At Texas A&M University College of Nursing, research is a primary foundation of our mission. We are developing innovations to enhance the education and preparation of nurses and improving the delivery of patient care for diverse populations and translating research evidence into practice.¹

Research in nursing helps shape scientifically and clinically viable outcomes in addressing inequitable access to health care. With specialized research centers and strategic partnerships in place, our nurses have specialty areas including forensic nursing, Hispanic populations, childhood obesity, integration of primary care with mental health care, cancer prevention and screening, public health nursing, and chronic diseases.²

By integrating our research into teaching practice, scholarship is a fundamental component of the academic curriculum. As part of the Texas A&M Health Science Center, we continually strive to establish interprofessional and interdisciplinary collaborations in research to enhance the lives of people across the state, nation and around the world. We are dedicated to establishing strategic partnerships with a variety of public and private entities to support nursing research that addresses increasingly dynamic health care needs.³

This report highlights our faculty's scholarly activities, including current research and sponsored projects, presentations and publications.³

References
¹ Texas A&M College of Nursing Calendar Year 2019 Report
² Texas A&M College of Nursing website
It is my honor as Associate Dean for Research at Texas A&M University College of Nursing to highlight the growth and expansion of the Texas A&M College of Nursing's research and scholarly activities during calendar year 2020. This past year was an extremely challenging and momentous year for the college, and the nursing profession as a whole. The World Health Organization recognized 2020 as the International Year of the Nurse and Midwife, an honor coinciding with the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale and, ultimately, a year unlike any other. January 2020 began as most other years with the pursuit of key strategic goals and objectives; however, by March 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 epidemic a world-wide pandemic, fundamentally transforming every aspect of life. It was during these dark months that health professionals across the world were called upon at levels not seen in more than 100 years since the pandemic of 1918. During 2020, the College of Nursing rose to the challenge with strength, fortitude, creativity and tireless efforts to ensure the safety of students, faculty and staff, continuity of operations including early graduation of nursing students to meet the workforce shortage, and relentless pursuit of research initiatives designed the respond to the needs of the most underserved. The triumphs of the year are the result of the tireless commitment to service as evidenced by The Texas A&M University System and Texas A&M College of Nursing faculty, staff and students.

This report is designed to highlight the many scholarship accomplishments of the College of Nursing which is remarkable given the widespread impacts of the pandemic extended to every area of operations, including research and scholarship. Research operations, scholarship, engagement with participants, clinical sites and communities were reimagined in a pandemic and socially-distanced environment. Faculty and staff not only met these challenges, but they also accelerated the pace of research and scholarship.

During 2020, the College of Nursing research enterprise expanded exponentially. The college received many new competitive awards and research expenditures, totaling more than $2 million, a milestone considered as an important benchmark by university and system research leadership. More than 40 proposals were submitted requesting more than $25 million in new funding. Faculty increased research scholarship with 40 articles, more than 60 presentations and 26 posters. Despite travel restrictions and curtailing of in-person activities, the dissemination efforts through virtual conferences and professional meetings increased significantly. The college also received a number of prestigious honors during the year that establish the college as an emerging leader in research focused on the care of the rural and underserved. Among these include a visit by Thomas J. Engels, United States Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Deputy Director, to the college in September 2020 to announce the launch of the HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) award.

At Texas A&M University College of Nursing, we continually strive to highlight and recognize outstanding accomplishments in research and scholarship. There are too many accolades and awards received by faculty to list; however, this report provides a broad overview of the significant research and scholarship accomplishments of the College of Nursing.

Regards,

Jane Bolin, PhD, JD, RN
Texas A&M College of Nursing, Associate Dean for Research and Regents Professor
SPONSORED PROJECTS


Breast Cancer Screening, Training, & Education Program Serving Underserved Central Texas Women. Funding Source (2020-2021), Pink Alliance. PD: Weston, C. Amount: $10,000.


Interdisciplinary Collaborative Design-Based Learning in Visualization, Nursing, and Special Education. Funding Source (2019-2020), Texas A&M University Presidential Transformational Teaching Grant. PIs: Seo, J., Wells-Beede, E., & Gilson, C. Amount: $60,000.


National Collaboratory to Address Elder Mistreatment. Funding Source (2019-2020), Gordan and Betty Moore Foundation (Prime), Subaward from University of Texas Health Science Center School of Public Health. PIs: Dyer, C & Drake, S.A. Amount: $31,051.


Southwest Rural Health Research Center. Funding Source (2016-2021), Health Research and Services Administration Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. PIs: Ferdinand, A. & Bolin, J.N. Amount: $2,800,000.


The Rural Community Matters Project. Funding Source (2020-2023), Department of Justice, Subaward through Friendship of Women. PIs: Montalvo-Liendo, N. & Drake, S.A. Amount: $150,000.


*Denotes mentored students
<Denotes conference cancelled amid COVID-19 pandemic
Bold denotes College of Nursing author or co-author
PODIUM PRESENTATIONS


Charles, L. (2020, April). We missed it: A family’s human trafficking story. NASPAG 2020 ACRM. yı


Downing, N.R., & Bogue, R.J. (2020, September). The role of the forensic nurse in patient reporting decisions following sexual assault. International Association of Forensic Nurses. yı


Drake, S.A., Peternelj-Tayler, C., Porta, C.M. (2020, November). Sharing your experiences: The “How-to’s” of writing a case study for the JFN. Annual IAFN Conference. yı


Mauldin, B. (2020, April). Utilization of eCampus and VoiceThread to unleash the creativity of nursing pharmacology students [Quick fire presentation]. Transformational Teaching and Learning Conference, College Station, TX.


*Denotes conference cancelled amid COVID-19 pandemic

vDenotes virtual presentation
POSTERS


Denotes conference cancelled amid COVID-19 pandemic

Denotes virtual presentation


