

PhD Nursing Student

NEWSLETTER



This Fall 2024 Newsletter highlights and recognizes the accomplishments of current students and recent graduates from the PhD in Nursing Program in the Tan Chingfen Graduate School of Nursing at the UMass Chan Medical School.

We want to share their interests in asking and answering questions, conducting research, disseminating results, advancing nursing science, exploring nursing education, engaging in professional organizations, and promoting health as they prepare and begin their role to steward the discipline of nursing.

This Fall we have 24 PhD nursing students engaged in coursework and completing their dissertations. I am most grateful for the opportunity to serve as the Director of this Program, to work alongside the PhD Program Faculty as we teach, mentor, guide, and learn from each one of our students preparing to be nursing scholars of the future.

Nancy Morris, PhD, RN, ANP-BC

Bingham-Hendricks, C., Peters-Mosquera, A., Aronowitz, S., Woods, C. & Aronowitz, T. (2024). Changes to opioid use disorder treatment policy during COVID-19 and the impact on American Indian/Alaska Native Communities. Poster at Association for Multidisciplinary Education and Research in Substance use and Addiction 48th Annual Conference, Chicago, IL November 14-16,2024.



Bingham-Hendricks, C., Peters-Mosquera, A., Woods, C. & Aronowitz, T. (2024). What do Recovery Providers see as Facilitators and Barriers that American Indian/Alaskan Natives Encounter in Receiving Medication for Opioid Use Disorder? Poster at the 36th Annual ENRS Scientific Sessions, Boston, MA. April 4, 2024.

Bingham-Hendricks, C., Peters-Mosquera, A., Woods, C. & Aronowitz, T. (2025). The Development and Implementation of a Developmentally and Culturally Appropriate Substance Use Prevention Program for Native Middle-Schoolers. Podium presentation at the Intersections: Equity and Engagement in Substance Use Services Conference, ADCare Educational Services, Westboro, MA. May 2024.

Costa, J. (2024). Fostering Parent-Nurse Relationships through meaningful moments in childhood cancer care. Poster at the 26th Annual ENRS Scientific Sessions, Boston, MA, April 2024.

Healy, C. (2024). Self-appropriation in nurse engagement: Facilitating the development of expert nurses using Benner and Lonergan. *Nursing Philosophy*, 25, e12480.

Kennedy, H. M., DiFazio, R. L., Pagano-Therrien, J. (2024). Examining difference in perceived social support by race and ethnicity for family caregivers of medically complex children. Poster at 36th Annual ENRS Scientific Sessions, Boston, MA. April 4, 2024.

Lane, I. A., Fetta, J., Stevens, G., Strakweather, A., & Zempsky, W. T. (2024). Chronic pain in sexual and gender minorities, a mixed-studies systematic review. Poster at IASP World Congress on Pain, Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 5-9, 2024.





Sabella, K., Lane, I. A., O'Neill, M., & Tincknell, N. (2024). Young adults' perception of adverse childhood experiences as context and causes of mental health conditions: Observations from the United States. Child Protection and Practice, 3.

Mar, W. & Burgess, E. (2024). Safe staffing saves lives: A call to action. Worcester Medicine, 93(2),16-17.

Perez, D. (Urella), Sullivan-Bolyai, S., Bova, C., & Fain, J. (2024). Burnout among young adults with Type1 Diabetes. The Science of Diabetes Self-Management and Care, 50(3), 211-221.

Peters-Mosquera, A., Bingham-Hendricks, C., Woods, C. & Aronowitz, T. (2024). What are the Policies that State, Federal and Tribal Law Enforcement Apply to the Reporting and Investigation of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW)? Poster at the 36th Annual ENRS Scientific Sessions, Boston, MA. April 4, 2024.

Peters-Mosquera, A., Dube, M. A., Bingham-Hendricks, C., & Aronowitz, T. (2024). An Integrative Review of Home Visiting Programs for American Indian/Alaska Native Families. Poster at the 50th Annual Conference Transcultural Nursing Society, Salt Lake City, Utah. October 23-26, 2024.

Romain, S. (2024). An exploration of the experiences and navigation of ethical challenges among travel nurses. Poster at the 36th Annual ENRS Scientific Sessions, Boston, MA, April 4, 2024.

Romain, S. (2024). Travel Nurses: A Review of the Literature. Poster at Sigma Beta Zeta at Large Conference, Northampton, MA. April 10, 2024.

