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Krista Jones, DNP, MSN, RN, PHNA-BC, ELAN Fellow

Dr. Krista Jones is Director of UIC College of Nursing's Urbana Regional Campus and a Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of Population Health Nursing Science. Dr. Jones is a board certified Advanced Public Health Nurse. At UIC she has completed a Doctorate in Nursing Practice degree (2011), a Master's degree in Advanced Community Health Nursing (2007), a Post-Master's degree in Nursing Administration and Leadership (2009) and a Teaching Certificate in Nursing Education (2008). For the last 17 years, Dr. Jones has instructed undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students enrolled in Population Focused Nursing, EBP, Professionalism, Nursing Theory, and Leadership and Management courses.

Dr. Jones is the author of numerous publications. She currently leads a team of academic librarians and nurses from population health, acute and clinical agency settings who have received four cycles of grant funding from the National Libraries of Medicine to provide face to face and online instructional sessions to educate public health nurses (PHNs) on the acquisition, translation and application of evidence to inform their practice. In phase three this work was expanded to provide online evidence-based education to acute and ambulatory care nurses.

She is a member of the Illinois Public Health Nursing Leadership Academic Practice Workgroup. This team conducted a needs assessment of public health nurses and faculty across Illinois to determine priorities for partnership activities, and the challenges impacting PHN practice. These results were used to develop innovative strategies to address educational needs of new and existing PHN workforce. Additionally, these efforts have spawned three consecutive annual state-wide academic practice conferences and a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grant that has funded 30 state-wide academic practice community service projects.

Dr. Jones has held several leadership positions in local, regional and national nursing and public health organizations. These include current Chair of the Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations (CPHNO), President of the Association of Community Health Nursing Educators (ACHNE), President of the Champaign County Board of Health, and Chair of the Illinois Nursing Workforce Center Board of Directors.

Dr. Jones scholarship has been recognized locally by Carle Foundation Hospital, statewide by the Illinois Public Health Association, and regionally by two different Research Sections of the Midwest Nursing Research Society -- Public Health and Adolescent Health. Additionally, she has received the Daisy Award for teaching excellence, the Sigma Theta Tau Alpha Lambda Chapter Nursing Recognition Award, the Urbana Faculty Excellence Award and two Silver Circle Awards for teaching excellence at UIC. She is also a 2012 recipient of the Illinois Board of Higher Education Nursing Faculty Fellowship and a 2020 American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Elevating Leaders in Academic Nursing (ELAN) Program Fellow. In October 2023, she will be inducted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Lynda Bartlett, MS/MBA, RN

Lynda Bartlett is currently a Case Manager Lead at the University of Chicago Medicine. She also serves on the Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Nursing Research Committee at the University of Chicago. She earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (BSN) from Saint Xavier University, Chicago, in 1986 and her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) with a focus in community health and nursing administration from Saint Xavier University in 1998. Also from Saint Xavier University, she earned her Master of Business degree (MS/MBA).

Lynda started her career as a staff nurse on a step-down cardiac telemetry unit and then moved to research. For seventeen years, she managed the Clinical Research Center (CRC) at the University of Chicago Medicine where she managed clinical staff who provided nursing care at the bedside to adult and pediatric patients participating in physician initiated studies. This research encompassed both inpatient and outpatient areas of endocrinology, pulmonary, surgery, psychiatry, sleep medicine, rheumatology and transplant.

Lynda is also adjunct nursing faculty at Saint Xavier University where she acts as a clinical instructor for the Nursing Care of Adult Practicum. She provides hands-on experiences to nursing students whose patients have complex disease processes. Lynda has served on the adjunct faculty council and the alumni board at Saint Xavier University. She has been a preceptor/mentor to many nurses who are pursuing their Master's in Nursing Education. She also has experience in the outpatient setting where she has acted as a triage nurse in a variety of specialty areas that include endocrinology, general internal medicine, nephrology, rheumatology, dermatology and dermatology surgery. Finally, Lynda is actively involved with Sigma Theta Tau International and now serves on the Fellow Committee Sigma Foundation for Nursing.

