








College of Nursing, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences

Faculty List for Undergraduate Student Research Awards

Faculty Name	Description
<p>Michelle Lobchuk RN, PhD Associate Professor <a href="mailto:Michelle.Lobchuk@umanitoba.ca">Michelle.Lobchuk@umanitoba.ca</a> 204-474-7135</p> 	<p><b>Overview of my research program and goals for Summer 2021:</b> My research program focuses on communication competence that is driven by the underlying empathic process of perspective-taking. Perspective-taking is the imaginative ability to understand another person’s thoughts and feelings. This empathic process is vital across employment sectors where patients, clients, customers, or students need to feel understood to meet their needs. My work in the CFI-funded CAreLab (communication lab) has focused on developing and testing our empathy-related video-feedback intervention that we call In Your Shoes (IYS). To date we have obtained high quality evidence in support of the effectiveness of our IYS desktop and stationary camera intervention on empathy-related outcomes. We now want to create an affordable, user-friendly, and accessible product by: (a) having our industry partner transform the existing IYS desktop approach into a minimal viable prototype of an Internet-based Training Portal and (b) proof of concept testing with the existing desktop method and the Internet-based prototype. I would like to work with an undergraduate student who is interested in communication processes and empathy. In addition, I would like to work with a student who is interested in learning about quantitative and qualitative research.</p> <p><b>Expected Learning Activities for the Student:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with the investigative team in conducting a proof-of-concept project. In this project, we will conduct an experiment with multi-sector participants to compare the IYS Internet-based Training Portal with our current IYS desktop prototype and validate user acceptability.</li> <li>2. The student may assist the investigative team with the recruitment of participants and randomization of participants to one of two conditions.</li> <li>3. The student may assist with executing phases of our intervention as part of the IYS desktop prototype (in the CAreLab at Grace Hospital, Winnipeg) or the IYS Internet-based</li> </ol>

	<p>Training Portal) in real-life settings; this includes pre- and post-intervention data collection (surveys and open-ended exit interviews). The intervention phases include teaching participants about self-reflection and perspective-taking, video-capture, -tagging, and -analysis.</p> <p>4. The student may serve as a rater in evaluating participants' perceptual understanding score after their engagement in the assigned condition.</p> <p>5. Other roles may include: data entry and data management, plus assistance in analyses and coding of exit interview responses in the assigned condition.</p>
<p><b>Joe Gordon, PhD</b>  <b>Associate Professor</b>  <a href="mailto:Joseph.Gordon@umanitoba.ca">Joseph.Gordon@umanitoba.ca</a>  <b>204-474-6668</b></p> 	<p>Dr. Gordon's research focuses on the regulation of mitochondrial function during cardiac and skeletal muscle differentiation and remodeling, including diabetic cardiomyopathy, insulin resistance, and hypoxia/ischemia. Dr. Gordon's laboratory utilizes cell and molecular approaches to understand mitochondrial function, dynamics, and turn-over including the regulation of mitophagy and mitochondrial permeability transition. Specifically, Dr. Gordon's laboratory studies the transcriptional regulation and post-translational modification of Bcl-2 family members utilizing both primary and immortalized cells, differentiated human induced pluripotent stem cells, and conditional knockout mice.</p>
<p><b>Jamie L. Penner RN, PhD(c)</b>  <b>Assistant Professor</b>  <a href="mailto:jamie.penner@umanitoba.ca">jamie.penner@umanitoba.ca</a>  <b>204-474-9315</b></p> 	<p>The overarching goal of Jamie's program of research is to improve the health and well-being of family caregivers and promote quality of life for those living with a chronic progressive illness or becoming frail. The aim of her work is twofold. First, she works with family caregivers and communities to i) identify strengths and gaps within the health and social systems; and ii) co-create interprofessional/intersectoral supportive interventions with them to address family caregivers' needs, build capacity, and strengthen their communities. Second, Jamie's program of research aims to increase knowledge about a palliative approach to care and promote its uptake and application within interprofessional education and practice. Her focus is on the design, implementation, and evaluation of educational interventions to help educators prepare the next generation of healthcare providers and enhance the delivery of a palliative approach to care across settings and throughout the illness trajectory.</p> <p>Students from a health-related field, social work, education, or with an interest in community health will have the opportunity to work alongside a core group of interdisciplinary researchers,</p>

