

TSNRP ★ news

From the Director

FALL/WINTER 2013



LTC Michael Schlicher

Greetings! More than 20 years ago, military nurses collaborated to develop our program with much hard work and support from dynamic nursing leaders, dedicated staff members, and astute policymakers. Thanks to these visionaries, the TriService Nursing Research Program (TSNRP) is the leading military nursing

research program in the country. Having recently become the seventh TSNRP Executive Director, I am honored to serve in such an exciting research leadership role.

TSNRP is the only program that focuses exclusively on funding and supporting rigorous scientific military nursing research. In addition, TSNRP offers professional development and educational opportunities for military nurses, ranging from research development courses for novice military nurses to research grant camps that involve a competitive selection process comparable to that of the National Institute of Nursing Research at the National Institutes of Health. To date, TSNRP has funded more than 380 grants, published more than 100 research articles in peer-reviewed nursing journals, and provided vital resources and educational programs to countless military nurses, whether they be active, retired, in the National Guard, or in the Reserves.

In this issue of *TSNRP News*, we welcome our new Executive Board of Directors: MG Jimmie Keenan,

AN, USA; Maj Gen Dorothy Hogg, USAF, NC; and RADM Rebecca McCormick-Boyle, NC, USN. We are extremely fortunate to have such a dedicated group of leaders who are committed to moving nursing forward through research and evidence-based practice.

As you know, we have been challenged to seek new solutions to continue our program and educational offerings based on sequestration and recent Department of Defense travel guidelines. As a result, we are implementing new methods for military nurses to access information and expand their knowledge without having to travel. We are developing more virtual training courses for access online and webinars for specific training, such as our Post-Award Grants Management Workshop. We have many new innovative projects planned for the near future. In response to this information technology (IT) demand, we welcome MAJ Richard Clark, AN, USA, to our team as our new nursing informatics fellow, who will assist us in expanding our IT resources.

As we enter a new fiscal year, I challenge all of us to develop robust research programs that are grounded in science and evidence-based nursing practice. We must articulate and disseminate the impact of our research findings to our individual commands, at scientific gatherings, and in peer-reviewed publications. We must strive to keep the light of knowledge burning bright by highlighting and showing how our research contributions ARE improving patient outcomes and nursing practice.

LTC Michael Schlicher, PhD, AN, USA



TSNRP News is published twice each year by the TriService Nursing Research Program. It is available online at www.usuhs.edu/tsnrp/News/news.php.

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TSNRP Welcomes Executive Board of Directors

The TSNRP Executive Board of Directors (EBOD), which comprises the Chief of the Army Nurse Corps, the Director of the Navy Nurse Corps, and the Chief of the Air Force Nurse Corps, provides programmatic oversight for TSNRP. Final funding approval rests with the EBOD members and their deputies. All three members of the EBOD joined within the last two years: MG Jimmie O. Keenan, AN, USA, became a member in 2012, and Maj Gen Dorothy A. Hogg, USAF, NC, and RADM Rebecca J. McCormick-Boyle, NC, USN, joined in August 2013.



MG Jimmie O. Keenan



Maj Gen Dorothy A. Hogg



RADM Rebecca J. McCormick-Boyle

MG Jimmie O. Keenan, AN, USA

MG Keenan is the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Southern Regional Medical Command and Chief of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps. She entered the Army as a Nurse Corps officer commissioned through ROTC at Henderson State University, where she obtained a BSN. She also holds an MS in nursing administration from the Medical College of Georgia and a master's degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College. Her awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (two awards), the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, and the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award. She also has earned the Expert Field Medical Badge, the Parachutist Badge, the Air Assault Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

MG Keenan served as a Congressional Fellow and is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives. ★★

Maj Gen Dorothy A. Hogg, USAF, NC

Maj Gen Hogg is Assistant Air Force Surgeon General, Medical Force Development, and Chief of the Nurse Corps. She earned a BS in nursing from the University of Southern Maine in 1981 and received her commission in 1983. She also holds an MS in public administration from Troy State University and an MSN from the Medical University of South Carolina.

Most recently, Maj Gen Hogg served as the deputy command surgeon, Air Force Materiel Command, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (AFB) in Ohio, and she previously served as a deputy command surgeon at Air Force Central Command at Shaw AFB in South Carolina. She has served in both the U.S. and Qatar, where she was the Air Force Central Command's forward command surgeon at Al Udeid Air Base. ★★

RADM Rebecca J. McCormick-Boyle, NC, USN

RADM McCormick-Boyle, Director of the Navy Nurse Corps, is a native of Griffins Mills, New York. Following graduation from the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Nursing, she was commissioned in 1981. She has an MS in human resource management systems from Chapman University and an MHA from Baylor University.

