



SOUTHERN CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Charleen McNeill

The Beginning of the Academic Year: A Time of Renewal and Opportunity for the Southern Nursing Research Society

As the academic year begins, Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) members find themselves at the cusp of an exciting and transformative period. This annual milestone is more than a mere transition from summer to fall; it symbolizes a fresh start filled with new opportunities for professional growth, collaborative research, and advancement in the field of nursing. For SNRS members, this time of year brings with it a renewed sense of purpose, ambition, and dedication to the advancement of nursing science.

Renewal of Professional Goals

The start of the academic year is a powerful impetus for reflection and goal-setting among SNRS members. It is a period when nurses and researchers reassess their professional trajectories and research objectives. Many members use this time to set new goals for their research projects, seek additional funding opportunities, and plan their contributions to upcoming conferences and publications. This annual ritual of renewal ensures that SNRS members stay aligned with the latest trends and priorities in nursing research, ultimately driving the field forward.

Opportunities for Collaboration

One of the most significant aspects of the academic year's beginning is the enhanced focus on collaboration. SNRS fosters a community where interdisciplinary collaboration is not just encouraged but actively pursued. As the new academic year unfolds, members have fresh opportunities to connect with peers, share insights, and collaborate on

research projects. Networking events, workshops, and seminars hosted by SNRS, particularly during the annual conference, provide a platform for members to engage with colleagues from various institutions and specializations. These interactions can lead to valuable partnerships, joint research initiatives, and shared resources, all of which contribute to advancing nursing science.

Engagement with New Research Initiatives

The beginning of the academic year often marks the launch of new research initiatives and funding opportunities based on evolving funding organization priorities. As SNRS continues to evolve, it frequently provides a venue to discuss these new research agendas that address pressing issues in nursing and healthcare. Members are encouraged to align their research interests with these initiatives, contributing to the development of evidence-based practices that can significantly impact patient care and outcomes. This alignment not only helps in advancing the field but also enhances the visibility and impact of individual research efforts.

Professional Development and Education

Another key element of the academic year's start is the emphasis on professional development. SNRS strongly emphasizes the continuous education and training of its members. The beginning of the academic year often heralds a series of educational opportunities, including workshops, webinars, and conferences. These events cover a range of topics, from the latest research methodologies to emerging trends in nursing practice. By participating in these educational activities, SNRS members stay abreast of current developments in the field, refine their skills, and enhance their research capabilities.

Publication and Dissemination of Research

For many members of the SNRS, the beginning of the academic year represents a critical period for disseminating research findings. RINAH provides a platform for members to share their research outcomes with the broader nursing community, as do many other journals, depending on the intended target audience of the publication. The start of the academic year often coincides with submission deadlines for articles and research papers. This period is marked by a surge in writing and submission activities as members aim to publish their latest findings and contribute to the growing body of nursing literature.

Mentorship and Support

The academic year's beginning also highlights the importance of mentorship and support within the SNRS community. Established researchers and senior members are crucial in guiding and supporting early-career researchers and graduate students. This mentorship can take various forms, from one-on-one guidance to involvement in research teams and collaborative projects. The start of the academic year is an opportune time for fostering these relationships as new students and early-career professionals are integrated into SNRS and begin to navigate their research paths.

Commitment to Advancing Nursing Science

Ultimately, the beginning of the academic year is a powerful reminder of the SNRS's overarching mission: to advance nursing research through the dissemination and utilization of research findings, facilitating career development, promoting nursing science, and enhancing communication among the members of SNRS. The society's members' collective efforts—from setting research goals and engaging in collaborative projects to pursuing professional development and disseminating findings—contribute to this mission. Each new academic year represents a renewed commitment to these goals and a chance to make meaningful contributions to the field.

Conclusion

As the academic year begins, Southern Nursing Research Society members embrace a time of renewal, opportunity, and growth. The transition from summer to fall is more than a change in season; it is a period of setting new goals, fostering collaboration, engaging in research initiatives, and advancing professional development. For SNRS members, this time of year is a pivotal moment that reinforces their commitment to advancing nursing science and improving patient care. By leveraging the opportunities presented at the start of the academic year, SNRS members continue to drive progress in the field and make a lasting impact on the future of nursing research.

Charleen McNeill, PhD, MSN, RN

President

Southern Nursing Research Society



*From Social Determinants to Precision Health Innovations:
Nursing Research for Today and Tomorrow*

The Peabody Hotel

Memphis, TN

February 19-21, 2025

[Registration is now open for the SNRS 39th Annual Conference!](#)

The SNRS Annual Conference is the focal point for those engaged in nursing research in the southern region and provides an opportunity for SNRS members to report ongoing and completed research as well as theoretical, conceptual, and methodological projects to colleagues.



