



In 2005-06, a long-term commitment was made to develop research capacity in the School by creating the position of the Assistant Dean (Research) and establishing the School of Nursing Research Support Services office. Since that time, research productivity at McMaster has accelerated tremendously as reflected by publications and receipt of external funding.

McMaster University School of Nursing continues to be recognized as one of the most research-intensive nursing faculties in Canada. Our faculty have nationally and internationally recognized expertise that shapes practice, policy and communities locally, nationally, and internationally. Consistent with the strategic goals of the University, we engage in interdisciplinary research and work collaboratively with a wide network of researchers, practitioners, and decision-makers. These partnerships ensure that our research addresses relevant questions, and extends the influence of our research in nursing education, practice, and policy.

Faculty members in the School of Nursing generated more than \$4 million in new research funding in 2010-2011 from national and provincial agencies. This funding included operating grants, career awards, research chairs, and funding to support our research units: the Nursing Health Services Research Unit, the Health and Social Service Utilization Research Unit, the Oncology Advanced Practice Nursing Canadian Centre of Excellence, and the National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools. We also have the internally funded Nursing Education Research Unit, which is known internationally for its promotion of research on educational issues.

Over the past five years (2006-2011), our faculty generated more than \$27 million in new research funding from Tri-Council (CIHR, SSHRC), Canadian Health Services Research Foundation, Ministry of Health, and other

national, provincial, and foundation funding agencies. School of Nursing faculty research activity demonstrates the integration of teaching and research in our six core areas of excellence which include: health services and policy, health of populations, wellness and healing across the lifespan, nursing education, nursing leadership and management, and advanced nursing practice. In addition, we also have faculty expertise in research tools and methodologies and knowledge exchange and translation. In this newsletter, we are pleased to highlight new research funding brought into the School of Nursing in 2011 to support research projects and Dr. Sharon Kaasalainen's work in the area of pain management among older adults in long-term care settings. In addition to holding research funding, our faculty members contribute their research expertise as co-investigators, grant proposal review panellists, and editorial board members and reviewers at international, national and provincial levels.

Our Research Support Services Office has expanded to include four Research Support staff to support research and scholarship in the School: Amanda Bradford Janke, Sandy Brooks, Jennifer McGugan, and Jennifer Lawson. Since the inception of the office, our Research Support staff have assisted faculty with tasks related to preparing research grants, such as literature reviews, identifying appropriate measurement tools, and developing research budgets, and has provided research support on a fee-for-service basis for over 90 projects. This fee-for-service support includes part-time project coordination or assistance with discrete research-related activities such as data collection and analysis of qualitative or quantitative data. Amanda was profiled in our Spring 2011 newsletter. You will get to "meet" Jennifer McGugan in this newsletter, and Sandy and Jennifer Lawson in subsequent issues.

In this newsletter we also list a number of workshops and seminars planned for the 2011-2012 academic year. Please mark these dates in your calendar. We look forward to seeing you there!

Maureen Markle-Reid, RN, MScN, PhD
Associate Professor and Acting Assistant Dean (Research)



AWARDS AND RESEARCH FUNDING

UPCOMING RESEARCH EVENTS

MEET RESEARCH SUPPORT SPECIALIST - JENNIFER MCGUGAN

FEATURING SHARON KAASALAINEN, RN, PhD

Please note that our list of awards, grants and achievements may not be inclusive of all of SON's accolades. Please forgive and alert us.

2011 Research Grants

Ballantyne, M., Baxter, P. Evaluation of a Hybrid Graduate Diploma in Advanced Neonatal Nursing Program. McMaster University Centre for Leadership and Learning. \$1,000 (2011-2012).

Ballantyne, M., Benzies, K., Rosenbaum, P., Abhay, L. Exploring the perspectives of parents and health providers: Facilitators and barriers to Neonatal Follow up programs. McMaster University Niemeier Award . \$1,200 (2011-2012).

Baxter, P., Donald, F., Sangster-Gormley, E., Charbonneau-Smith, R., McCready, W., **Mohide, A.**, Swart, B. Priorities and Strategies for Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Education in Ontario. Canadian Institutes of Health Research. \$25, 329 (2011-2012).

Befus, D., Boulet, L.P., Cicutto, L., Currie, G., DeCorby, K., **Dobbins, M.**, Elliot, S., Johnson, D., Mandhane, P., Noseworthy, M., Scott, S.D., Stewart, M.J., To, T. Getting Asthma on the School Health Agenda: A KT Strategy. AllerGen NCE Inc Knowledge Translation Support Program \$50,000; Public Health Agency of Canada KT Funds \$20,000; In Kind \$50,000 (2011).

