



**IDFPR**  
Illinois Department of  
Financial and Professional Regulation

The IDFPR/Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) Advisory Board and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) are proud to acknowledge the 2020 Nurse Educator Fellow recipients, each of whom is awarded \$10,000 to help promote excellence in nursing education. Sixteen educators were selected from 38 nominations from 24 institutions in FY21 and were awarded the Fellowships through the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE).

“As we enter Phase 5 of Illinois Restored, we can look back on the role the pandemic has and continues to have in exposing the inequities in healthcare,” said Cecilia Abundis, Acting Director Division of Professional Regulation. “It has forced us to look at teaching modalities and at community partnerships in the racial, ethnic minority and the LGBTQ communities. We want to thank nursing education for leading the way, with the creative education modalities used to prepare students to graduate and for licensure.”

Several fellows are pursuing master’s and doctorate degrees or certifications, learning new teaching techniques for student nurses, and preparing to present research findings on the national level.

The Fellows completed a short survey, with the final survey question about how educating nurses post COVID-19 pandemic might change elicited comments in four areas: the transition to online teaching; the future to include continued flexibility with didactic and online teaching; clinical settings will broaden to include more non acute care, community settings; and the need to include educating students regarding self-care.

The fellows were recognized at a virtual ceremony on June 16, 2021 hosted by the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center (INWC) Advisory Board.



<i>Alisha Betka, DNP, MSN/Ed, RN, CHSE University of Illinois Chicago</i>	<i>Angela Gilbreth, MSN, RN, CLS Southwestern Illinois College</i>	<i>Lindsay A. White, MSN, RN, CNE, SANE Western Illinois University</i>	<i>Cristan Sabio, PhD, MSN, RN Northern Illinois University</i>
<i>Cynthia D. Young, MSN, RN, CMSRN Morton College</i>	<i>Michele Shropshire, PhD, MSN, RN Illinois State University</i>	<i>Jorgia B. Connor, PhD, RN Loyola University of Chicago</i>	<i>Kara Richardson, MSN/Ed, RN Heartland Community College</i>
<i>Lynnann B Murphy, MN, RN University of Saint Francis</i>	<i>Monica E. Hall, PhD, RN Illinois Wesleyan University</i>	<i>Salimah Muhammad, DNP, MSN/Ed, RN Chamberlain University-Chicago</i>	<i>Sara McPherson, PhD, RN,CNE University of Illinois Chicago in Springfield</i>
<i>Sheri Compton- McBride, DNP,RN Southern Illinois University Edwardsville</i>	<i>Tamara Boll, MSN, MBA, RN-BC Trinity Christian College</i>	<i>Teresa Gulley, MSN, RNC-OB Millikin University</i>	<i>Therese Gallagher, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, CNL Rush University</i>