Her clinical areas of expertise are Adult and Older Adult Health Nursing and Critical Care Nursing. She is certified as an adult critical care nurse (CCRN) by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). She currently still works as a staff nurse in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, PA. Dr. McKay's research interests are focused on older adults affected by trauma, frailty, fear of falling, depression, falls risk and symptom science. She has developed multiple online surveys, conducted prospective cohort studies, retrospective chart reviews, and a secondary data analysis of a population-based cohort of older adults.

**JIM MENDEZ, PhD, CRNP, ANP-BC** (Clinical Associate Professor). Dr. Mendez is a certified adult health nurse practitioner and has been practicing for 25 years. He holds a BA in Biology from Swarthmore College and an ADN from Delaware County Community College. He received his baccalaureate degree in nursing (BSN) from Wilmington University, his graduate degree (MSN) and adult health nurse practitioner certification from the University of Pennsylvania, and his PhD in nursing education from Villanova University. Dr. Mendez



has practiced at the Penn Transplant Institute of the University of Pennsylvania since 2001. He concentrates his efforts in the inpatient and outpatient care of patients who have undergone cardiothoracic transplantation. In addition, he has practiced at the St. Agnes Nurses' Center in West Chester, PA for ten years, providing free primary care services to adults without health insurance, including many immigrants from Central and South America. Dr. Mendez's research interests center on the impact of psychosocial predictors on post-transplant outcomes. He is a certified trainer for the EPIC electronic medical record system and has an interest in the application of technology to patient care. Dr. Mendez teaches courses in pharmacology, clinical ethics, and the care of the adult patient with complex health issues.

**SUSAN K. MEYERS, PhD, MSN, RNC-MNN, CNE, CPNP-PC** (Clinical Associate Professor). Dr. Meyers received her BSN from Villanova University. She received her MSN, CRNP from the University of Pennsylvania and her PhD from Villanova University. She is a Board-Certified Registered Nurse Practitioner in Pediatric Primary Care. She holds certifications as a Certified Nurse Educator, Certified RN in Maternal Newborn Nursing, Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC), Certified Neonatal Resuscitation Program Instructor, Child Passenger Safety Technician and Certified BLS (Basic Life Support) Instructor. Her areas of expertise include maternal-child nursing, women's health, neonatal care, pediatric nursing, pediatric primary care, postpartum depression, antepartum, pregnancy, health promotion and wellness.

**JENNIFER MONDILLO, PhD, MBA, MSN, APRN, BC** (Clinical Associate Professor). Dr. Mondillo received her BS from Gwynedd Mercy University, her MBA from DeSales University, and PhD from Widener University. She is certified as an adult geriatric nurse practitioner. Her clinical expertise includes primary care of adults and older adults with a focus in nursing home care and occupational health. Research interests include assessment and dissemination of care to the geriatric population, healthcare administration, leadership theories and application, and emotional intelligence.

**KATHLEEN MONFORTO, PhD, RN, NPD-BC, CPN**. Dr. Monforto joined the M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing in August 2024. She has worked at a freestanding pediatric hospital in Philadelphia for over 23 years on a variety of units/departments and in multiple roles. Prior to coming to Villanova, Dr. Monforto taught at La Salle University's College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Dr. Monforto's areas of interest and publication revolve around pediatric nursing, nursing education, and nursing professional development.

**ELIZABETH PETIT DE MANGE, PhD, MSN, RN** (Clinical Assistant Professor). Dr. Petit de Mange received a BSN from Thomas Jefferson University, an MSN in Nursing Administration from Widener University, an FNP Post-Master's Certificate from Wilmington University and a PhD in Nursing from the University of Colorado. Her dissertation work was titled: Equity in Potential Access to Pediatric Home Health Services. Dr. Petit de Mange's research interests include diversity, disparities, disabilities, Native American Health, maternal child health, suicide prevention and Veteran Health.

**PATRINA SEXTON TOPPER PhD, MS, RN** (Assistant Professor). Dr. Patrina Sexton Topper's background spans complementary and alternative health interventions, massage therapy, nursing, and bioethics. Guided by a theoretical commitment to symbolic-interaction, her work is grounded in a human-centered approach to health and healing, with a focus on inclusive care and ethical inquiry. Dr. Sexton Topper's research explores how individuals and families navigate complex health systems, particularly in the context of gender-affirming and reproductive care. She leads qualitative studies on pregnancy and postpartum experience, maternal morbidity and mortality, care coordination for transgender and gender-diverse youth and their families. Her work also examines how same-sex couples' access, evaluation, and use of formal and informal information sources when pursuing assisted reproduction. Her scholarship is informed by a commitment to health equity, family-centered care, and the transformative potential of nursing education. Dr. Sexton Topper teaches across undergraduate and

graduate programs, mentoring students in ethical practice, inclusive care, and qualitative research methods.

**CAROL TOUSSIE WEINGARTEN, PhD, RN, ANEF** (Associate Professor). Dr. Weingarten received a BA from Barnard College of Columbia University, an MS (in Nursing) from the Graduate School of Nursing at New York Medical College and an MA and PhD (in Nursing), both from New York University. Her clinical area is Parent/Child Nursing, particularly the health of working parents, preparation for parenthood, and the psychodynamics of high-risk parenting. She has completed research related to the perception of newborns held by mothers, the mother-infant relationship, post-partum self-assessment, maternal adaptation, and the needs of mothers of high-risk infants. For the past 4 years she has been involved with Villanova University's radio station WXVU, 89.1 FM, broadcast and streaming. She works with undergraduate and graduate nursing students in creation of health and wellness programming for the station. Longtime advisor to Villanova University's chapter of the Student Nurses Association of Pennsylvania, she frequently serves as preceptor for students developing credit-bearing independent studies focusing on leadership.

**CHRISTINA R. WHITEHOUSE, PhD, AGPCNP-BC, CDCES, FADCES** (Associate Professor). Dr. Whitehouse is a certified adult health/gerontological primary care nurse practitioner (AGPCNP-BC). She holds an AA in medical technology from Hahnemann University, a BA in Anthropology from Temple University, a BSN and PhD from Villanova University and her MSN from the University of Pennsylvania. She completed a post-doctoral research fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. She continues clinical practice within Penn Medicine focusing on transitional care, diabetes and homecare for older adults. She is also a certified diabetes care and education specialist. Her program of research focuses on transitional care, diabetes self-management education and support (DSMES), telehealth, and post-acute care.

**JESSE WOOL, PhD, MBE, RN.** (Assistant Professor). Dr. Wool received his BSN from the University of Pittsburgh and his Master of Bioethics and PhD in Nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. His clinical expertise is in pediatric critical care. His research expertise is primarily in pediatric family research with a focus on family-clinician miscommunication. He has experience with research methodologies including instrument development and psychometrics, quantitative survey methods and structural equation modeling, qualitative descriptive and interpretive methods, and mixed methods research. Dr. Wool scholarship also includes empirical bioethics and advancing ethical theory.