Interim School Director
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Associate School Directors
- Dr. Nancy Ahern, Associate Director for Undergraduate Programs, 3083 McNeill Hall, Voice 910.962.2627, Email ahermn@uncw.edu
- Dr. Linda Haddad, Associate Director for Graduate Programs, 3078A McNeill Hall, Voice 910.962.2253, Email haddadl@uncw.edu

About the School of Nursing
- Established initially as an Associate Degree program and graduated first class in 1967; since 1984 has conferred the Bachelor of Science Degree in Professional Nursing.
- Four additional programs were added to the SON: Master of Science Degree in Nursing in 1998, a Baccalaureate Degree in Clinical Research in 2004, a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Research in 2011 and a Doctor of Nursing Practice in 2016.
- A community of health care professionals dedicated to excellence in teaching, scholarly endeavors, practice and professional community service.
- Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and approved by the North Carolina Board of Nursing (NCBON).

Degrees Offered and Academic Program Coordinators
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing: (PreLicensure), Dr. Brandy Mechling. mechlingb@uncw.edu
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing: (RN-BSN Option) Dr. Debra Hrelic, hrelicd@uncw.edu
- Master of Science in Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration) Dr. Micah Scott, scottmi@uncw.edu
- Master of Science in Nursing (Nurse Educator Concentration) Dr. Beth Gazza, gazzae@uncw.edu
- Bachelor of Science in Clinical Research, Barbara Pennington, M.S., R.N., penningtonb@uncw.edu
- Master of Science in Clinical Research and Product Development, Dr. Susan Sinclair, sinclairs@uncw.edu
- Doctor of Nursing Practice, Dr. Matthew Gallek, gallekm@uncw.edu
- Coordinator of the Simulation Learning Center, Ms. Robin Cunningham, cunninghamr@uncw.edu

Faculty
- 60 full-time faculty members; 23 part-time faculty members.
- 68% of the full-time faculty have a doctorate; 100% of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty hold the doctorate; 100% of the faculty are Master’s prepared.
- UNCW Distinguished Professors, Search underway for Irwin Belk Distinguished Professor, and Dr. Barbara Lutz, McNeill Distinguished Professor.

Student/Alumni and Education Information
- Total Enrollment = 2,301: BSN 284/160; RNBSN 1,310; RIBN 27; BSCR 97/33; MSCR 62; MSN = 283; DNP 19; Certificate Programs CR 9; FNP 17.
- Twice a year admission to the PreLicensure option. Six admission periods for the RN BS program option.
- More than 2,100 alumni with the majority living and working in North Carolina.
- NCLEX pass rate for the PreLicensure graduates is 96%.
- The School of Nursing has 1 of the 4 bachelor’s degree Clinical Research programs in the US that prepare skilled professionals for the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.
- $81,629 in annual and endowed scholarships awarded.
- Strong Nurse Advocate Board and School of Nursing Advisory Council, a dedicated and committed group of community partners, leaders, and friends of nursing.

Interprofessional Collaboration
- Partnership with Iwate Prefectural University, annual lecture series, reciprocal visits and joint research projects.
- Simulation learning activities.
- Adolescent Substance Abuse Learning Collaborative
- Students and faculty practice community health in Belize to provide health care for the area’s indigenous pediatric population.
- Collaboration with medicine and pharmacy on simulation learning activities.
Community Engagement and Impact

- Faculty practice in acute care agencies, community clinics and rehabilitation centers.
- **Service on special boards for community engagement** including SMART Start, Health Literacy Councils, United Way of Cape Fear Area, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, and New Hanover County Health Department, Cape Fear Community College, Family Promise of the Lower Cape Fear, Wellcare Advisory Board, Samaras Village Brunswick County, NHC Child Fatality Prevention Team, NAMI Walk, and Yahweh Children’s Center.
- **Collaboration with** New Hanover County Department of Aging and New Hanover County Health Department to host health fairs for seniors and other vulnerable populations.
- Consultation and research with pharmaceutical and biotechnology corporations.
- Several faculty members provide primary care as advanced nurse practitioners in adult and pediatric care settings.

Team Implementation Science

Faculty members are involved in research projects centered on vulnerable populations including child and family health promotion, health risk behavior change, management of chronic diseases, gerontology, nursing education, simulation, and clinical research. Current faculty research projects include:

1. **Children, Adolescents, Adult, and Family Health**
   - a. Children with Special Health Care Needs
   - b. Effects of Family Strengthening on Child Health Outcomes
   - c. Family care givers
   - d. Military and Veterans Families
   - e. Parental knowledge of adolescent risk behaviors
   - f. Pain management
   - g. Youth violence prevention
   - h. Gerontological health, care, and well-being

2. **Chronic Disease Management**
   - a. Human Papillomavirus (HPV) in Adolescents
   - b. HIV/AIDS Prevention and Management
   - c. Diabetes Type II
   - d. Hypertension Management
   - e. Heart failure
   - f. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder

3. **Health Risk Behavior Change**
   - a. Obesity Prevention
   - b. Sexual Risk Taking
   - c. Intimate Partner Violence

4. **Mental Health**
   - a. Anxiety and Depression (Stroke, Hypertension, CVD, HIV/AIDS, Perinatal)
   - b. Complimentary/alternative therapies
   - c. Stress and Coping
   - d. Spiritual Health

5. **Nursing Education and Research Training**
   - a. Education, project management, productivity, regulatory science
   - b. Clinical research: consents, pharmaceutical trials, pregnancy exposure registries
   - c. Education to address health disparities
   - d. Technology and simulation in nursing education
   - e. Standardized patient used in simulations
   - f. Curricula design and evaluation
   - g. Clinical reasoning in education and clinical practice
   - h. Applied Learning – Flipped Classroom
   - i. Writing children’s books to enhance the nursing profession
   - j. Nursing faculty role/identity
   - k. Facilitating the development of scholarly writing
   - l. Online education

6. **Health Policy Change & Systems**
   - a. Health literacy
   - b. Historical research in nursing
   - c. Incivility in nursing
   - d. Translation of Genomic Information in Nursing Practice
   - e. Transitions of Care
   - f. Enhancing nursing use of electronic fetal monitoring to improve patient safety

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