Transitions, Transformations, and Outcomes: The Challenges of Achieving Excellence in Nursing Education

1. **Sunday, November 12, 4:10-500 pm**
   **Kylie Smith, PhD.**
   Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing
   Emory University

   **Academic Biography:**
   Kylie Smith is the Emory University nursing school’s first Andrew W. Mellon Faculty Fellow in Nursing and Humanities. Smith is an expert on psychiatric nursing history, including approaches to post-traumatic stress disorders. Through her Mellon Fellowship, Smith is strengthening ties between the School of Nursing and the Emory College of Arts and Sciences and the liberal arts in the nursing curricula.

   Before joining Emory, Smith lectured at the University of Wollongong School of Nursing in Australia, where she taught reflective practice and incorporated humanities research and teaching methods into the nursing curricula. In 2014, she researched the development of American psychiatric nursing after World War II as a fellow with the Barbara Bates Centre for the Study of the History of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania.

2. **Monday, November 13, 8:30-9:45 am**
   **Patricia Davidson, PHD, MED, RN, FAAN, Professor**
   Dean, School of Nursing
   Department of Acute and Chronic Care
   Johns Hopkins University

   **Academic Biography:**
   Since joining the Johns Hopkins School of Nursing in September 2013, Patricia Davidson has introduced a new degree program (Master of Science in Nursing: Master’s Entry into Nursing), doubled the school's PhD program intake, and increased engagement with communities locally, nationally, and internationally. A global leader in cardiac health for women and vulnerable populations, Davidson has an established program of research in supporting individuals living with chronic conditions and developing innovative models of transitional care. A primary objective of her work has been to improve the cardiovascular health of underserved populations through development of innovative, acceptable, and sustainable initiatives internationally. Since 2003, Davidson has secured over $10 million in competitive research grants from national and
international funding bodies and co-authored 320–plus peer-reviewed journal articles, 20 book chapters, and more than 100 peer-reviewed abstracts. She has mentored more than 35 doctoral and postdoctoral researchers and is an editor of *Circulation, Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes*, the *International Journal of Nursing Studies, Collegian*, and the *Journal of Nursing Management*. She is on the editorial boards of a number of other scholarly journals.

Davidson is Counsel General of the International Council on Women's Health Issues and is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International’s Institute for Global Healthcare Leadership Advisory Board. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing, the American Heart Association, the Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association, and the Australian College of Nursing. Prior to joining Johns Hopkins, she was director of the Centre for Cardiovascular and Chronic Care at the University of Technology, Sydney (Australia) and professor of Cardiovascular Nursing Research at St. Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney.

Areas of scholarly expertise and interest: Cardiovascular care, transitional care; underserved populations

3. **Monday, November 13, 10:00-11:30 am**
   Rachel L. Onello, PhD, RN, CHSE, CNE, CNL
   Clinical Associate Professor and Director of the Clinical Simulation Laboratory
   College of Nursing
   University of South Carolina

   **Academic Biography:**
   Rachel Onello joined the University of South Carolina in 2017. She has previously taught in pathophysiology, pharmacology, foundations, medical-surgical nursing, and practicum courses.

   Dr. Onello holds a BS degree in cell biology and molecular genetics from the University of Maryland, College Park, the MS degree in clinical nurse leadership from the University of Maryland School of Nursing and the PhD in nursing from the University of Maryland School of Nursing. She was awarded the Dean’s Teaching Scholars Award at the University of Maryland School of Nursing in 2015-16 and a nurse educator doctoral grant from the Maryland Higher Education Commission in 2014-15.

   She has presented at numerous conferences in multiple states on simulation in healthcare and on feedback assessment. Her recent publications on these topics include ones in traditional and online journals.

4. **Monday, November 13, 1:00-2:30 pm**
   Linda Christensen, EdD, JD, MSN, RN
   Chief Administration Officer
   National League for Nursing

   **Academic Biography:**
   Linda Christensen is a nurse-educator-administrator-lawyer. She has more than 35 years of experience in nursing education, ranging from teaching nursing assistant classes at a community college to teaching graduate nursing students. During her time as an education administrator, she served as program director (for various levels of nursing), dean of nursing, and vice president of academic affairs.
As a lawyer, she has served as a civil litigator, in-house attorney, and legal writing instructor. For the past 25 years, Linda has served as an expert witness on various health and education related lawsuits. Linda has authored various chapters on legal issues in nursing education and is a frequent speaker on legal issues, with a focus on nursing education and the law.

5. **Monday, November 13, 2:30-4:30 pm**
   **Oma Baliram Singh, PHD, Assistant Professor**
   Assistant Dean, Assistant Dean of Technology & Learning Systems,
   College of Nursing
   University of South Florida

   **Academic Biography:**
   Oma B. Singh, PhD, is the Assistant Dean of Technology and Learning Systems at the College of Nursing. She’s also the Director of Educational Design & Technology (EDT) at the USF College of Nursing. Dr. Singh has extensive experience working in both the Instructional Design and Information System industries, including working for a military contracting organization as the Director of Instructional Technology. Dr. Singh has been teaching Instructional Design for more than 12 years.