In 2009, having served in the U.S. and Japan, RADM McCormick-Boyle became the assistant deputy chief for medical operations at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery before assuming the role of chief of staff in January 2012. She was promoted to rear admiral in July 2012. Her decorations include the Legion of Merit (two awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. ★★



TSNRP Welcomes New Executive Director

The Executive Board of Directors for TSNRP is pleased to announce the appointment of LTC Michael Schlicher, AN, USA, as TSNRP's newest Executive Director. LTC Schlicher comes to this position with a wealth of knowledge and experience.

LTC Schlicher earned his BSN from San Francisco State University, his master's in trauma/critical care nursing from the University of Washington, and his PhD in nursing science and nanotechnology also from the University of Washington. He has two additional bachelor's degrees and speaks three languages.

During his Army career, LTC Schlicher served in several key clinical and administrative leadership positions. Most recently, he was the regional nursing research consultant for the Pacific Regional Medical Command and chief of the Center for Nursing Science and Clinical Inquiry at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu,

Hawaii. Prior to this, he served as the regional nursing research consultant for the Southern Regional Medical Command and chief of the Center for Nursing Science and Clinical Inquiry at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston in Texas. On the academic side, LTC Schlicher was faculty at the Army Trauma Training Center/Ryder Trauma Center in Miami, Florida, and senior clinical instructor for the Critical Care and Emergency Nurse specialty courses at the Army Medical Department Center and School at Fort Sam Houston.

LTC Schlicher has conducted several animal and human research studies, including three TSNRP-funded randomized controlled trials evaluating the efficacy of silver nanoparticles for use in reducing hospital-associated infections and as a potential therapy for wound infections. He also received a multimillion-dollar private-industry grant to work on alternative and

integrative therapies for pain control. LTC Schlicher has published several articles in various peer-reviewed journals and has authored a first edition book chapter in *Advanced Clinical Critical Care Nurse*, a textbook published by the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN). He has lectured on numerous topics nationally and internationally and has served as a voting member on several institutional review boards. LTC Schlicher is one of a few select scientists who have received the 9A Proficiency Designator in research from the Army Surgeon General. He has received numerous other honors, including the 2012 Federal Nurse of the Year Award from AMSUS, Sigma Theta Tau's Nurse Image Maker Award, AACN's Circle of Excellence Award, and the Order of Military Medical Merit.

Welcome, LTC Schlicher!



MAJ Richard Clark Joins TSNRP as Informatics Fellow

Recently, the TSNRP Executive Board of Directors created an "informatics fellow" position at TSNRP based on recommendations from the Strategic Planning Committee and the Executive Director. MAJ Richard Clark, AN, USA, is TSNRP's first appointed nursing informatics fellow. In his new role, MAJ Clark will help promote informatics research within the nursing research community across the services, identify and prioritize informatics-related research initiatives, and develop and integrate electronic records research. He also will collaborate with the TSNRP Resource Center to expand TSNRP's Web site and online educational initiatives.

MAJ Clark holds a master's degree in nursing informatics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore, and a BSN from the University of South Carolina, as well as several other certifications and skill identifiers. He arrived from Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, where he was the chief medical information officer (CMIO) at Brooke Army Medical Center.

Already, MAJ Clark is working on several different projects for TSNRP. We are excited to have MAJ Clark join the TSNRP team and look forward to his expertise in the informatics arena! He recently took the time to share some thoughts on his new role.

How will you approach this newly created position?

RC: This position is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate how nursing informatics professionals can support, augment, and influence the TSNRP mission. As the newest TSNRP staff member, my primary intent is to leverage available information management/information technology (IM/IT) tools and processes in support of TSNRP's mission, goals, and strategic priorities.

What is your top priority in this new role?