	<p>educators, and students on a number of potential projects that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conducting focus groups/workshops that will enable the research team, family caregivers, and community stakeholders to come together and co-create a community action plan to address the needs of family caregivers and build social capital in the community;</li> <li>• Performing environmental scans related to i) supportive interventions and community resources for family caregivers in specific communities; and ii) palliative care education across Canada;</li> <li>• Participating in targeted literature searches and ongoing systematic reviews related to i) community health approaches to supporting family caregivers; and ii) palliative care education and practice; and,</li> <li>• Assisting in the preparation of grant applications, ethics applications, manuscripts, and related knowledge translation materials.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Daniel (Dan) Nagel, RN, PhD</b>  <b>Assistant Professor</b>  <a href="mailto:Daniel.Nagel@umanitoba.ca">Daniel.Nagel@umanitoba.ca</a>  <b>(204) 474-8185</b></p> 	<p>The primary focus of Dr. Nagel’s nursing practice has been in community health and largely working with diverse populations, such as the LGBTQ2S+ community, urban Indigenous peoples, people who are homeless, and persons with addictions. His current program of research blends access to health care for underserved populations with educational preparation of pre-licensure healthcare students through the design and delivery of healthcare programs in the community. The main objectives of Dr. Nagel’s work are to explore alternative models of health care and curriculum design for future healthcare practitioners that: i) are based on experiential learning (i.e. practical hands-on); ii) reflect interprofessional practice; iii) lead to sustainable health programming in underserved communities (e.g. rural and remote communities); and, iv) engage community stakeholders in design and implementation of programs to meet needs identified by the community.</p> <p>Any student with an interest in community health or from a health-related field, including education and sociology, will have the opportunity to work alongside a core group of interdisciplinary researchers, educators and students to work on a number of potential projects that include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Conducting a community health needs assessment that includes interviews and/or focus groups with community stakeholders;</li> <li>b. Performing environmental scans related to student-involved health programs in Canada and community resources for specific communities;</li> </ol>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Participating in targeted literature searches and ongoing systematic reviews related to community health programming and education of students in healthcare fields; and,</li> <li>d. Assisting in the preparation of manuscripts, grant applications, and related knowledge translation materials.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Marnie Kramer RN, PhD</b>  <b>Assistant Professor</b>  <a href="mailto:Marnie.Kramer@umanitoba.ca">Marnie.Kramer@umanitoba.ca</a>  <b>778-963-0289</b></p> 	<p>My research interests are in Nursing Education Research, Remediation/Student Failure, NCLEX-RN, Theory-to-Practice Integration Strategies, Cardiac Health, Health Behaviour Change, Sociology of Health and Illness, Sociology of the Boy</p> <p><b>Clinical Interests:</b> Critical Care, Cardiology</p> <p><b>Teaching Areas:</b> Health and Illness, Change Management</p> <p><b>Potential Summer Projects:</b> I have two research grant proposals in review right now and the results will be announced in March. These proposals are focused on nursing education research. The first is focused on developing a validated tool to predict NCLEX-RN failure. The second study is examining coping in complex pedagogical environments during the COVID-19 response. You will have the opportunity to do survey research, learn the basics of qualitative interviewing, and view qualitative interviews as appropriate, sit in on analysis meetings, aid with recruitment strategies, and work directly with myself and my interdisciplinary team (Educators, Psychologists, Gender-Studies Professors). I am also preparing a grant for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, focusing on the experience of women who are living with chronic and persistent non-life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias. By the summer, the literature review will be completed, and I will be working on putting the remainder of the grant together. You will have an opportunity to learn more about heart health and to be mentored in qualitative methodologies. Please note, that I am a distanced-based faculty member. So, we will not be meeting in person regularly. My mentorship style is supportive, but I also allow you autonomy in your work (you can select your hours/days to work each week). I like to provide an honest representation of what the demands are on a new academic and to also help you make decisions about a possible research career. I have had great experiences with this program, and I look forward to working with you!</p>