   She leads one of the most innovative instructional design teams at the University of South Florida. With her role as Assistant Dean of Technology and Learning Systems, she provides expertise and guidance to the college in a variety of technology and learning endeavors.

6. **Tuesday, November 14, 8:30-10:30 am**
   **Best Practices Presentations:** Academic biographies of principle presenters

   **Kimberly McIlrot, DNP, CPNP, CWOCN**

   Kimberly McIlrot is an Assistant Professor for Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. She began her career as an Army nurse 28 years ago, specializing in maternal-child health. She has practiced in pediatric surgery and wound care at the Johns Hopkins Hospital Baltimore and All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg, FL. She earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree in 2010 at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. McIlrot worked to establish the American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association’s Journal of Pediatric Surgical Nursing and serves as its editor-in-chief. She has worked extensively with the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing DNP and Advanced Practice students as instructor, mentor and preceptor in a variety of courses and instructional methods.

   **Stephanie Pierce, PHD, RN, CNE**

   Stephanie Pierce is a Program Director for the accelerated BSN, Articulation Programs and the MSN Nurse Educator Program at Louisiana State University Health New Orleans (LSUHNO) School of Nursing. She received her undergraduate BSN from William Carey College, her Master of Nursing specializing in nursing administration from LSUHSC and her Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree from Capella University specializing in leadership for higher education. She is certified as a Nursing Educator through the NLN and has over 18 years of teaching experience. She is a certified nurse educator and serves as the Project Director for the Cornerstone of Cultural Competency in the Disaster Cycle (C3DC) Program at LSUHNO.
has served in several leadership positions, for the School of Nursing, LSU Health Sciences Center, for the American Nurses Association, Louisiana State Nurses Association as well as the New Orleans District Nurses Association. The AALN Innovations in Professional Nursing Education Award for outstanding work of AACN member schools to re-envision traditional models for nursing education and lead programmatic change. She was also recognized by the Texas Organization of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Education for innovations in nursing education for e-Line Military, and by the Georgia Regents University as a distinguished alumna.

Mary Hamilton, RN, PhD

Mary Hamilton was the founding dean of the school of nursing at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christie. She graduated from Medical College of Georgia in 1960 with a BSN, from Texas A&M University-Kingsville with an MS in psychology and from Texas Woman’s University-Houston with a PhD in nursing. She has written numerous scholarly articles and presented many posters at conferences, regionally, nationally and internationally. She has awarded the Texas A&M-Corpus Christi presidential Silver Waves Award, an awarded given every two years to individuals or prog. rams that bring national or international acclaim to the university. She won the Las Estrella Award from the Hispanic Women’s Network in recognition of outstanding achievement in the Health of South Texas Citizens.

Her current scholarship includes (1) an ecological study of the physical activity patterns of adults living with HIV throughout the lifespan; (2) a comparison of characteristics of active duty military, veterans, and generic nursing students in a pre-licensure program for BSNs; (3) and, Innovative Readiness Training (IRT), a community interdisciplinary partnership with military, the Colonias program and TAMUCC, College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

7. **Tuesday, November 14, 10:45-11:45 am**

   **Demetrius Porche, DNS, PhD, FACHE, FAANP, FAAN, Professor**  
   Dean of the School of Nursing  
   Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center

   **Academic biography:**

   In addition to serving as dean of the school of nursing at Louisiana State University, Dr. Demetrius James Porche holds an appointment in the School of Public Health at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center. He received his undergraduate Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Nicholls State University and his Master of Nursing and Doctor of Nursing Science from Louisiana State University Medical Center. He completed Family Nurse Practitioner post-graduate coursework at Concordia University Wisconsin. Dr. Porche earned a Doctorate of Philosophy from Capella University in Organization and Management with a specialization in Leadership.

   Dr. Porche is certified as a Clinical Specialist in Community Health Nursing and Family Nurse Practitioner. Dr. Porche was the Associate Editor of the Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS for 10 years. He is currently the Chief Editor of American Journal of Men’s Health. Dr. Porche serves on the Editorial Board of The Journal for Nurse Practitioners. He served as president of the American Assembly for Men in Nursing for two terms.
Dr. Porche is a gubernatorial appointed member of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. He currently serves as President of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing. Dr. Porche has Chaired the Louisiana State Nurses Association Continuing Education Committee. He served at the national level on the Governing Council of the American Public Health Association and served as Chair of the Public Health Nursing Section Development Committee. Dr. Porche has served on the Research Committee of the Association of Community Health Nurse Educators, Education Committee of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists, and Doctoral Conference Planning Committee of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, and served two terms as Treasurer of the Southern Nursing Research Society. He is a Virginia Henderson Fellow of Sigma Theta Tau International and a Fellow in Society of Luther Christman Fellows for Contributions to Nursing by Men. He has served as a national mentor in the Sigma Theta Tau International Chiron mentoring program and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Dean Mentor Program. Dr. Porche was inducted as a fellow in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.