



SPOOOOOKY SEASON!!!



It's spooky season here at the School of Nursing and Health Studies!!! The weather is doing it's thing, being frigid in the mornings and nights and warm and stuffy during the day, making sure you keep all your summer AND winter clothes on standby. October is kind of middle of the road for the Fall semester, you're settled in to the academic routine, you've hit the mid-way mark (and mid-terms), but the winter holidays are still a ways away. We hope that your spooky season has been full of treats and not tricks and you have a fun and safe Halloween!

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UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- November 25th - 29th - Fall Break
(University Closed 28th & 29th)

Marilyn Melcher visits SONHS

On Thursday, October 24th, one of our most generous donors, Marilyn Melcher, visited us here at the School of Nursing and Health Studies in the Health Science Building! Marilyn Melcher's mother, Helen Blond, started a scholarship for our students 43 years ago, and Marilyn took over when Helen passed. Marilyn herself is nearing her 100th birthday, so we wanted to make this visit as welcoming and special as the legacy she and her family have brought to our school.



HALLOWEEK at SoNHS

To celebrate Halloween, the SoNHS FUN Committee held “Halloweek”! There was the classic bev bar, featuring coffee, hot chocolate, apple cider, and “Blood” punch! On Tuesday we had “Trick-or-treating” where students got little bags and went around to different faculty and staff offices and got some candy! Then on Thursday, Halloween, we held a Costume Contest and saw several great ones, including from our own staff! This week was a big hit, we’re glad we could bring more fun to our students!



EMPLOYEE SPIRIT WEEK

From October 21st through 25th, UMKC held the “Employee Spirit Week,” where each day had a different theme to get employees involved and have some fun! Monday was Employee Appreciation Day with donuts and swag provided to employees! Tuesday was Kangaroo Food Pantry Day where faculty and staff brought in food to support both campus’ Roo Pantries to provide food to the UMKC Community. Wednesday was UMKC Partner’s Day where employees got to show some spirit and wear colors or clothes in support of our partnerships with local businesses and sports teams. Thursday was Department Spirit Day where we had fun decorating our door to show off our Department! And Friday was Blue and Gold Day where we got to dec out in our favorite UMKC spirit wear and show our school spirit!



RESEARCH ADVANCEMENTS

Here's this month's updates on research that has been published or grants that have been received by our research faculty and students!

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Dr. Gary E. Hicks-Clayton and Dr. Mei R Fu attended 50th Annual Conference of The Transcultural Nursing Society in Salt Lake City from October 23-26, 2024. Dr. Mei R Fu is recently appointed as the Editor-In-Chief for the Journal of Transcultural Nursing, a 35-year and impactful nursing journal. The Transcultural Nursing Society is a great organization where you can be nurtured to be a transcultural scholar and mentored to have a successful career. The society has student membership, and many students take the advantage of the society. Please visit the society site <https://tcns.org/>.

SCHOLARLY ACHIEVEMENT: October 2024

Advancing Oncology Care Through Research

The Oncology Nursing Foundation is proud to highlight the continued research efforts of two recipients of oncology nursing research grants, showcasing the lasting impact that our funding has on the field.

Mei Fu, PhD, RN, FAAN, first received an Oncology Nursing Foundation research grant in 2011 for her study "Genetic Variations and Lymphedema Risk Reduction." Since then, Dr. Fu has been awarded ten additional grants, continuing her vital research on lymphedema and lymphatic pain, including one funded by the Foundation in 2022. Her work has resulted in over 32 publications, significantly advancing our collective understanding of lymphedema and its management. Dr. Fu's current research, "HealthyME: Advancing Health Equity in Lymphatic Pain and Lymphedema in Black and Hispanic Women with Breast Cancer," exemplifies her ongoing commitment to addressing health disparities. Her innovative approaches include developing AI-assisted therapies that aim to provide low-cost, effective solutions for managing lymphedema and related symptoms. Dr. Fu's dedication to research is further demonstrated by her recent role as the Oncology Nursing Foundation's Review Committee Chair for the 2024 Major Research Grant Review.



"I am very grateful to the Oncology Nursing Foundation for the great support of my program of research on lymphedema and lymphatic pain. The Foundation's support for my lymphedema research in 2011 and 2022 has led to sustained research funding from various prestigious organizations. Publications based on the Foundation-supported studies have significantly enriched the knowledge base of lymphedema, lymphatic systems, and pain, which continues to change clinical practice and policy, improving breast cancer survivors' quality of life."

Mei Fu, PhD, RN, FAAN

Oncology Nursing Society also has student membership. The society provides many opportunities for mentorship, oncology resources, scholarships, and research grants.

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Matthew Chrisman

Chrisman, M., Skarbek, A., Endsley, P, Marchello, N. (2024). Teachers' and principals' familiarity regarding school wellness policy: A health promoting schools assessment. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 21(10); <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph21101372>

Mei Rosemary Fu

Flores, A. M., *Fu, M. R. (Co First Author), Bock, K. J., Campione, E., Francis, K., Kellerman, C., Norris, T. L., & Tylka, S. (2024). Post-operative care for patients following surgical treatment of lymphedema. Medical oncology (Northwood, London, England), 41(11), 296. Your paragraph text PMID: 39438388.

Amanda Grimes

Grimes, A., Berkley-Patton, J., Allsworth, J. E., Lightner, J. S., Feldman, K., Never, B., Drees, B. M., Saelens, B. E., Powell-Wiley, T. M., Fitzpatrick, L., Bowe Thompson, C., Pilla, M., Ross, K., Steel, C., Cramer, E., Rogers, E., Baker, C. & Carlson, J. A. Impacts of zero-fare transit policy on health and social determinants: Protocol for a natural experiment study. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 12, 1458137. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1458137>

Sue Lasiter

Counts, K. & Lasiter, S. (2024). Early palliative care in the Emergency Department: A concept clarification. *Journal of Caring Sciences*. 13(3): 148-157. doi: [10.34172/jcs.33578](https://doi.org/10.34172/jcs.33578)

Joseph S. Lightner

Grimes, A., Berkley-Patton, J., Allsworth, J. E., Lightner, J. S., Feldman, K., Never, B., Drees, B. M., Saelens, B. E., Powell-Wiley, T. M., Fitzpatrick, L., Bowe Thompson, C., Pilla, M., Ross, K., Steel, C., Cramer, E., Rogers, E., Baker, C. & Carlson, J. A. Impacts of zero-fare transit policy on health and social determinants: Protocol for a natural experiment study. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 12, 1458137. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2024.1458137>

Anita Skarbek

Chrisman, M., Skarbek, A., Endsley, P., Marchello, N. (2024). Teachers' and principals' familiarity regarding school wellness policy: A health promoting schools assessment. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 21(10); <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph21101372>



KCVA and UMKC

Celebrating Nursing Scholarship

- Morning Session at KCVA
- Virtual Poster Presentations (During Lunch)
- Afternoon Session at UMKCSonHS

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