RC: My top priority as I transition into this role is my responsibility to provide our cadre of military nursing researchers with the IM/IT tools to support their research and serve as their voice within the IM/IT community. ★

★ Educational Programs

2013 TSNRP Research Grant Camp Is Largest Ever



Faculty and participants at the 2013 Research Grant Camp: Front row (left to right): COL (ret) Bonnie Jennings*, LTC (ret) Nancy Ryan-Wenger*, LTC Kristal Melvin*, Col Marla De Jong*, COL (ret) Patricia Patrician*, Dr. Michelle Walsh*, CDR Dennis Spence*, Dr. Victoria von Sadowszky*, CAPT Janet Pierce*, LTC Michael Schlicher; second row (left to right): CPT Samantha Agee, LCDR Mary Parker, LT Denise Smith, LTC Susan Hopkinson, Maj Laurie Migliore, LCDR Uletha Jones, Lt Col Karen O'Connell, Lt Col Kimberly Barber, Lt Col Jacqueline Killian, CDR Thecly Scott, Capt Heather Ortiz, Dawn Lea; back row (left to right): LTC Angela Simmons, Kemia Duncan-Kirby, CDR Wendy Cook, CAPT (ret) Judith Dougherty, CDR Lisa Braun, LCDR Jennifer Buechel, Lt Col Michele Gonzales, Capt Cubby Gardner, LCDR William Danchanko, Maj Stephen Hernandez, LTC William Brown, and CDR Ryan Nations. *Faculty member

In July, the TSNRP Resource Center sponsored a week-long Research Grant Camp at the Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego, California. This year's camp was the largest in the history of TSNRP, with 22 attendees and 13 faculty members. The program incorporated modest revisions from previous years. The most significant revision was the intensive amount of "face time" between the attendees and the faculty, both before and during the camp.

The application process was highly competitive. Attendees represented the Army, Navy, and Air Force equally. In general, the proposed research topics aligned with at least two of the three TSNRP research priorities: Force Health Protection; Nursing Competencies and Practice; and Leadership, Ethics, and Mentoring. As always, the faculty

for Research Grant Camp included seasoned nurse scientists and educators who had prior experience reviewing funded grant applications, teaching at universities, and functioning as team members (i.e., principal investigators, associate investigators, or consultants) for large, substantially funded research studies. Active duty nurse scientists in research leadership positions representing each Service participated as additional faculty and provided Service-specific research topic guidance. Attendees and faculty were paired based on each attendee's proposed topic of research and each faculty member's area(s) of expertise. Attendees with a research interest involving women's health also received supplemental resources and guidance from the TSNRP Women's Health Research Interest Group, whose members served as subject matter experts and mentors.

At the conclusion of this year's course, one faculty member wrote, "Thank you, TSNRP, for the opportunity to teach at Research Grant Camp.... This is a wonderful opportunity for us to grow the next generation of nurse scientists." Students offered the following comments when asked to reflect and share their experiences:

"This conference was great. I enjoyed being able to process the course without the dissertation stress. The week has been very beneficial. The small group sessions were best when guided by specific tasks/questions. This week made me excited about actually writing a research grant proposal."

—LTC Angela Simmons, AN, USA

"This was a fantastic course! Really appreciate all the effort put into the course. Having time to speak with the experts and to think through the process was great! Thank you!"

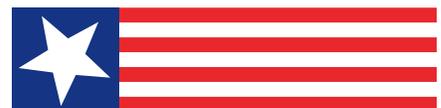
—Lt Col Karen O'Connell, USAF, NC

"Great program . . . I really appreciated the time to work on the proposal with real-time feedback."

—LCDR William Danchanko, NC, USN

"I had a great experience at Grant Camp this past week. The faculty presentations, face-to-face interactions and mentoring, and ability to network were invaluable. This experience has certainly provided new insight into the whole grant process. I plan to take the valuable lessons learned and apply them to my next TSNRP grant submission."

—LTC William Brown, AN, USA ★





BAMC's CNS&CI Hosts TSNRP Evidence-Based Practice Course

CPT Stephanie Kessinger, AN, USA, and COL Laura Feider, AN, USA



Evidence-Based Practice Course participants

The Center for Nursing Science & Clinical Inquiry (CNS&CI) at the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, hosted a 2-day TSNRP Evidence-Based Practice (EBP) Course on 20–21 February 2013. The course, which was taught by CAPT(ret) Maggie Richard, NC, USN, and Chuck Biddle, PhD, CRNA, from

Virginia Commonwealth University, comprised 25 attendees, including active duty Army, Air Force, and Navy staff nurses, advance practice nurses/clinical nurse specialists, clinical nurse officers in charge, section supervisors, and key senior nursing leaders, as well as civilians.

The objective of the course was to use an evidence hierarchy and grading schema to review, analyze, and synthesize clinical evidence and develop a clinical PICO (i.e., a clinical question in terms of its four anatomic parts—problem/population, intervention, comparison, and outcome) applicable to an EBP approach and problem. It also aimed to explore EBP models to determine which model is most appropriate for an identified problem.

