

Midwest Nursing Research Society News

The Midwest Nursing Research Society advances the scientific basis of nursing practice and promotes development of nurse scientists

Happy Holidays to all! As we approach this very busy time of year, please take a moment to read about two exciting opportunities that are available to MNRS members. Both senior scientists and novice scientists (students) can take advantage of the benefits of membership described below, but you need to move quickly as the December deadlines will soon be upon us. And, just in case you didn't get the chance to read the last issue of MNRS News, our numerous research grant funding opportunities with December submission deadline were described there.

MNRS Senior Scientist Program Applications Due December 15, 2009

The MNRS Senior Scientist Program is designed to honor members who have advanced nursing science through a sustained program of research. The Senior Scientist Recognition Program provides peer recognition of members' scholarly achievements, mentorship, and service and represents the highest class of membership. Individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by a peer. Requirements for Senior Scientist status include:

- Current regular or retired member of MNRS
- National and international recognition for scholarship
- Sustained record of federal and/or foundation funding at R01-type or equivalent level
- Sustained record of research-based publications in top tier journals
- Evidence of mentorship
- Record of scholarly service in the discipline

Applications are due on December 15, 2009. The process involves:

- Completed application form (available at mnrs.org)
- Submission of your NIH Biosketch
- Payment of a one-time \$100 processing fee

Individuals applying for Senior Scientist status will receive notification in February. Senior Scientists will be recognized at the Annual Conference and receive an award at the Business Meeting. They will also be recognized in a special section on the MNRS website. Senior Scientist status will remain throughout MNRS membership. Congratulations to our accomplished MNRS Senior Scientists who were recognized in 2009.

2009 Senior Scientist Award Recipients

Karen Ahijevych, PhD, RN, FAAN, The Ohio State University

Dr. Ahijevych's research program focuses on nicotine dependence; cigarette smoking topography; factors influencing nicotine metabolism; effects of menthol on smoke constituent exposure including nicotine, cotinine, and carbon monoxide, and tobacco specific carcinogens nitrosamines and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Her research specifically focuses on these factors among African Americans and Caucasians, and more recently, the impact of bitter taste phenotype on adherence to nicotine replacement therapy.

Ann M. Berger, PhD, RN, AOCN[®], FAAN, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Dr. Berger's program of research focuses on cancer-related fatigue (CRF), primarily in women with early stage breast cancer. She has conducted a series of longitudinal studies describing factors influencing fatigue during and following breast cancer adjuvant chemotherapy. Findings from those descriptive studies led to a pilot study that tested the impact of a behavioral therapy sleep intervention on CRF. She received funding from NIH/NINR to conduct an RCT to test the impact of a four-component behavioral intervention on sleep and CRF over one year in women with early stage breast cancer receiving adjuvant chemotherapy. Dr. Berger is now pilot-testing an internet-based online intervention to promote recovery and management of sleep and CRF in women with breast cancer. She is completing a longitudinal study describing factors influencing fatigue, including sleep, and patterns of fatigue during and following adjuvant chemotherapy for colorectal cancer patients.

Janean E. Holden PhD, RN, University of Michigan

Dr. Holden studies the way the body processes and modifies incoming pain stimuli, termed endogenous analgesia. She is the only nurse scientist and one of only a few scientists world-wide who look at the role of the

hypothalamus in modifying pain. Using whole animal and neuroanatomical techniques, she has discovered circuitry between the hypothalamus and brainstem structures known to alter both acute and chronic pain processing in the spinal cord dorsal horn. Her work is important for its knowledge generation, and also for its translation approach. As basic science has moved increasingly to the molecular level, studies that use a whole animal model are needed as a critical step in translating molecular findings to the clinical arena. Dr. Holden's work in whole animal pain processing coupled with the innovative aspects of forebrain pain modulation resulted in her being selected as the first nurse scientist to receive the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, awarded at the White House in April of 2000.

Sarah Thompson, RN, PhD, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Dr. Thompson's research program is focused on improving end-of-life care in nursing homes. Her NIH-funded research on the impact of organizational and clinical variables in end-of-life care for nursing home residents has been widely disseminated. In 2008, she was honored with a highly competitive Distinguished Scientist award at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The Kansas Department on Aging awarded Dr. Thompson over \$1 million to fund seven studies focused on the quality of nursing home care by evaluating impact factors such as the federally mandated survey process, staff turnover, and culture-change initiatives. Study findings were used by Kansas nursing homes to transform care. Dr. Thompson's current NINR funded study links organizational variables (staffing levels, palliative care) to resident/family end-of-life outcomes. Findings will support development and testing of new care delivery models and assist policy makers to prioritize legislative interventions to alleviate pain and suffering of residents and to improve work force issues.