Toye, A., Aronowitz, T. (2024). Emerging adults' perceptions of what constitute healthy eating: A Systematic Mixed Studies Review. Poster at 36th Annual ENRS Scientific Sessions, Boston, MA.



HONORS AND AWARDS

Chyla Bingham-Hendricks - recipient of a travel scholarship to the 12th Annual National Native Harm Reduction Summit, July 16-18, at White Earth Nation in Mahnomon, MN.

Jen Costa recipient of the 2024 Chancellor's Award

Jen Costa served as the June 4th Tan Chingfen Graduate School of Nursing 2024 Commencement Speaker

Melissa Anne Dubois - recipient of the Carol Bova Scholarship 2024

Bill Mar - a recipient of the 2024 Nursing Scholarship Award from the Asian American Pacific Islander Nurses Association.

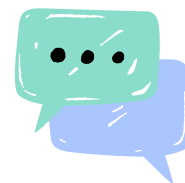
Beth Terhune - recipient of a 2024 AANP Scholarship Award.

Beth Terhune - recipient of the Suzanne T. and John F. Sullivan Scholarship 2024.

Amanda Toye - recipient of the 3rd Place Peer-Reviewed Doctoral Poster Winner at 36th Annual ENRS Scientific Sessions, Boston, MA.



Student to Student



It's hard to be a graduate student and a professional nurse. It's harder than people realize and, in my view, it's harder than being a typical graduate student. The emotional exhaustion and professional overload is real, and oftentimes we have families to support. This is hard, but you can do it. Every semester has a crescendo of difficulty that you will traverse, and, every semester, despite it feeling like you'll never get through, you will always get through. You can absolutely do this. Just keep moving forward, focus on the next thing to get done and then breathe and settle in. Embrace the challenge, but know that it's transient, and that there's a win waiting for you at the end of the line, each time. Your ideas are special and we need you in Nursing Science. (Oh... and remember to celebrate every win! It's all too easy in academia to forget to celebrate what feel like small victories along this long path.)

Shared by Ian Lane.





Student to Student



My advice for new students is: Trust the process. You are likely to feel very “in over your head” for the first year of classes but then you will have learned enough to finally start making connections and it will all start to come together! You can’t possibly read everything there is to read or write everything there is to write so don’t let it paralyze you from reading and writing what you CAN. Open your brain and be a sponge!

Shared by Melissa Anne Dubois.



An Interview with Dr. Penni Sadlon

Associate Professor at Rhode Island College

By Melissa Anne DuBois, PhD Student

Dr. Penni Sadlon earned her PhD from the Graduate School of a Nursing at UMass Medical School in 2020. Her dissertation was a qualitative study exploring Eastern Woodlands Native adult perspectives, health care beliefs, and type 2 diabetes management experiences and the community and family factors that influence disease self-management.



After graduation, Dr. Sadlon pursued a post-doctoral fellowship at the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning. She notes that many employers are now requiring PhD prepared nurses to have completed a postdoc as a condition of employment and encourages PhD students to ask their professors about resources where they can research available postdoc positions. She also advised that even if you take a job right after graduation, you can still decide to pursue a postdoc at a later time if your career aspirations change.

Dr. Sadlon is an Associate Professor of Nursing/Endowed Professor of Simulation and Innovation at the Onanian School of Nursing at Rhode Island College. She enjoys mentoring Master’s and PhD nursing students. Her current scholarship is focused on competency-based nursing education from the faculty development side. Her interest in psychometrics was invigorated during her PhD training and she enjoys using content validity ratio processes to develop evaluation tools to use during simulation training. At Rhode Island College they use the “Boyer Model of Scholarship” which means that her work teaching and reviewing books and journal manuscripts count alongside her research publications towards her scholarship tenure requirements.

When asked about the challenges a PhD prepared nurse can encounter after graduation, Dr. Sadlon commented that all jobs are affected by the institutional culture and your role within the organization. Regardless of where one lands, Dr. Sadlon strongly encourages PhD graduates to identify and work closely with a mentor, to prioritize work-life balance, to stay in touch with their PhD cohort for support, and to “take leaps of faith” when it comes to reaching out to others for networking. In fact, she believes in the power of mentorship so much that she advises reaching out to former professors as needed for support and taking the initiative in your organization to start a mentor-mentee program if they do not have one. She also encourages PhD graduates to lean on other new PhD prepared nurse colleagues for camaraderie and not to perpetuate toxic work environments.