The program's goal was to provide clinicians with the tools to improve patient, nursing, and organizational outcomes through the proper application of EBP. This course provided attendees an understanding of the importance of evidence for advancing the practice and discipline of nursing and improving varied outcomes.

The course attendees' enthusiasm was evident, as reflected in the following quotes:

“Dr. Biddle and Dr. Richard [did] an amazing job. The attendees—senior nursing leaders (health care executives), advanced practice nurses (CNSs/APNs), and UPC chairs—[were] right on target.”

—LTC Ann Nayback-Beebe, AN, USA, Deputy Chief, CNS&CI, BAMC

“I have to say that the TSNRP course . . . [was] fantastic. I . . . learned more about EBP in one day than I learned in a semester in grad school! Great program!”

—Maj Sarah Abel, USAF, NC ★

Promotions

LTC William Brown, AN, USA

COL Laura Feider, AN, USA

MAJ Johnnie Robbins, AN, USA

LTC Leilani Siaki, AN, USA

CAPT Anita Smith, NC, USNR

TSNRP News Needs YOU!

The TSNRP newsletter is not only for you; it is ABOUT you! We want to know about all the great things you are doing, where you are, and what assignments you have. TSNRP is aware that you are very busy, and we know our request for information may come at a time that is inconvenient for you. Avoid the rush! Send your news to tsnrp@usuhs.edu when it occurs, and we'll save it for the next issue.

Please use “investigator news” in the subject line. Thank you!

TSNRP Research Development Course Goes Global in Conjunction with TAMC

COL Glenda J. Lock, AN, USA



Participants in the 2013 Research Development Course

The Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) in Honolulu, Hawaii, recently joined forces with TSNRP to host the Research Development Course, an educational offering intended to stimulate nurses' interest in research and help them develop sound research designs and methodology. The program featured three esteemed faculty members from The Ohio State University who themselves represented the concept of tri-service: CAPT (ret) Elizabeth R. Barker, NC, USN; LTC (ret) Nancy A. Ryan-Wenger, AN, USA; and Victoria von Sadovszky, PhD, RN.

Participating nurses were encouraged to bring a research idea. Over

the course of the 3-day program, the faculty worked with the nurses to refine their research questions, determine the type of design best suited to their research questions, and begin formulating plans for methodology and analysis. Although the course was taught in a traditional classroom format to nurses at TAMC, it was simultaneously broadcast as a video teleconference to 10 additional global sites, ranging from the U.S. East Coast to the territory of Guam. This allowed more than 90 nurses—Army, Navy, Air Force, and civilian—to participate in the course. The organizers hope that extending the reach of the Research Development Course will

allow more nurses to submit draft proposals for Research Grant Camp, a more rigorous TSNRP research course.

The organizers extend a special acknowledgement to the following individuals for their integral role in planning and coordinating this event: Andrea Mimori, research protocol assistant for the TAMC Center for Nursing Science and Clinical Inquiry; Kemia Duncan-Kirby, project coordinator; and Dawn Lea, Resource Center program manager for TSNRP. ★

At the time of this course, COL Glenda J. Lock, AN, USA, was the deputy commander for nursing at TAMC and the regional nurse executive for the Pacific Regional Medical Command. She is now Commander of McDonald Army Health Center at Fort Eustis in Virginia.



Fourteenth Annual Grants Management Workshop: Live from Your Own Computer!

The annual Post-Award Grants Management Workshop is a “signature TSNRP product,” conducted by the Executive Director and grants management staff and designed to provide critical information on managing grants in a federal context. TSNRP usually brings newly funded principal investigators and one member of each of their research teams to participate in person. However, due to recently implemented travel guidelines, this year TSNRP made a break with tradition and offered the Post-Award Grants Management Workshop through a webinar series.

Many service members are accustomed to participating in meetings and trainings electronically, but for us, the prospect of offering this program in a virtual format was worrisome. We did not want the participants to miss the benefits of networking and personal interaction inherent in the face-to-face format. Thankfully, our partners in this process, the expert technical teams at Altarum Institute and Palladian Partners, built interactive exercises and capabilities into the sessions. The three faculty members met the challenges involved in condensing a full day’s content into engaging 2½-hour presentations, and both faculty and participants praised the new format.

Joseph Schmelz, PhD, RN, assistant vice president for research operations at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, teaches the research ethics portion of the workshop. He remarked, “I’ve had the honor of presenting research subject protections at the TSNRP Post-Award Grants Management Workshop for many years and have been witness to the program’s effect on our community of nurse scientists. Transforming my presentation

from the ‘live’ format that I’ve used for years to the webinar format was initially a daunting task. In reality, my experience couldn’t have been any easier thanks to the great support from Rebecca Armendariz and Alison Gary from Altarum Institute. My slides *never* looked better thanks to their use of interactive case studies, polls, and questions. We are at a crossroads in the program’s mission to develop nurse scientists. We must not lose sight of the importance of face-to-face meetings.”