A special room rate of \$249 single/double (plus applicable taxes) has been arranged. Reserve your room by calling 1-800-PEABODY and referencing the group's name, SNRS 2025 Annual Conference to receive the discounted rate, or use this [link](#) to book rooms online. The reservation cutoff date is Friday, January 17, 2025, 5:00 pm ET. After that, the hotel will accept reservations on a space-available basis.

[RESERVE YOUR ROOM](#)



2025 SNRS Annual Conference Sponsorships Now Available!

The SNRS Annual Conference is the focal point for those engaged in nursing research in the southern region. With support from industry partners and organizations like yours, we have been able to provide a unique forum for discussion and access to a variety of resources for every attendee.

There are many opportunities for partnership including: sponsorship packages, exhibit booths, and advertising opportunities. [Click here](#) to view the full sponsor prospectus.

If you have any questions regarding the conference sponsorships, please email info@snrs.org.

Check out the [SNRS website](#) to see our current 2025 Annual Conference sponsors!



New Institutional Memberships

We are excited to announce the introduction of our new Institutional Membership Packages for 2024! These packages are designed to offer expanded benefits and greater opportunities for engagement with the Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) throughout the year.

Highlights of the New Membership Packages:

- Recognition at the Annual Conference: Gain visibility as an Institutional Member.
- Complimentary Memberships: Each package includes complimentary regular and student memberships.
- Complimentary Job Postings: Receive [complimentary](#) job postings per year.
- Webinar Hosting Opportunity: Host webinars to showcase your research.
- Sponsorship of SNRS Webinars: Sponsor webinars throughout the year.
- Enhanced Visibility: Have your logo displayed on the SNRS website and in email communications.
- Newsletter Advertisement: Advertisement in the SNRS Quarterly Newsletter.
- Social Media Recognition: Benefit from social media recognition posts.
- Access to SNRS Mailing List: Rent the SNRS mailing list for your outreach needs.

These packages will be optional for 2024, with the current Institutional Membership still available. Starting in 2025 you will only be able to choose from these packages for an Institutional Membership, and if you are a new member, just get the rest of 2024 for free! Institutions will need to choose from the packages listed [here](#).

If you have any questions regarding the packages, please email Cindy Dady, Executive Director at cdady@associationconferencegroup.com. We look forward to your continued support!

Upcoming program from Institutional Member -

The University of Alabama Capstone College of Nursing



The Capstone College of Nursing is hosting a research conference with a focus on developing your program of research/scholarship. There will be two keynote presentations featuring Dr. Gia Mudd-Martin, PhD from the University of Kentucky and Dr. Selena Giles, DNP from New York University. These two prolific scholars will share insights on ways to build programs of research and scholarship using their own work as examples. In this conference we will also highlight the scholarly work of our students, faculty and clinical partners. Additional information will be available on our website:

<https://nursing.ua.edu/2024-fall-research-day/>.

University Highlight

Dr. Carrie Henry, CCN Assistant Professor, has been awarded one of just nine grants from The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation to support innovative, early-stage interventions that address the serious illness and end of life needs of marginalized populations. Funds from this grant will support Dr. Henry's project, **Supporting Coping Efforts for Black Mothers After Stillbirth**, which seeks to develop a new culturally sensitive and needed intervention to facilitate adaptive coping for Black women after stillbirth. Read more [here](#).



School of Nursing

Creating An Innovation Mindset In Health And Healthcare Seminar

Marion Leary, PhD, MPH, RN

Sep 30, 2024 01:00 PM ET

Register [HERE](#).

2025 SNRS Research Grant

Applications are now being accepted for the **SNRS Research Grant** (due October 1st).

The purpose of the SNRS Research Grant Award is to support and promote new investigators in initiating or building a program of research, which advances nursing science and practice. Funds are available for quantitative and qualitative research on any topic relevant to the nursing profession. This award will fund research that is not being done for course credit. The SNRS Research Grant is for up to \$7500.

Applications **MUST BE DATED NO LATER THAN** October 1st of each year.

[Click here](#) for more information.



**DONATE TO THE SNRS
NURSING RESEARCH FUND!**

Our grant program would not be possible without donations from our SNRS members. All SNRS member donations go into an endowment fund. We are working to increase our endowment fund to the \$200,000 level so we can fully fund our current grants. This will also allow us to look at increasing funding for additional grants.

We have also added the option of recurring donations. So you can now set up any donation amount, to occur on a monthly basis.

To learn more about our grant program and how you can make a difference in promoting nursing research, [click here](#).