**Suzanne Lydia Lennon RN, PhD**  
**Assistant Professor**  
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My program of research is titled A Program of Research in Paternal-Child Health: Advancing Care Delivery, Methods and Measurement. I utilize a number of methodologies to examine paternal-child health. Fathers are often overlooked in research. My projects include the father as an active, critical component of the well-being of the mother-child dyad. As an early career investigator, I am in the process of building collaborative relationships with other academics, and with specific groups. Currently, I have one project which is on hold due to COVID. This project is titled, Confirmatory factor analysis and psychometric testing of the Perception of Pregnancy Risk-Diabetes Questionnaire (PPRQ-D): Examining the influence of gender. This is a psychometric study which is designed to test the reliability and validity of the first pregnancy focused instrument developed for use in a male population. The study will recruit participants directly from the Fetal Assessment units at St. Boniface Hospital and HSCC. Currently, neither of these facilities is permitting outside research. This is a fluid situation, and it is possible that by summer the situation will have changed. I have two systematic reviews in progress. One involves the efficacy of programs which offer incentives for prenatal care. This review is at the evaluation of studies phase. The other review is in the planning stages. The focus of this review is the experience of child apprehension. An undergraduate student will have the opportunity to assist with both reviews, updating literature searches, evaluating studies for inclusion, crafting the PICO question for the apprehension review and constructing the search strategy. In the event that recruitment for the factor analysis project has resumed an undergrad RA may assist the graduate RA for the project in data management and entry into SPSS. Other activities include assisting in writing abstracts, crafting manuscripts, and developing poster presentations.

**Roberta Woodgate, PhD**  
**Distinguished Professor; Canadian**  
**Research Chair (Tier 1) in Child and**  
**Family Engagement in Health**  
**Research and Healthcare**  
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My research program, IN•GAUGE, embraces a dynamic approach to: involve children, youth and families; interact with researchers and knowledge users in the research, intervention and evaluation process; and be innovative in the use and exchange of knowledge with the combined goal of improving the health and well-being of children and youth. An integrated knowledge translation approach that engages children and families is a cornerstone of my research program. I seek to improve the ways in which children and families participate in health research and involve them in all aspects of my projects. My program is infused by an approach to knowledge inquiry that is grassroots, embedded in the needs, lived experiences and practices of children, youth and their families. I embrace a rights-based approach to research that recognizes that the