Bryant-Lukosius, D., Baxter, P., Brouwers, M., Burge, F., **Carter, N.**, Corner, J., **DiCenso, A.**, Donald, F., Faulds, C., Green, E., **Martin-Misener, R.**, Moore, A., Price, D., Sussman, J., Watson, L., Wooder, S. Innovation in a Cancer Survivorship and Community-Based Primary Healthcare. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Meetings, Planning and Dissemination Grant. \$25,000 (2011).

Bryant-Lukosius, D., Kilpatrick, K. Clinical Nurse Specialist and Nurse Practitioner Roles in Canada: Briefing Notes for Healthcare Administrators, Nursing Regulators and Policy Members. Office of Nursing Policy, Health Canada. \$10,000 (2011-2012).

Bryant-Lukosius, D., Martin-Misener, R., Price, D., **Baxter, P.**, Brouwers, M., **Carter, N.**, Cooke, L., Czukar, D., **DiCenso, A.**, Doering, P., Farrelly, L., Faulds, C., George, J., Green, E., Moore, A., Rand, C., Snider, A., Sussman, J., **Valaitis, R.**, Wooder, S. Innovation in Cancer Survivorship and Community-Based Primary Health Care. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Meeting and Planning Dissemination Grant. \$ 10,000 (2011-2012).

Bryant-Lukosius, D., Price, D., **Martin-Misener, R., Baxter, P.**, Brouwers, M., Burge, F., **Carter, N.**, Cooke, L., Czukar, D., **DiCenso, A.**, Doering, P., Farrelly, L., Faulds, C., George, J., Green, E., Moore, A., Rand, C., Snider, A., Sussman, J., **Valaitis, R.**, Wooder, S. Innovation in Cancer Survivorship and Community-Based Primary Health Care. Ontario Health Human Resources Research Network. \$10,000 (2011-2012).

Carter, N., Boyco, J., **DiCenso, A., Bryant-Lukosius, D.** Development of an Evidence Brief on Advanced Practice Nursing. Office of Nursing Policy in Health Canada. \$9,999 (2011-2011).

Dobbins, M., DeCorby, K., Robeson, P., Traynor, R. Working Together toward Evidence-Informed Public Health in Canada: Turning Research into Action. Canadian Institutes of Health Research. \$99,946 (2011).

Dore, M., Marshall, D., **McKey, C.**, Lohfeld, L., Laffan, S. Gender Competency in the Health Sciences: A Pilot Study to Inform Continuing Professional Development Initiatives. Faculty of Health Sciences and Continuing Health Science Education Department Funding. \$46,415 (2011-2012).

Heckman, G., Ezekowitz, J., Hirdes, J., **Kaasalainen, S.**, McKelvie, B., Newhouse, I., Demers, C., Stollee, P., Kelley, M.L., **Strachan, P.**, McAiney, C. A Multifaceted Intervention to improve heart failure management in long term care. Fund to develop Canadian Institutes of Health Research Team Grant application. \$10,000 (2011-2012).

Kingston, D., Heaman, M., **Sword, W.** Evaluating the feasibility of routine psychosocial assessment in pregnant and postpartum women. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Meeting, Planning and Dissemination Grant \$12,963 (2011-2012).

Kurtz Landy, C., **Sword, W.**, Watt, S., Thabane, L., Krueger, P. Cost Analysis: Health service utilization of postpartum women and their infants. Echo: Improving Women's Health in Ontario. \$15,000 (2011).

Landeen, J., Jewiss, T., Vajoczki, S. Exploring Consistency in Undergraduate Nursing: Perspectives of Students and Faculty. McMaster University School of Nursing Niemeier Fund. \$1,400 (2011-2012).

2011 Research Grants

Laporte, A., **Baumann, A.** Modeling the role of Personal Support Workers in the Production of Care in Nursing Home Sector. Ontario Health Human Resource Research Network (OHRRN). \$10,000 (2011).

MacDonald, S.D., Bracken, K., Brouwers, M., Pullenayegum, E., **Sword, W.**, Taylor, V. Developing Interventions to Prevent Excess Maternal Weight Gain and its Consequences: Improving the Translation of Guidelines into Practice. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Knowledge to Action Grant (Maternal Health: From Preconception to the Empty Nest). \$199,679 (2011-2013).

Majumdar, B., Boblin, S., Sheriff, R. Preparing nurses for preceptoring international nursing students. NERU Pilot Project Fund. \$2,000 (2011).

Mallott, A., **Semogas, D., Valaitis, R.**, Derbyshire, D., Murray-Davis, B. Community Care Maternity Services: A Pilot Project in the McQuesten Community. Community Health and Education Research Fund Hamilton Community Foundation \$29,125 (2011-2012).