Dr. Sadlon wants to remind students that we are not meant to do this work “all by ourselves.” She suggests students to go to conferences and intentionally network with people who you can propose studies to and potentially work with in the future. She encourages students to surround themselves with like minded nurse researchers and interdisciplinary colleagues.

Dr. Sadlon also recommends “celebrating the small successes” along the PhD journey at every opportunity, and preferably with homemade baked goods! Lastly, she offered a fantastic analogy that being a PhD student is like being taffy in a taffy pulling machine. Sometimes you feel like you are being pulled at either end and that is difficult and stressful. Sometimes you feel like you might break, but you won’t! And at the end of the process, you will become a nice little package of nursing knowledge and skill that is ready for the big world!



Recent Graduates



Dissertation:

Prelicensure nursing education experience of students with physical disabilities: A qualitative descriptive study

August 2023

Kimberly Mantlow



Dissertation:

In our world: Uncovering the meaning of parent-nurse relationships in childhood cancer care

December 2023

Jennifer Costa

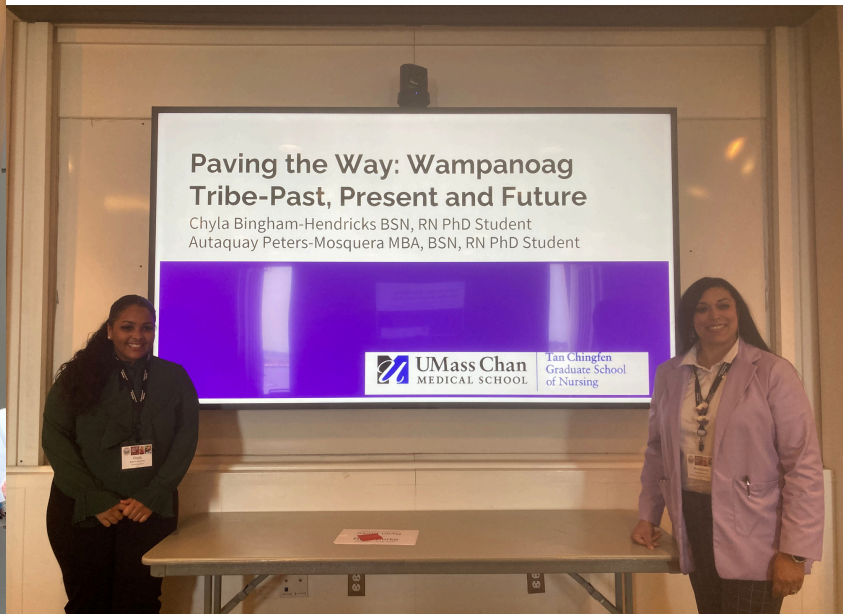


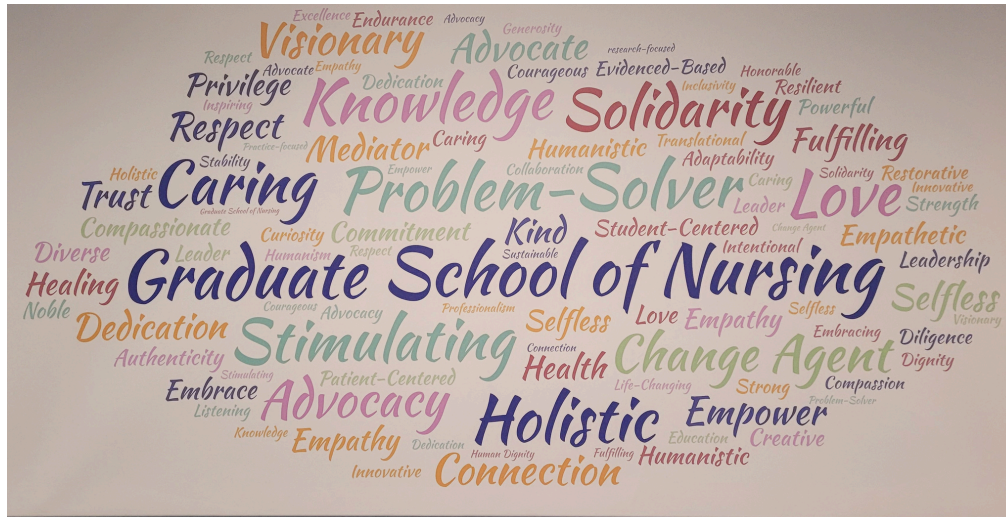
Dissertation:

Burnout among young adults with Type 1 Diabetes

December 2023

Danielle Urella Perez





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