Janet Pierce, DSN, APRN, CCRN, professor at the University of Kansas School of Nursing, presents the report writing, publications, and dissemination content. She also has been a Post-Award Grants Management Workshop faculty member for several years. She added, “The ability to interact with investigators via the Internet provides a platform in which the presenter and the grantee can communicate at any location. I agree with Dr. Schmelz about the importance of face-to-face interaction, particularly at the beginning of an investigator’s study. However, with budget restraints, I am pleased that the new investigators still have this valuable program.”

This year, we welcomed Kenneth Allen, JD, author of *Federal Grant Practice*, to the faculty. Mr. Allen is a retired Judge Advocate General’s Corps (JAG) officer who has given many years to public service. He commented, “I do webcasts about every other month for other organizations. The technology used for this webinar was by far the best I’ve used, especially the way they enhanced the slides, converted ideas into interactive review questions, and had technical staff support for the presenter—and the participants—during the broadcast.”

CDR Abigail Marter, NC, USN, a newly funded investigator, remarked, “It was reassuring and very helpful to have real-time technical support available throughout the webinar. I did miss the personal networking dimension of an in-person class, but I feel that I received the information I needed.”

In addition to saving money, the virtual training allowed us to reach not only TSNRP-funded principal investigators and project directors but also multiple research team members and military nurse officers who are interested in research and evidence-based practice but have yet to receive funding. Many nurses who fit this category registered and attended. Also, nurse scientists who initially received funding several years ago appreciated the “refresher.”

TSNRP held the four-part webinar series in August and September 2013. In addition to the presentations by Dr. Schmelz, Dr. Pierce, and Mr. Allen, LTC Michael Schlicher, AN, USA, Executive Director of TSNRP, and the grants management staff gave a brief presentation on the TSNRP funding process and critical grants management activities. The technical team is currently preparing all of the presentations for archiving and placement on the TSNRP Web site. The Navy Medicine Professional Development Center provided continuing education credits.

Although we would have enjoyed meeting our new investigators in person, we truly did not miss preparing and carrying massive binders or handling travel logistics. At the end of the day, all participants and producers of the webinar series agreed that the quality of the information, expert faculty, and engaging technology made this venture a success. ★

Awards and Honors

CAPT Jacqueline Rychnovsky Is First Nurse Named Commanding Officer of a Navy R&D Facility

In a historic ceremony on 25 July 2013, CAPT Jacqueline Rychnovsky became the first Navy Nurse Corps officer to assume command of a Navy research and development facility. CAPT Rychnovsky was named commanding officer of the Naval Health Research Center (NHRC) in San Diego. She relieved CAPT Gregory Utz, MC, USN, who detached in early June to assume the role of Defense Health Attaché in Hanoi, Vietnam.

NHRC, located on Point Loma in San Diego, was established in 1959 as the U.S. Navy Medical Neuropsychiatric Research Unit. Over the years, NHRC has grown to become the Navy's pre-eminent biomedical research and development activity meeting the operational medicine needs of the Navy and Marine Corps.

Most recently, CAPT Rychnovsky served as executive officer of the U.S.

Naval Hospital Yokosuka, where she managed a busy community hospital and seven Branch Health Clinics in three countries. A nurse researcher and pediatric nurse practitioner, CAPT Rychnovsky previously served as assistant director of Nurse Corps Policy and Practice at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. She also is a former Military Nurse Fellow for U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye.

CAPT Rychnovsky also is the Navy Nurse Corps representative to the TSNRP Women's Health Research Interest Group (RIG).

"I'm humbled to be provided the opportunity to lead a command of such magnitude and scope while also being allowed to continue my work with the TSNRP Women's Health RIG," said CAPT Rychnovsky, "especially at a time when military women are being offered groundbreaking opportunities



CAPT Jacqueline Rychnovsky is sworn in as commanding officer of the Naval Health Research Center in San Diego.

to participate in combat activities and careers as submariners. The research opportunities to study this population are endless. We're just scratching the surface." ★

Five TSNRP Researchers Receive the 9A Proficiency Designator Award

The Army Nurse Corps' Office of the Chief congratulates the following Army nurse scientists as new award-ees of the 9A Proficiency Designator:

- COL Rachel Armstrong (Nursing Administration)
- COL Sara Breckenridge-Sproat (Nursing Administration)
- COL (ret) Linda Connelly (USAR; Nursing Administration)
- COL Kathy Prue-Owens (Critical Care)
- LTC Michael Schlicher (Research)

The purpose of the 9A Proficiency Designator award is to recognize the highest level of professional

achievement within each U.S. Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Corps' specialty or subspecialty. Officers selected for this honor are leaders in their specialties and have contributed significantly to the advancement and knowledge of nursing within their specialties. These professionals have worked hard and dedicated a significant amount of time to become distinct assets to the AMEDD, both as officers and as specialists. We are all proud that these Army nurse scientists are considered eminently qualified to chair a department, division, or service; have attained full professional status; and have obtained national prominence in their fields. ★

Calendar

December 2013

Advisory Council Meeting

Date TBD
Washington, DC

January 2014

Executive Board of Directors Meeting

Washington, DC

Evidence-Based Practice Seminar

30–31 January
Joint Base Lewis-McChord
Tacoma, Washington



TSNRP Congratulates COL (ret) Stacey Young-McCaughan on New STRONG STAR-CAP Role

COL (ret) Stacey Young-McCaughan, AN, USA, a strong supporter of TSNRP since its early years and principal investigator on numerous TSNRP grants, has been named Director of Research and Co-Director of the Assessment Core for a new \$45 million research grant intended to accelerate finding a cure for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

COL (ret) Young-McCaughan brings to her new task many of the skills she developed in her TSNRP research.

The STRONG STAR Consortium to Alleviate PTSD (STRONG STAR-CAP), funded by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), will support cutting-edge clinical trials and

biological studies of PTSD for veterans and active service members.

COL (ret) Young-McCaughan brings to her new task many of the skills she developed in her TSNRP research and as a member of TSNRP's Scientific Review Panel. "Clearly, my experience receiving and managing my TSNRP-funded studies has been invaluable in managing the STRONG STAR and now the STRONG STAR-CAP studies," she said. "The guidance and assistance I've received over the years from the TSNRP directors and staff have given me an excellent foundation to now help guide this new work."

In her TSNRP-funded research, COL (ret) Young-McCaughan studied exercise interventions for cancer patients, opioid-induced sedation, and how sleep disturbances and pain affect

physical and psychological outcomes in soldiers with extremity trauma.

Her current TSNRP-funded research is a prospective clinical trial of exercise in the treatment of PTSD. The trial makes use of the STRONG STAR infrastructure, including consultation by experts in PTSD, standardized assessments, and trained assessors and therapists.

In her new STRONG STAR capacity, COL (ret) Young-McCaughan explained, she will "work with all the investigative teams to develop their research ideas and write protocols that can be conducted at military and VA sites with military and VA beneficiaries." She also will work to standardize training, assessments, study procedures, and reporting across all consortium studies. ★

Army Nurse Corps Deputy Chief Receives Army Nurse of the Year Award



COL Vinette Gordon

TSNRP congratulates COL Vinette Gordon, AN, USA, Deputy Chief of the Army Nurse Corps, who recently received the Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee 2013 Army Nurse of the Year Award. The Daughters of the American Revolution present the award annually to honor an active

duty Army Nurse Corps officer who epitomizes professional and military nursing excellence. The award is named for Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee, who is known as the founder of the Army Nurse Corps because she authored the bill establishing the corps. ★



Congratulations to LTC Angela Simmons, AN, USA, for receiving the Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award from the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing for her dissertation, "Determining the Relationships Between Resilience, Spirituality, Life Events, Disruption, Demographic Characteristics, Personal History, and Mental Health Symptoms in Soldiers with a Recent Deployment History."



Published Articles and Presentations by TSNRP Nurse Scientists

Published Articles

2013

Goodman, P., Edge, B., **Agazio, J.**, & Prue-Owens, K. (2013). Military nursing care of Iraqi patients. *Mil Med* 178(9), 1010–1015.

Goodman, P., Turner, A., **Agazio, J.**, Throop, M., Padden, D., Greiner, S., & Hillier, S. L. (2013). Deployment of military mothers: Supportive and nonsupportive military programs, processes, and policies. *Mil Med* 178(7), 729–734.

Bridges, E. (2013). Using functional hemodynamic indicators to guide fluid therapy. *Am J Nurs* 113(5), 42–50.

Moore, A. D., Hamilton, J. B., Pierre-Louis, B. J., & Jennings, B. M. (2013). Increasing access to care and reducing mistrust: Important considerations when implementing the Patient-Centered Medical Home in Army health clinics. *Mil Med* 178(3), 291–298.

