



Gerontological Nursing Science Research & Implementation Interest Groups (RIIG)

Letter from the Chair



Dear Gerontology RIIG Members,

As we move into the next quarter, I am thrilled to share some exciting updates and accomplishments within our community.

First and foremost, I am proud to announce that the Gero RIIG proposal entitled “**Multi-dimensional Approaches to Aging Well: Exploring Spirituality, Equity, and Artificial Intelligence**” for the Competitive Symposium has been approved! This is a testament to our members' hard work and dedication, and I am confident it will be a significant contribution at the MNRS Annual Conference, Indiana, 2025.

Additionally, the **Gerontology RIIG Awards Call is now open**. This is an excellent opportunity to recognize the outstanding contributions of our peers. I encourage you to nominate yourselves or someone you know who has made a remarkable impact in our field. Your participation is essential in celebrating the achievements within our community.

I would also like to highlight the **MNRS webinar series** as an excellent platform to present your research, share findings, and foster collaboration. These webinars are a great way to engage with the community and showcase the innovative work being done in gerontology. If you have a proposal for a webinar in the Gero field, please contact us. We are always looking for new and exciting topics to share with our members.

As we reflect on our achievements and look forward to future endeavors, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering commitment and passion. Your contributions are the driving force behind our progress and success. Let us continue to support each other, share our knowledge, and inspire one another as we advance the field of nursing gerontology together. Thank you for your continued commitment and contributions to the Gero RIIG. Together, we are making significant strides in advancing gerontological research and practice.

Warm regards,

Juliana Souza-Talarico, Gero RIIG Chair



Call for GRIIG Award Nominations

GRIIG Award Nominations Due December 11th at 5PM EST

We are pleased to offer five awards for Gerontological Nursing Science Research and Implementation Interest Group (GRIIG) members. Please consider honoring a colleague for one of the awards—or even nominating yourself. Please note that the **nominee must be a member of our GRIIG**. The five awards include:

1. **Early Career Award** - recognizes the contributions of an early career professional with an outstanding research trajectory related to their RIIG's focus.
2. **Mid-Career Award** - recognizes a mid-career professional who has demonstrated a consistent record of contributions to their RIIG's area of research/scholarship.
3. **Senior Career Award** - recognizes a distinguished senior nurse researcher with an established program of research or scholarship who has demonstrated exceptional and continuous contributions to research/scholarship and mentoring in the realm of their RIIG's focus.
4. **DNP Project Award** - recognizes the contribution of a recent DNP graduate whose project is exceptionally meritorious and exemplifies high standards of scholarship and improving practice related to their RIIG's focus.
5. **Dissertation Award** - recognizes the contribution of a recent PhD graduate whose doctoral dissertation is exceptionally meritorious and exemplifies high standards of scholarship and knowledge development in their RIIG's focus.



New for ALL RIIG Awards this year:

- Members may apply/be nominated for only one RIIG award, regardless of the number of RIIG memberships held. Members can only win one RIIG award per year.
- Student members are no longer required to be a member of the RIIG for one full year to apply/be nominated, but they must be a member of the RIIG at the time of nomination.
- Regular and Alumni members must be part of the RIIG for at least one year to apply/be nominated.
- Members must be active and engaged as defined by the RIIG.

[!\[\]\(c50c8b7b2cc2cf9ff925edec0ee94c0d_img.jpg\) **Click here to apply for awards!** !\[\]\(8bed43dc33ecdde61e2f76c8f5517125_img.jpg\)](#)

The above link will take you to the MNRS Conference homepage where you can log into your MNRS account and submit your award nomination.

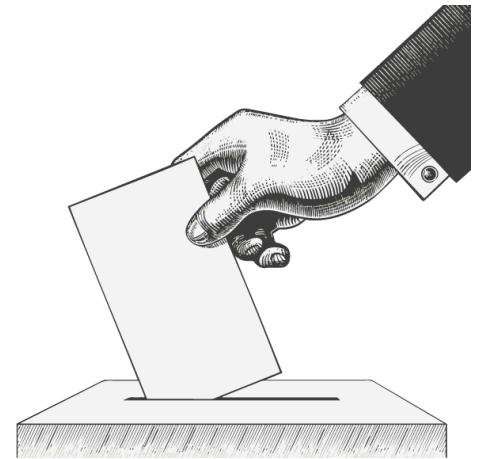
Please contact Dr. Diana Sturdevant at Diana-Sturdevant@ouhsc.edu if you have questions.

Opportunities for Leadership Positions



Our RIIG is seeking nominations for the offices of Chair-Elect, Awards Chair, Communication Chair, and Student Representative for our 2024 election to be held following the annual MNRS meeting. Chair-elect serves a three-year term that progresses to Chair and Past-Chair positions in subsequent years. All other committee Chairs serve a two-year term.

Serving as a committee member and/or officer in the Gerontological RIIG is an excellent opportunity to share your expertise with nursing colleagues in the region. Please consider nominating a colleague, student, or yourself for one of these offices, and as importantly, joining a committee to familiarize yourself with the work! Additionally, you will gain service experience and broaden your professional network.



Please send your nominations and any questions about these positions to our Nominations Committee Chair, Adele Crouch at adnielse@iu.edu.