	<p>voices of children and youth have in the past been silenced in research and in the decisions affecting their lives, including their health, and advocates for an approach that recognizes that children and youth are key actors in their own development, with the right to participate in decisions that affect them in accordance with their evolving capacities. In this regard, children and youth are key participants in the research process, contributing to the development, translation and exchange of knowledge. My research includes a wide range of health conditions: mental illness, complex care needs and conditions, chronic illnesses (i.e. hemophilia), cancer, brain tumors; as well as various communities: Indigenous youth and their families and African newcomer families. I use child-centered methodologies and innovative, art-based approaches in knowledge production and translation strategies that help children and youth express themselves and challenge notions of how they conceptualize certain phenomenon such as health and illness.</p>
<p><b>Benita Cohen, RN, PhD</b>  <b>Associate Professor</b>  <a href="mailto:benita.cohen@umanitoba.ca">benita.cohen@umanitoba.ca</a>  <b>204-474-9936</b></p> 	<p>My research focuses on addressing social injustice and resulting inequities in health and social outcomes among populations/communities that experience social exclusion and discrimination (based on race and/or religious beliefs and/or class and/or gender identity and/or sexual orientation and/or ability).</p> <p>Possible summer student activities include research assistance (literature searches, data collection/ management/analysis) and working with interprofessional and intersectoral research partners on one or more of the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A study about the impact of COVID-19 on the capacity of community agencies involved with housing; justice, safety, and security; education, employment, and social inclusion; and community economic development, that is part of a larger Manitoba Research Alliance study of community-driven solutions to poverty;</li> <li>• A study that will engage Rady Faculty of Health Sciences members (students, educators, staff), key community partners, and additional academic content experts in a participatory process that will result in a novel and comprehensive conceptual framework (grounded in the local context but adaptable to different settings) of a teaching and learning environment that enables social justice and health equity (including promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion, and use of anti-discriminatory/anti-oppressive teaching and learning approaches) in pre-licensure health professional education programs.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundational research (perhaps a scoping review) of the concept of solidarity, types of solidarity, measures of solidarity, the relationship between solidarity and empathy, solidarity in health care, and the role of solidarity in promoting health equity.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Diana McMillan, RN, PhD</b>  <b>Associate Professor</b>  <a href="mailto:Diana.mcmillan@umanitoba.ca">Diana.mcmillan@umanitoba.ca</a>  <b>204- 474-7295</b></p> 	<p>This position will offer students an exciting range of opportunities to work in a variety of multidisciplinary teams, on various clinically related projects that are lead or supported by Dr. Diana McMillan, Inaugural Clinical Chair (Research) at HSC. Potential projects include 1) video-based patient education intervention assessment; 2) impact assessment of the MB Telestroke program, 3) scoping review of virtual nursing interventions in a Covid and post-Covid context. Students will have an opportunity to learn about all aspects of a research project, including identification of a clinical question with clinical team members, rapid reviews of clinical questions, grant writing, ethics submission, data collection, data management and analysis and knowledge translation.</p>
<p><b>Lynn Scruby, RN, PhD</b>  <b>Assistant Professor</b>  <a href="mailto:lynn.scruby@umanitoba.ca">lynn.scruby@umanitoba.ca</a>  <b>204- 474-6659</b></p> 	<p>My research program in the College of Nursing, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences, is about providing care to vulnerable populations in the community within the context of social justice. Our interprofessional collaborative research team is comprised of Nursing, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, and Medicine researchers. We are researching the experiences of refugees and providers of refugee care within the health care system in Manitoba. Our current research focus is to learn from interprofessional groups of students about their knowledge gaps in providing care to refugees and to develop an interprofessional simulation learning experience to address these knowledge gaps. A summer research student will gain experience in working with an interprofessional research team; conducting a literature review; planning a research recruitment strategy; and developing open ended questions for use in student focus group interviews. Our research team welcomes the opportunity to work with a summer undergraduate student in a supportive research environment with experienced research mentorship.</p>
<p><b>Lynda Balneaves RN, PhD</b>  <b>Associate Professor</b>  <a href="mailto:Lynda.Balneaves@umanitoba.ca">Lynda.Balneaves@umanitoba.ca</a>  <b>204-474-6353</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Medical Cannabis in Canada Following Legalization.</b>  The aim of this national initiative is to illuminate the voices of key stakeholders, including patients, healthcare professionals, and industry partners, and their experiences related to medical cannabis since the legalization of non-medical cannabis in Canada. The undergraduate student will assist the principal investigator and other regional and national research</li> </ol>



partners (UBC, University of Toronto, Santé Cannabis, SheCann Cannabis Inc, Ekosi Health Centre, and Canopy Growth Corporation) in developing a national qualitative study that will explore how legalization of non-medical cannabis in 2016 has impacted Canadians' use and access to medical cannabis, the authorization and healthcare service provision by clinicians, and medical cannabis product development by industry. To support this project, the student will conduct a scoping review of the international and Canadian literature regarding how the field of medical cannabis has been affected by the legalization of recreational cannabis across jurisdictions. The undergraduate student will also assist in the development of consent forms, interview guides, and study protocols for the qualitative study and will assist in data collection, including conducting interviews with key stakeholders. The student will lead the development of dissemination products, such as poster and/or manuscript, which will summarize the results of the scoping review and preliminary results of the qualitative study.