Rivers, F. M., Gordon, S., Speraw, S., & Reese, S. (2013). U.S. Army nurses' reintegration and homecoming experiences after Iraq and Afghanistan. *Mil Med* 178(2), 166–173.

Robbins, J., Hayes, E., Mann-Salinas, S., Mittlesteadt, P., Phillips, S., Serio-

Melvin, M. L., Shingleton, S. K., & Tubera, D. (2013). Expert practitioner as change agent: Translating and implementing evidence into practice. *Clin Nurse Spec* 27(2), E64.

Steele, N., & Yoder, L. H. (2013). Military women's urinary patterns, practices, and complications in deployment settings. *Urol Nurs* 33(2), 61–71.

Presentations

2012

Johnson, D. (30 April–3 May 2012). "The effects of fluid administration on clotting when QuikClot is used in a porcine model." Biennial Phyllis J. Verhonick Nursing Research Course, San Antonio, Texas.

2013

Buonora, J., Mousseau, M., Latoru, L., Diaz-Arrastia, R., Pollard, H., Rizoli, S., Baker, A., Rhind, S., & Mueller, G. (4–7 August 2013). "Peroxiredoxin 6: A novel candidate for a TBI biomarker signature." Neurotrauma Meeting, Nashville, Tennessee.

Ceremuga, T., Anderson, R., Frye, P., Manjarres, C., Petsche, J., Duvall, C., & Mann, J. (11–12 August 2013). "Evaluation of the herbal medicine,

tetrahydropalmatine (THIP), on PTSD-induced rat neurobehavior." The United States Army Graduate Program in Anesthesia Nursing at the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Shellagarger, P., Persson, T., Bertsch, S., Fanning, M., Gale, P., Tobinson, D., Bentley, M., & **Ceremuga, T.** (11–12 August 2013). "Effects of tetrahydropalmatine (THIP) and PTSD-induced changes in rat gene expression and neurobehavior." The United States Army Graduate Program in Anesthesia Nursing at the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Moore, A. D. (31 July–4 August 2013). "Increasing access to care and reducing mistrust needed when implementing the Patient-Centered Medical Home." National Black Nurses Association Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Schlicher, M. (19–21 May 2013). "Using nanotechnology in nursing and medicine." American Association of Critical Care Nurses National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition, Boston, Massachusetts. ★

Newly Published Final Reports

Congratulations to the following military nurse researchers for completing the Final Report process. Their TSNRP Final Reports were assigned NTIS accession numbers and entered into the NTIS and CINAHL databases, with links on TSNRP's Web site.

- LTC (ret) Nancy A. Ryan-Wenger, AN, USA. *A Trial to Maximize the Accuracy of Military Women's*

Genitourinary Self-Diagnoses, TSNRP study N08-010, NTIS accession #PB2013-106534.

- LTC Christopher Weidlich, AN, USA. *CPSP as a Mediator of Resiliency and Coping among Military Health Care Personnel*, TSNRP study N12-P17, NTIS accession #PB2013-110589.

- LCDR(ret) George A. Zangaro, NC, USN. *Factors Associated with Retention of Army, Navy, and Air Force Nurses*, TSNRP study N09-C10, NTIS accession #PB2013-106498. ★

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Former Army Nurse Corps Deputy Chief-Reserve Component COL Linda Connelly Retires

In 2012, COL Linda Connelly retired after 24 years in the Army. She recently took some time to share her experiences and offer some advice for future Nurse Corps officers.

When did you know you wanted to join the U.S. military?

LC: My dad was a sailor, and he always talked about God, family, and country. So I thought about it when I was a new graduate nurse, but I never went to the recruiting station. Later, my sister and brother-in-law joined the Air Force. My sister told me that there were nurses joining the reserves who were older than me, and they had received a sign-on bonus. So I thought, "Why not?" I went to the local Air Force recruiting office, and when they found out

I was an operating room nurse, they did not let me leave until I had completed all the paperwork. They called a week later and said they were full but the Army Nurse Corps (ANC) had openings.

What were some of your most rewarding experiences?

LC: Throughout my career, we trained to "go to war," and when I finally deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, it was one of my most rewarding experiences. I thought that would be the highlight of my career, but I was surprised when I was selected to be the assistant chief nurse, Defense Intelligence Mission Area, for the Chief of the ANC. I worked with many amazing soldiers and felt that we influenced the ANC

reserves. Participating in the TSNRP programs and decisions was fulfilling as we worked with the Air Force and Navy Nurse Corps. It was gratifying to be on the cutting edge of nursing research.