Positions Available

Leadership Position	Position Description
Chair-Elect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assists the chair with monthly meetings as needed. This might include preparation for the meeting, taking minutes during the meeting, or other tasks as needed. (Monthly)Assists in the preparation of symposia submissions. This might include providing input for topics for the symposia, reviewing documents for the call for symposia submission, and assisting with the review of abstracts received for symposia. (May - July)Assist the chair with preparation for the annual GRIG meeting that happens during the annual conference (Jan. - Conference)
Awards Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update call for awards/award description materials (Aug.)Recruit and identify volunteer award reviewers and communicate the list to MNRS (Aug.-Sep.).Review awards (if there is a tie), along with the review committee. Notify MNRS (Dec.-Jan.).Attend and present the awards at the spring annual conference Gero RIIG meeting.Serve as the Gero RIIG representative on the MNRS Grants Review Committee (Nov.-Dec.).
Communications Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Attend monthly leadership meetings, report communication committee activities, and gather leadership information for inclusion in the newsletter.Schedule and facilitate the communication committee meeting monthly.Collaborate with members of the communication committee to publish 4 newsletters annually (March, May, Aug, Nov).
Student Representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participate in the GRIG leadership meetings and provide a student perspective. (Monthly)Engage with GRIIG leaders and other student representatives to promote student member involvement in the GRIG.



Kudos Corner

Let's celebrate Gerontological Nursing Science RIIG members' achievements!

Kudos to **Dr. Wen Liu, PhD, RN, FGSA** and **Dr. Juliana Talarico, PhD, RN** on their induction as Fellows in the American Academy of Nursing! Drs. Liu and Talarico are Associate Professors at the University of Iowa School of Nursing. Fellows are selected from a competitive pool of applicants, representing nursing's most dynamic leaders who are making positive changes in health and wellness, both locally and globally. Drs. Liu and Talarico were inducted at the Academy's annual Health Policy Conference on November 2, 2024.



Student Representatives Letter



We hope this message finds all our student scholars well and thriving this semester!

Upcoming Events:

Join us March 26-29, 2025, for the 49th Annual MNRS Research Conference at the JW Marriott in Indianapolis, Indiana. This year's theme is **"The Intersection of Nursing Research and AI: Data, Education, and Outcomes."** Explore how AI is transforming nursing research, education, and outcomes.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with peers and professionals at the MNRS Annual Conference in Indianapolis! Reserve your spot today for this must-attend event!

MNRS is an invaluable resource for students—be sure to explore the website: <https://mnrs.org/mnrs-49th-annual-research-conference/>

As always, feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions, recommendations, or ideas throughout the semester. We are here to support and hear from you!

Best regards,

GRIIG Student Representatives

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Guess Who



The August 2024 newsletter “Guess Who” answer is **Adele Crouch!!!**

Adele Crouch, PhD, RN, AGCNS-BC, is an Assistant Professor at Indiana University School of Nursing. Dr. Crouch has been active in our GRIIG as the Nominations Chair beginning in 2023 and was awarded the 2024 New Investigator Award. Her first MNRS presentation was a student poster during her undergraduate education, and she has since presented (or co-authored a presentation) at MNRS 10 times to date.

She is also an active member of the Gerontological Society of America, another venue where she shares her research and serves as the Lead of the Webinar Taskforce for the Early Scholar Professional Organization (ESPO). Her research focuses on symptom science and management in persons with cognitive impairment (such as individuals with cancer, Alzheimer’s disease, and related dementias). Dr. Crouch looks forward to her continued engagement and learning with this busy RIIG. Feel free to reach out and/or send GRIIG nominations to adenielse@iu.edu.



Addressing the Connection Between Diabetes and Arthritis



As we observe Diabetes Awareness Month, it's essential to shed light on the intricate relationship between arthritis, diabetes, heart health, and overall well-being, particularly for our aging population in Iowa. Arthritis affects millions of Americans; individuals over sixty are especially susceptible to its impacts. In turn, these conditions worsen arthritis symptoms, contributing to a cycle of pain and disability. Additionally, the risk of falls increases due to decreased mobility and weakened muscles.



The Iowa Community HUB connects individuals to Arthritis-Appropriate, Evidence-Based Interventions (AAEBIs) all across the state focusing on addressing arthritis symptoms through effective prevention and management strategies such as:

Arthritis and Health Education: Providing valuable information about arthritis management and other chronic conditions, including the importance of diet, exercise, and diabetes care.

Dietary Guidance: Offering nutrition resources to support healthy eating habits that can alleviate arthritis symptoms and help improve management of blood sugar levels for individuals with diabetes.

Exercise Programs: Implementing evidence-based exercise programs tailored to individuals with arthritis, emphasizing low-impact activities that improve mobility and reduce pain.

Falls Prevention: Equipping individuals with techniques and resources to prevent falls, enhancing safety and confidence in daily activities.

We invite healthcare providers and community partners to collaborate with us in increasing referrals to AAEBIs across Iowa. Together, we can empower individuals with arthritis to break free from the cycle of arthritis pain leading to improved health and well-being for all. Go to the Iowa Community HUB website and Make a Referral!



Contact Us

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IOWA

Geriatric Education Center

Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program

This newsletter is provided in collaboration with the Iowa Geriatric Education Center (IGEC), supported by the Iowa Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (Iowa-GWEP), College of Nursing, University of Iowa. For more information about the Center, please visit <https://igec.uiowa.edu/> or email us at geriatric-education@uiowa.edu.