Frances La Monica, MS, RN

Fran LaMonica recently retired as the Executive Director of the Chicago Bilingual Nurse Consortium (CBNC), a non-profit 501 (c)(3) which assists Internationally Educated Nurses in achieving professional licensure in Illinois. As the CBNC Executive Director (2016-2022) she provided oversight of the grants provided by the Chicago Community Trust, Sisters of Mercy and the Walder Foundation. Under Ms. LaMonica's leadership, CBNC collaborated with the Welcome Back Initiative (WBI), a nationwide program that assists internationally educated healthcare professionals to transition their practice to their new home in the United States, and with Daley College of the Chicago City Colleges to open the Chicago Welcome Back Center in August 2022.

Ms. LaMonica has over 40 years' experience in clinical, educational, quality & compliance, and administrative positions. She received her Bachelor's degree in Science (Nursing) from St. Xavier University and a Master's degree in Science (Nursing) from Rush University.

Ms. LaMonica practiced Nursing at Mercy Hospital and Medical Center in various clinical and leadership positions for several years. She also worked as the Clinical Staff Educator with the Illinois Department of Public Health from 2000-2004. She was an adjunct faculty member of St. Xavier University College of Nursing from 1989-2007. She also worked as an Independent Contractor/ Nurse Paralegal with Donohue, Brown, Matheson, Smyth, and Associates from 2015-2017. Her professional experience includes international nursing practice in Croatia during

the war in 1994 where she served as a volunteer nurse caring for victims of war in the surgical shock unit of the Clinical Hospital Split.

Ms. LaMonica is a recipient of the 1995 Cook County Outstanding Community Leader award and the 1996 Excellence in Nursing Leadership award from Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Alpha Omicron Chapter.

Cynthia L Maskey PhD, RN, CNE

Cynthia Maskey is the Dean of Health Professions at Lincoln Land Community College. She has spent the majority of her professional career in Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) education having been ADN faculty for 17 years, Associate Dean of Nursing for three years and Dean since 2009. Prior to working in ADN education, she worked clinically in the acute and community settings, primarily with the pediatric population.

Dr. Maskey began her nursing career with her ADN from Lincoln Land Community College nearly four decades ago. She obtained her BSN from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, her MS from University of Illinois Chicago College of Nursing at the Peoria Campus and most recently her PhD in nursing science with a minor in nursing education from Indiana University School of Nursing at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI).

Dr. Maskey has been serving as an Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) Program Evaluator since 2003 and most recently as an Evaluation Review Panel (ERP) Member. She also serves on the board of the Organization for Associate Degree Nursing (OADN), currently serving as the Treasurer for the organization. She is a member of the American Nurses Association and ANA/Illinois and Sigma Theta Tau International. She is a Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) since 2005 having participated in the pilot project for the CNE examination. She has presented at local, state and national conferences and completed her dissertation work on the relationship between reflective judgment and critical thinking in senior associate degree nursing students.

Amanda Oliver BSN, RN, CCRN, CPST

Amanda Oliver currently practices as the Trauma Injury Prevention and Community Education Coordinator at Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, IL. Her previous experience includes practicing on the surgical trauma intensive care unit at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn, IL. She currently serves as the American Nurses Association (ANA) Secretary and the Illinois Nurses Foundation President.

In 2019 she was a top 5 finalist for the Illinois Nurses Foundation Nurse of the Year. In 2017, she was named by the Illinois Nurses Foundation as one of its "40 under 40" Emerging Nurse Leaders and as a Pinnacle Nurse Leader for her outstanding contributions to nursing. Oliver leverages her passion for public policy and advocacy by speaking to nurses and nursing students throughout the state about the importance of nurses' participation in political advocacy. Oliver has a long history of board service. She served as both first vice president and as elected executive consultant of the Student Nurses Association of Illinois (SNAI). Since 2016, Oliver has acted as the ANA-Illinois-appointed co-consultant to the SNAI Board of Directors. She continues to work with SNAI to develop future nurse leaders. Oliver served as ANA Director at Large- Recent Graduate and ANA Director at Large- Staff Nurse. She additionally has served on

the ANA-Illinois board of directors from June 2016 to November 2017. Oliver (Buechel) earned her BSN degree from the University of St. Francis, Joliet, Illinois in 2015.

Daisy Sherry, PhD, APRN, ACNP-BC

Daisy Sherry is the Associate Dean of the College of Nursing & Health Sciences at Lewis University in Romeoville, IL. She has served in this role since 2021, and has over 16 years experience in nursing education. She is also the Program Director of the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. Dr. Sherry volunteers at the Bolingbrook Christian Health Center, a free and charitable clinic that serves the uninsured. At the clinic, she works to support the care of diabetic patients, lead research projects, and obtain grant funding for clinic sustainability.