Member Spotlight: We proudly highlight **Dr. Kavita Radhakrishnan**, PhD, MSEE, RN, FAAN, from the University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing. Recently appointed Associate Dean for Research, Dr. Radhakrishnan is pioneering research that integrates cutting-edge technologies, such as telemonitoring, connected sensors, and digital gaming, to address clinical nursing challenges, including heart failure self-management. Her long-term goal is to develop affordable, scalable health interventions that support 'aging in place.' Notably, Dr. Radhakrishnan has secured a multi-million-dollar grant from the National Institutes of Health to conduct a clinical trial on sensor-controlled digital games aimed at improving heart failure self-management behaviors.



Dr. Jyotsana Parajuli is an assistant professor in the School of Nursing and an affiliate faculty in the Gerontology Program at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Her research focuses on palliative and end of life care in older adults with cancer and their family caregivers. She recently received two grant funding to support her research: a) R15 grant from the National Institute of Aging (NIA) – this study will focus on development and validation of a palliative care readiness tool for older adults with cancer and b) Sigma/Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation End of Life Nursing Care Research Grant which will focus on creating the tool for family caregivers of older adults with cancer. The palliative care readiness tool would allow clinicians to assess patients' and families' readiness for palliative care and provide targeted palliative care that is congruent with their readiness. Eventually, this would improve early utilization of palliative care in this population. Her research has a great potential to shift paradigm in the field of geriatric oncology and palliative care and make a difference in the lives of older adults with cancer and their family caregivers.

Do you have good news to share?

SNRS wants to hear about your accomplishments, grants awarded, articles published, research projects, and more. If it's important to you, it's important to us!

Please complete [this form](#) to let us know about your good news so we can celebrate with you in a future newsletter, on our website, and via social media.

#SNRSGoodNews



We are thrilled that [Jonas Philanthropies](#) has selected Robin Elkins (West Virginia University PhD; Scholar Focus Area: Underserved Populations), Jessica Gonzalez (University of South Carolina PhD; Scholar Focus Area: Pediatrics), Marcus Henderson (Johns Hopkins University PhD; Scholar Focus Area: Psychiatric/Mental Health), Ilana Logvinov (University of Central Florida PhD; Scholar Focus Area: Gerontology), and Hina Raheel (Emory University PhD; Scholar Focus Area: Environmental Health) as one of 63 leaders from around the country for the [#JonasImpact](#) Scholars Program. These Scholars will come together to learn from national leaders, build a network of forward-thinking peers, and apply grounded and innovative strategies to become successful nursing faculty members. We look forward to cheering them on!

F31 Award Announcement for PhD Student Hina Raheel: Read more [here](#).



Research Interest and Implementation Group (RIIG) for Associate Deans and Directors of Research

Launched in February 2024, the Associate Deans and Directors of Research (ADDR) RIIG is committed to advancing research within nursing colleges and schools across the southern United States. Our aim is to establish a robust platform for research collaboration and scholarship, while also mentoring those interested in assuming research administrative leadership roles at their respective universities.

In April 2024, ADDR held its inaugural meeting featuring guest speaker Dr. Tami Watt, Associate Dean for Research at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Watt presented on "Mentoring Early-Stage Researchers," emphasizing the crucial role of mentorship in sustaining the scientific aspect of nursing and advancing clinical practice. The meeting was highly successful, drawing attendees from various nursing schools and colleges across the region who benefited from the discussion and received valuable resources for implementation at their institutions.

We extend our gratitude to SNRS leadership for their support of the ADDR RIIG, and we are encouraged by the warm reception the RIIG has received from a significant portion of the SNRS membership.

We invite research deans, directors, leaders, those aspiring to research administration roles, and faculty interested in enhancing their research portfolios to join us in reigniting the passion for impactful research and its translation into practice, aligned with the demands of the digital era.

The ADDR key priorities include:

- Promoting research excellence through strategic mentoring of early-stage faculty and training mid-career and senior researchers on effective mentorship.
- Fostering a focus on data science by introducing nurses to emerging trends and innovative methodologies through webinars and workshops with guest speakers conducting high-impact research in data science, digital, and AI spaces.
- Developing a robust digital platform for research and scholarship by leveraging existing SNRS resources and integrating other platforms to facilitate cross-institutional collaboration for research dissemination.

Our upcoming meetings will feature multidisciplinary guest speakers addressing topics aligned with our priorities. As a RIIG group, we will collaborate to promote research and scholarship excellence through advocacy, scholarly contributions, and editorial or position statements advocating for nursing research and our identity as a scientific discipline.

For inquiries or to express interest in joining our RIIG, please contact:

Susan McBride, PhD, Chair of the ADDR RIIG at susanmcbride@uttyler.edu

Tonychris Nnaka, PhD, Co-Chair of the ADDR RIIG at tonychris.nnaka@unthsc.edu

Let us embark on this exciting journey of collaboration, innovation, and research excellence through the ADDR RIIG!