What advice would you give to new Nurse Corps officers?

LC: I always advised new officers to have short- and long-term goals for their careers and to take advantage of military education opportunities. New officers should understand that networking is important in the reserves because we are spread across the nation and have diverse knowledge and skills. We must be willing to share and support each other as we serve our country. ★

TSNRP Advisory Council Member CAPT Anne White Retires

CAPT Anne White, a member of the TSNRP Advisory Council and Chief of Staff of the Reserve Component of Navy Medicine National Capital Area, recently retired. *TSNRP News* asked CAPT(ret) White to share some reflections on her Navy career.

What inspired you to become a Nurse Corps officer in the Navy Reserve Nurse Corps?

AW: One influence was listening to my parents' tales of growing up during World War II. They were very patriotic, and it wasn't hard to understand why their generation was called the "greatest generation." My father's stories often were about his adventures during his 8 years in the Navy. Another influence was growing up in

Key West, where many of my friends' parents were Navy officers. From a young age, I knew that I wanted to be a nurse and join the Navy. I became a nurse, but the timing never seemed right to join the Navy. I wanted to get married after college, and then there were children. Many years went by, and then one day, in the hospital where I worked, there was a Navy recruiting brochure. I took it home and, with much encouragement from my husband, decided to fulfill my lifelong dream of joining the Navy. At age 38, I finally joined the Navy! I never anticipated that I would stay in for 23 years and retire.

What has been your greatest challenge?

AW: The greatest challenge has been

the time commitment. Leadership positions in the Reserve Component require many hours beyond the one weekend per month. It has been a constant balancing act between two full-time jobs and family commitment.

What experiences have been most rewarding?

AW: I have had so many rewarding experiences during my time in the Navy: humanitarian missions, leadership positions, recruitment of nursing students, and unique opportunities to pursue scholarship. But what made these experiences rewarding was the individuals I shared them with. I have to say that the best part about the Navy has been the people I have served with. ★

Thank you, COL Connelly and CAPT White, for your dedicated service to your country and to military nursing.



Research Spotlight

TSNRP Military Women’s Health Research Interest Group Updates

Megan Foradori, RN, MSN

This summer, the Military Women’s Health Research Interest Group (RIG) continued its work to support those interested in the health and health care of military women and further the science in this area. This work included serving as subject matter experts for four women’s health graduate students and novice researchers who attended the TSNRP Research Grant Camp.

The RIG also has made progress on the development of its searchable online database for use by those interested in conducting research on military women. Led by scientists COL Lori Trego, AN, USA (project lead); CAPT Jacqueline Rychnovsky, NC, USN; LTC Nancy Steele, AN, USA; and Lt Col Candy Wilson, USAF, NC, the team has screened 1,431 articles published between 2000 and 2010 as part of its ongoing literature review. For articles that have passed the title screen, each of the four leaders has conducted an abstract review based on inclusion criteria and has classified

the articles by various categories, such as service branch, topic area, and conflict. A core leader and a subject matter expert from a group of 39 scientists/clinicians with military, civilian, and multidisciplinary representation will read and grade the articles that reach the final literature grading phase. The team will then synthesize the literature and identify topic gaps.

The Military Women’s Health RIG maintains a Facebook page (search for “Military Women’s Health Research Interest Group”), a page on the TSNRP website (<http://www.usuhs.edu/tsnrp/Resources/RIG/women.php>), and a women’s health researcher guide with profiles and publications of 53 researchers. The leaders would like to thank those who have submitted their profile pages for the guide and helped with literature grading.

Members of the RIG mentor novice researchers and offer support and advice to anyone interested in military women’s health. In July,

CAPT Rychnovsky, core leader team member of the RIG, visited TSNRP Research Grant Camp attendees in San Diego to extend the RIG’s greetings, offer support, and provide a RIG update.

If you wish to obtain a copy of the women’s health researcher guide (both paper and electronic copies are available) or become involved with the Military Women’s Health RIG, please email project coordinator Megan Foradori, RN, MSN, at megan.foradori@gmail.com. ★

Recent Retirements

CDR Carole Daniel, NC, USN

RADM Elizabeth Niemyer, NC, USN

CAPT Anne White, NC, USNR

Maj Gen Kimberly Siniscalchi, USAF, NC

Know Your Research Specialty Leaders

Your research specialty leaders are a valuable resource for current research requirements and initiatives throughout the military, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the Federal Nursing Services.

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