Prior to working in higher education, Dr. Sherry worked clinically as a Nurse Practitioner at the University of Chicago Hospitals for over a decade in Clinical Cardiac Electrophysiology and general Cardiology prior to that at Central DuPage Hospital. She began her nursing career as a nurse in the Cardiovascular Intensive Care Unit at University of Chicago.

Dr. Sherry obtained her Doctorate of Philosophy in Nursing from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2010. To support her work, she was awarded an F31 NRSA pre-doctoral fellowship from the National Institutes for Nursing Research (2007-2010). She earned her Master's of Science in Nursing with specialization as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner in 2001 at the University of Illinois at Chicago and subsequent post-MSN certificate in Nursing Education. Dr. Sherry completed a post-doctoral fellowship at Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital in Health Services Research & Development (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, 2011-2013). Her research interests have consistently involved improving health for vulnerable populations such as the promotion of physical activity in the complex and chronically-ill, addressing new models of care delivery for the acutely-ill, fostering access to healthcare for the uninsured, and promoting patient-provider trust in underrepresented minority groups.

Since 2007, Dr. Sherry has been a leader in the development of new nursing programs at Lewis University, being the founding Coordinator for the Nurse Practitioner track and subsequently the founding DNP Program Director. In 2014, she was granted a Nurse Educator award from IBHE. In 2020, she was first author on an award of \$25,000 from the National Association of Free and Charitable Clinics Direct Relief to support additional pandemic-related expenses at Bolingbrook Christian Health Center. In 2021, Lewis University was awarded a \$2.1 million HRSA Nursing Workforce Diversity grant with Dr. Sherry as Project Director. More recent projects include the provision of quality care for diabetic patients and holistic support of underrepresented nursing students.

Theresa E. Towle, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC, APRN-FPA

Dr. Theresa Towle is a dual certified Psychiatric & Family Nurse Practitioner. She is the owner and primary provider for Balance Health, LLC. She works with Genesis Clinical Services in Wheaton, IL, in addition to managing her own private practice with a focus on psychiatric and basic primary care needs of her patients located in Illinois, Arizona and Colorado. She also serves as an adjunct professor at Loyola University Chicago in the graduate nursing program, when needed.

Dr. Towle has over 40 years of healthcare experience working her way up from nursing assistant to registered nurse to nurse practitioner to university faculty to business owner.

Although she currently practices in the psychiatry and family practice realms, she holds additional expertise in advanced pain management, neurology and neurosurgery. Clinically, she has practiced in Illinois at the University of Chicago and Rush University Medical Center. She has also worked in Arizona and Nevada with Indian Health Service providing care for the Native American tribes in and around the Grand Canyon and surrounding Mohave desert. Prior to moving to Illinois, Dr. Towle lived and practiced in Northwest Indiana in various specialties at local community hospitals and clinics.

Academically, Dr Towle previously held appointments at Rush University and University of St. Francis, where she served as Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program and Interim Director of the Psychiatric Mental-Health Nurse Practitioner Program overseeing students in multiple states. While at the University of St. Francis, Dr. Towle was a recipient/investigator of a 1.2 million dollar ANEW grant intended to train FNPs and PMHNPs dedicated to practicing in underserved areas upon graduation.

Professionally, Dr. Towle has served on the Board of Directors for the Illinois Society for Advanced Practice Nursing and has served as the Outreach Director for the International Parkinson & Movement Disorder Society. She has also served on the speakers' bureau for the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) and the Collaborative On REMS Education (CO*RE) series dedicated to educating nurse practitioners on opioid prescribing and abuse. In working with REMS Education, she published a podcast through AANP on safe opioid prescribing for primary care providers. She currently holds memberships in AANP, ISAPN, American Nurses Association, Neuroscience Education Institute, American Psychological Nurses Association and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society for Nursing.

Dr. Towle graduated with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Indiana University, Master of Science in Nursing from St. Xavier University, and Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Rush University, in Chicago, where she was successful in establishing a multi-disciplinary presence within an international physician organization. She has also received a certificate in Clinical Trials Management from the University of Chicago.