Warm regards,
Susan McBride, PhD
On Behalf of the ADDR RIIG

Upcoming Events:

ADDR RIIG Meetings: Held on the second Tuesday of every other month.

November 2024 Meeting: November 12, 2024, from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM Central Time

SNRS 39th Annual Conference:

Pre-Conference Presentation:

ADDR RIIG Co-Chair Susan McBride, PhD, RN-BC, CPHIMS, FAAN, Associate Dean of Research at The University of Texas at Tyler, and Brian Gugerty, DNS, RN from the All of Us Research Program at the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, will lead a presentation titled: *"Preparing Nursing*

Scientists to Utilize the NIH All of Us Research Workbench: What Does It Take to Get Started?" Pre-Conference sessions will be held on the morning of the first conference day (Wednesday) from 8:00am-11:30am with a 15-minute break. Please join and support us.

Please note there is a cost to attend the pre-conference presentations. Please go to the conference registration page for more information.

ADDR Sponsored Session:

During the ADDR RIIG meeting at the SNRS 39th Annual Conference, we will host a 20-minute roundtable discussion on *"Pathways to Research Leadership: Insights from Associate Deans and Directors of Research,"* moderated by ADDR RIIG Co-Chair Tonychris Nnaka, PhD, MPH, RN, CPH, Associate Dean for Research at the University of North Texas Health Science Center College of Nursing, Fort Worth. Join us to gain valuable insights from seasoned research leaders across the region.

We encourage research deans, directors, leaders, aspiring research administrators, and faculty looking to strengthen their research portfolios to join us in revitalizing our commitment to impactful research and its practical application in the digital age.

Community/Public Health and Health Promotion RIIG

It was exciting to meet up at SNRS 2024 in Charlotte and enthusiastically plan for the future of our RIIG! Intersectionality and potential research collaborations were discussed. It was amazing to realize the talents of the group and heartening to see so many people willing to share their expertise. Mentored RIIG leadership is a pathway to future professional service: Would you like to be mentored as Co-chair of the RIIG and assume the Chair position in 2025? If so, this position is open—please contact RIIG Chair Jean Davis at jean.davis@ucf.edu for more information. We welcome all members and students interested in Community/Public Health or Health Promotion to join us at our new quarterly meetings and at SNRS 2025 in Memphis!



NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Lindsay Aaro-Wade
Laurie Abbott
Dalisa Abdalla
Olayemi Adekeye
Clarissa Afable
Elizabeth Ahern
Irma Alvarado
Josephine Arnold
Bobby Bellflower
Stephanie Bennett
Brandy Boeger
Amy Britt
Timothy Burns
Rebecca Burrow
Jake Bush

Barbara Carlson
Ann K. Cashion
Debra Copeland
Stacey Crane
Marla Farmer
P. Marie Fletcher
Roxanne Flores
Shannon Ford
Yvonne R Ford
Ashley Franklin
Caroline Gerber
Tyra Girdwood
Lynn Glenn
Traci Gonzales
Jean Hannan
Candace Harrington
Bridget Hawkins
Robin Herrmann
Ivette Hidalgo
Christina Hillhouse
Amanda Holmes
Cassandre Horne
Yvette Humphrey
Jeremy Hutson
Melanie Jacobs
Shewit Jaynes
JungHee Kang
MINJEONG KIM
Kristen Krum
Alasia Ledford
Sohye Lee
Oscar 'Danny' Lee
Sherry Leviner
Blanca Lupiani
Amelia Manning
Marjorie Matekwa
Caitlin McVey Weinheimer
Rebecca Meraz
Mulubrhan Mogos
Jeannine Moss
Vicky Nerima
Elizabeth NeSmith
Joy Obihara
Karen O'Brien
Elizabeth Olafson
Uloma Onubogu
Teresita Promise
Stacy Pryor
Marian Reven
Carolann Risley
Beth Rogers
Parker Rohrbaugh
Dixie Rose
Jennifer Russell
Somin Sang
Christy Savell
Melissa Scott
Jill Sergison

Lisa Shah
Sarah Slone
Marie Smith-East
Kathleen Sneed
Telisa Spikes
Brandy Strahan
Kate Taylor
Katherine Taylor
Daniel Terrell
Jessica Thomas
Whitney Thurman
Dawn Turnage
Jacqueline Vaughn
Jing Wang
Rhonda Yates
Hyunbin You



CAREER CENTER

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Visit the [SNRS Career Center](#) to access jobs and candidates within the highly skilled nursing research profession.

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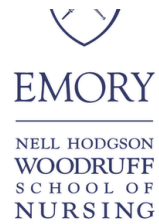
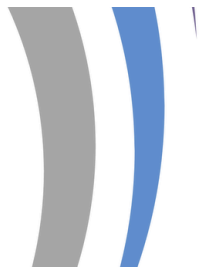


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