Lani Zimmerman, RN, BSN, MSN, PhD, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Dr. Zimmerman's longstanding program of research has demonstrated the use of designing early recovery interventions delivered by telehealth technology to impact outcomes in the cardiac surgical population. As the PI leading a skilled interdisciplinary team, studies have resulted in over 40 peer-reviewed publications, and more than \$140 million in extramural American Heart Association (AHA) and NIH/NINR funding. Her sustained contribution to nursing research includes peer reviewed and invited podium and

poster presentations to regional and national audiences such as Midwest Nursing Research Society, Sigma Theta Tau International, American Heart Association Scientific Sessions and Quality of Care and Outcomes Research in Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke Conferences. Most recently, she was invited to present at two pre conference workshop (regional and national meeting) in recognition of her expertise in symptom management and use of telehealth devices to deliver interventions and monitor outcomes. Dr. Zimmerman's research findings have contributed to the scientific knowledge of symptom management and recovery in the cardiac surgery population with recent recognition of the need for gender-specific targeted interventions.

MNRS Student Research Scholars' Award Due January 22, 2010

The Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) is pleased to announce the availability of MNRS Student Research Scholars' Awards. Each award is \$500 each. The purpose of these awards is to encourage MNRS student members to present their research that advances nursing science and practice. Awards are offered in the areas of Graduate Research, International Travel, and Undergraduate Research. Applications for each area are available for download at mnrs.org.

Funds are available to poster presenters that have been accepted as a result of the MNRS Student Call for Posters. Research being presented may be quantitative or qualitative, and may be on any topic relevant to the nursing profession in the presenter's country. The award recipients will be recognized during the MNRS Award Ceremony at the Annual Conference.

The deadline for receipt of application materials is **January 22, 2010**. Applications need to be submitted following receipt of an official presentation acceptance letter from MNRS. An MNRS Committee reviews the applications. Recommendations for funding are made to the Board of Directors and they make the final decisions as to the award recipients.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Applicants must be current MNRS members in good standing.
2. Accepted abstract and planning to attend the conference;
3. After the conference, recipients will be contacted to complete an evaluation of how their goals were met; and
4. Work must be accomplished while in a student program.

Application requires:

1. Completed Application Form;
2. List two goals for attending the 2010 MNRS Annual Research Conference;
3. Limit of no more than one page of how the project fits into the research trajectory;
4. Letter of support from faculty mentor; and

All materials should be sent electronically to amendrys@resourcenter.com by **January 22, 2010**.

MNRS FOUNDATION NEWS

Last month we reported our exciting news—MNRS members contributed sufficient funds to enable the addition of a new Seed Grant. If we can raise more money, we can add more grants, and/or increase the amount of the grants awarded to our members. The sky is the limit for MNRS grants!

Each and every member has a role to play in the fund raising efforts led by the MNRS FOUNDATION. What can you do?

Donate items for the Silent Auction using the web for the form to send to the MNRS office. (We are also asking for volunteers to serve on the committee chaired by Diana Biordi to assist with the Auction. It's interesting and not time-consuming.)

Order tickets (individual, packets, or tables) to the FUNdraiser, and to volunteer to perform, or to serve on the committee for this event chaired by Janean Holden. (It's really FUN, and doesn't require a lot of time.)

Nurture students by involving them in the fund raising activities, (Faculty take students as guests to the FUNdraiser), and all encourage and promote participation.

Assert yourself in seeking donations from corporations or vendors where you have contacts.

Transmit a donation to the FOUNDATION at time of dues renewal (use the new **Donate Now** button on the website), to honor a researcher, or at the end of the year for a tax advantage. Establish your legacy by putting a bequest in your will.

Encourage others' membership in, and join the **Founders' Circle** yourself. Members contribute \$1,000 for each of three years to an endowment

fund that will under gird the grants program. (The annual payments can be automatically billed to your credit card on a quarterly basis.) The essential role these members play will be continuously recognized.

Notice the members who receive the grant awards and how these grants benefit their careers.

Organize a program in your area to benefit the Grants program—Do you have a local merchant who offers a percent on purchases to a charitable organization? Do you have a “clunker” you can donate to a group who will forward the funds to the charity of your choice? (MNRS FOUNDATION your choice, of course)

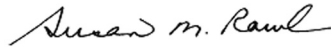
Watch the grants program GROW!

Please send any suggestions you have to enhance our success in fund raising to Foundation President, Dr. Sally Lusk. If you have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact her via email at Lusk@umich.edu or by phone, 734-337-3268.

Working together we can make a significant contribution to the need for funding for pilot and doctoral work, and keep MNRS in the forefront in awarding Seed and Dissertation Grant funding!

Happy Holidays to All!

Sincerely,



Susan M. Rawl, PhD RN
Secretary, MNRS Board of Directors



Sally L. Lusk, PhD, RN, FAAN, FAAOHN
President, MNRS Foundation