Markle-Reid, M., Boratto, L., Dykeman, C., Gagne, H., Nalayeh, S., Goodall, S., Scott, K., Mak, A., Bowes, C., Orr-Shaw, S., Barrington, H., Filer, C. Engaging Community-based Organizations in Evidence-based Fall Prevention for Older Adults: Moving from Research to action. Public Health Ontario. \$100,000 (2011- 2013).

Markle-Reid, M., Upshur, R., Gruneir, A., Kirkconnell, R., Hedley, M., **Kaasalainen, S.**, Gafni, A., **Akhtar-Danesh, N., Ploeg, J.**, Marzouk, S., & Tracy, S. Improving diabetes care for frail community-dwelling older adults with comorbid chronic conditions: A pilot project. Ontario Research Coalition: A Coalition of Institutes & Centres on Health and Aging, \$35,000 (2011- 2012).

Markle-Reid, M., Upshur, R., Kirkconnell, R., Gruneir, A., Gafni, A., **Akhtar-Danesh, N., Kaasalainen, S., Ploeg, J.**, Marzouk, S., Hedley, M., Tracy, S. Improving diabetes care for frail community-dwelling older adults with comorbid chronic conditions. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Health Services and Policy Research, Meetings Planning and Dissemination Grant, \$25,000 (2011-2012).

McCurdy, T. Measurement of Change in Nursing Students' Attitudes towards Biochemistry in a Clinically Relevant Course. McMaster University Centre for Leadership and Learning. \$981 (2011).

McDonald, S.D., Bracken, K., Brouwers, M., Pullenayegum, E., Taylor, V., **Sword, W.**, McDonald, H., Mueller, V., McNiven, P. An innovative web-based tool to prevent excessive weight gain during pregnancy and consequent maternal and infant obesity. Hamilton Academic Health Sciences Organization (HAHSO) Innovation Fund Grant. \$179,103 (2011- 2012).

Patterson, C., Arthur, H., Price, D., Pearson, D., **Peachey, G.**, Jaffer, N., Mariani, R. Promoting Interprofessional Care in Central West Local Health Integration Network. Canadian Institutes of Health Research. \$90,000 (2011).

Ploeg, J., Markle-Reid, M., Davies, B., Higuchi, K., McConnell, H., Bajnok, I. Spreading Nursing Best Practice Guidelines in Community-Based Settings: Enhancing Evidence-Based Care of Older Adults. Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Nursing Research Fund. \$200,000 (Apr 2011-Mar 2014).

Ploeg, J., Markle-Reid, M., Kaasalainen, S., McAiney, C., Brookman, C., **Akhtar-Danesh, N.**, Emili, A., Fraser, K., Gafni, A., Heckman, G., Hirst, S., Patterson, C., Williams, A., Harvey D. Improving Primary Healthcare for Frail Older Persons and their Caregivers. Canadian Institutes of Health Research Meetings Planning and Dissemination Grant. \$ 24,500 (2011- 2012).

Salfi, J. Interprofessional Education (IPE) in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) Workshop: What are the students learning about collaborative practice? PIPER Interprofessional Education Initiative. \$6,000 (Sept 2011-2013).

Salfi, J., Allen, D., Mohaupt, J., **Patterson, C.**, Inouye, D., Rawlin, D., Tam, S. Interprofessional education in BScN Curriculum: Are we preparing our students for collaborative practice? NERU Pilot Project Fund. \$2,000 (2011).

Sword, W., Eyles, J., Heaman, M., **Kingston, D.** Do Neighbourhood Characteristics Influence Maternal Health Disparities? Canadian Institutes of Health Research Catalyst Grant (Maternal Health: From Pre-Conception to the Empty Nest). \$39,907 (2011- 2012).

Valaitis, R., Wahoush, O., Semogas, D., Derbyshire, D., Harrington, M., Mallott, A., Boundris, A. Street Smarts Book Smarts: Evaluation of a Knowledge Exchange Intervention (Health in the Hub Phase 2). Community Health and Education Research Fund Hamilton Community Foundation. \$19,700 (total budget of \$35,553) (2011-2012).

Wadell, C., MacMillan, H., **Jack, S.M.**, Sheehan, D., Barr, R., Boyle, M., Gafni, A., Gonzales, A., Marcellus, L., Tonmyr, L., Varcoe, C. Scientific evaluation of Nurse-Family Partnership in British Columbia. BC Ministry of Health and BC Ministry of Children and Family Development. \$5,000,000 (2011-2016).

2011 Research Awards

Recipient	Title	Organization
Tammy Cosman	Outstanding poster presentation	Faculty of Health Sciences Research Plenary 2011
Jenny Ploeg	Best of Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing	Sigma Theta Tau 2011 International Awards for Nursing Excellence

Please send NEW Funding and Award announcements to Maureen Markle-Reid, Associate Professor and Acting Assistant Dean (Research) at mreid@mcmaster.ca

CIHR Spring Info Session 2012
 Date: January 25, 2012
 Time: 1-3pm
 Location: MDCL 3020

2012 Research Training Sessions

PRESENTER	TITLE	DATE	TIME AND LOCATION
Dale Stevens, Corrina Macdonald, and Wendy Hollinshead	Research Finance for the School of Nursing	Mon, Jan 30, 2012	1-4 pm MDCL 3024
Amanda Bradford-Janke	Research and Grant Development: Creating a Realistic Budget	Wed, Feb 8, 2012	12 - 1 pm MDCL 3024
Noori Akhtar-Danesh	A Review of Basic Statistical Concepts and Methods	Mon, Feb 27, 2012	1 -2:30 pm MDCL 3022
Pamela Grassau	NVivo 9: Basic Training	Mon, Mar 19, 2012	9 am - 12 pm OR 1- 4 pm CSU Computing Lab, HSC-2D8
Pamela Grassau	NVivo 9: Advanced Training	Tue, Mar 20, 2012	9 am - 12 pm CSU Computing Lab, HSC-2D8
Robin Unger	HR Aspects of Research and Grant Development	Wed, Apr 18, 2012	12 - 1 pm HSC 2J13
Heather Arthur	Building Your Research Career: Publications, Funding, Research Teams	Mon, May 28, 2012	1-3 pm HSC 3N50

Meet Jennifer McGugan by Amanda Boundris



Jennifer McGugan, one of three research support specialists with Research Support Services, joined the School of Nursing in 2007. She works on all aspects of research. Sometimes she is pulled in to work on just one part of a project, like developing a survey and analyzing the data. Other times, she coordinates a project from start to finish.

Jennifer also showcases her creative side by developing promotional materials for Research Support Services, such as newsletters and brochures.

"I like the variety of tasks that I have. It's important to have that so that your skill set is always being used and you don't get stale," said Jennifer.

Having that variety in her work is what she finds most challenging but also most rewarding.

"The other side of always having something different to work on or several projects at once is that you are always shifting and changing. It can be tricky, but it's also enjoyable because you always get to do something different," she explained. "In every project I start, I always take away something new from it. I'm also always meeting new people and developing new relationships, and that's rewarding."

Jennifer, who earned her Honours Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience from Brock University, has been involved in different health-related research roles for over 10 years. She has worked in psychology, surgery, clinical epidemiology and biostatistics, and pediatrics.

Jennifer and her husband Shawn live in Thorold with their three daughters: Abigail, 7; Rebekah, 5; and Hannah, 3.

Dr. Sharon Kaasalainen: Researching ways to improve pain management in long-term care by Amanda Boundris



Sharon Kaasalainen joined the McMaster School of Nursing in 1997 and is currently an Associate Professor with the School, as well as an Associate Member of the Department of Family Medicine. She specializes in the area of pain management in long-term care homes with a focus on nurse-led intervention research.

Presently, Sharon has a number of intervention projects aimed at improving quality of life for older adults who live in long-term care homes, with a particular focus on those suffering with dementia.

With about 80 per cent of residents in long-term care facilities experiencing pain, Dr. Kaasalainen started out doing a lot of tool development research. For example, people with dementia often have difficulty communicating the pain they have, so Kaasalainen developed a behavioural observation tool with her colleagues at the University of Saskatchewan. In her Ph.D. work, she compared this tool with verbal assessment tools for use with residents with and without dementia. Her challenge was to get the tool into practice, so the next step was an environmental scan to see how nurses and doctors make decisions about pain management for their patients. This led to two other research projects; one that evaluated a pain protocol and a second that is currently funded to evaluate a nurse practitioner-led pain management team in long-term care.

"We need to make sure the intervention is working in current clinical practice. Every project I work on now has strong input from those who will be putting the research into practice," says Dr. Kaasalainen, who is an Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Career Scientist.

In the pain protocol study she found that although resident pain went up over a one-year period with the intervention and control group, resident pain went up significantly more for the control group; therefore, the intervention was working.

"For me it's all about improving the quality of life for those who live in long-term care homes," she says.

In the near future, Dr. Kaasalainen will be working on developing toolkits to help long-term care homes meet the new Ministry regulations around pain management. "We have interventions that work, now we need to disseminate the information across the long-term care sector and find the most efficient and effective ways to do that," she explains.

Sharon currently lives in Burlington and has three sons, a daughter and a dog. She enjoys playing tennis and gardening in her spare time.