

August, 2005-May, 2008
Adjunct Instructor in Nursing
Illinois Wesleyan University
Bloomington, IL

August, 2002 – 2005
Visiting Instructor in Nursing
Coordinator of Epidemiology/Community Health
-N460 Epi/Community Theory and Clinical
-N219 Nursing Processes (Communication)
-N220 Health Assessment Lab
-H330 Human Sexuality
-N497 Neonatal ICU Internship
Illinois Wesleyan University
Bloomington, IL

August, 2006-December, 2006
Temporary Full Time Faculty
-OB/Peds Clinical Instructor
Richland Community College
Decatur, IL

Aug., 1999 – July, 2002
Instructional Assistant Professor
-OB/Pediatric Clinical
-Community Health clinical
-Health Assessment Labs
Mennonite College of Nursing @ Illinois State University
Normal, IL

April, 1999 – March, 2003
Pediatric/Mother-Baby RN – Registry
BroMenn Home Health
Normal, IL

Jan., 1995 – May, 1999
Clinical Instructor/Lecturer
-Ob/Pediatric theory and clinical
Mennonite College of Nursing
Bloomington, IL

Mar., 1994 - July 1995
Education Coordinator, Nursing Division

Proctor Hospital
Peoria, IL

April, 1992 - June, 1995
Registry RN, Level II Nursery/Pediatrics
BroMenn Regional Medical Center
Bloomington, IL

Dec, 1991 - Mar., 1994
Clinical Educator, Maternal/Child, Med/Surg
Proctor Hospital
Peoria, IL

Oct., 1990 - Nov., 1991
Nurse Manager, Pediatrics
Proctor Hospital
Peoria, IL

May, 1989 - Oct., 1990
Staff RN, Level III Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
OSF Saint Francis Medical Center
Peoria, IL

Research

2008 "Effect of oral stimulation on feeding progression in preterm infants." Doctoral Dissertation Research

2005 NIH/NRSA Predoctoral Grant Submission (Scored): "Neurobehavioral responses of preterm infants to ATVV intervention."

1995-1996 Research Assistant to Dr. Eileen Fowles: Fowles, E. (1999). The Brazelton neonatal behavioral assessment scale and maternal identity. *The American Journal of Maternal/Child Nursing*, 24(6), 287-293.

1995 Master's degree project: Original Research "Postpartum Mother's Perceptions of Competence for Newborn Care"

Professional Certifications

Neonatal Resuscitation Program Instructor
Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
Department of Children & Family Services: Certified
Mandated Reporter (online 10/17/07)

Publications

White-Traut, R., Lessen, B. et al. (2005) The relationship of feeding readiness behaviors and behavioral state to feeding efficiency. *MCN*,30(1), 52-59.

In Process:

Lessen, B. (2009) The effect of oral stimulation on feeding progression in preterm neonates. Original research (writing for *Advances in Neonatal Care*).

Lessen, B. & Beckman, D. (2009) The Beckman-Oral Motor Intervention-Preterm Infant (BOMI-PI): An adaptation for the preterm infant. Original research/new intervention (writing for *Neonatal Network*).

Lessen, B (2009) Integrating service-learning and research in public health: Body mass index in the low income population (writing for *The Journal of Community Health Nursing*).

Lessen, B. (2009) An academic-community partnership for service-learning in community health (writing for *The Journal of Nursing Education*).

Presentations

April, 2009 Accepted for: Oral Presentation
National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN)
National Summit
Scottsdale, AZ
“Effect of Oral Stimulation on Feeding Progression in Preterm Neonates”

April, 2008: Oral Presentation
“Body Mass Index in Low Income School-Age Population”
District 150 Administration
Peoria, IL

September, 2007 Methodist College of Nursing
Reflective Journaling in Community Health Clinical
Peoria, IL

Sept. 2007 Annual Nursing Open House
Illinois Wesleyan University
“IWU Alumni-Research and Practice”

Nov, 2005: Oral Presentation
Sigma Theta Tau International
Biennial Convention
Indianapolis, IN.

“An Academic-Community Partnership for Service-Learning in Community Health”

Oct, 2003 Illinois Wesleyan University Nursing Convocation
“The Oxford, UK Experience”

Sept, 2003 Annual Nursing Open House-Illinois Wesleyan University “IWU Alumni Perspectives”

Sept, 2002 Annual Nursing Open House-Illinois Wesleyan University “IWU Alumni-Professional Journey”

March, 1995 Research Convocation-Mennonite College of Nursing "Postpartum Mother's Perceptions of Competence for Newborn Care" – original research

1993-1995 Illinois Central College, School of Nursing Seminar "Pediatric Medication Administration"

1992 Richwoods High School, Child Development Seminar "The Hospitalized Child"

Conferences Attended

Collaborative IRB Training Initiative (CITI) University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL Feb., 2008

HIPPA Research Training, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL March, 2008

Research Colloquiem, Methodist College of Nursing, Peoria IL April, 2008.

Poverty Simulation, University of Illinois Extension, Peoria County, Peoria, IL April, 2008.

Take This Job...And Love IT! Methodist Medical Center of Illinois, Peoria May 11, 2006

Emerging Issues in Epidemiology Lake Mary, Florida May18-19, 2004

Influenza and Beyond; Responding to Vaccine-Preventable Diseases Atlanta, GA Jan 30, 2004

Nurse Your Patient, Nurse Yourself Springfield, IL

Sept 11, 2003

Health Literacy and Public Health Nursing Workshop
Chicago, IL Sept 10, 2003

Making Change Happen: Translating Research into MCH
Public Health Practice: Eliminating Health Disparities
Chicago, IL April 27-29, 2003

Wired Communities: Putting the *e* in Public Health
Atlanta, GA Webcast Jan 31, 2003

KRON Nutritive Sucking Apparatus University of
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia (Resident Researcher)
Jan 21-27, 2003

6th Annual Midwest Neonatology Critical Care Symposium
Cincinnati, OH Nov 8, 2002

Rewards, Recognition, and Imagination: Celebrate Nursing
Heartland Community College, Bloomington, IL Sept 19,
2002

Continuing Education

Successful completion of the following continuing education
programs:

Summer School on Connectionist Modeling
Oxford University, UK July 20-August 1, 2003
(Competitive admission)

Health Information Privacy Protection: Crisis or
Common Sense? ANA On-line Study Module May, 2003

Human Participant Protection Education for Research Teams
NIH National Cancer Institute On-Line Course August 1-13,
2003

Disaster Preparedness and Response for Nurses STTI On-
line Case Study Feb 20, 2003

Service History

Illinois Wesleyan University
2008-2009 Curriculum Revision Committee
Student Advisory Committee – Chair
Faculty Sponsor: Student Internship – NICU

NRP Training: Student
2003 Illinois Wesleyan University Panel Member:
Department of Sociology
2002-03 Nursing Open House Alumni Panel Presentation
2004 Honors Research Committee: Sociology Dept.
“Contraceptive Education within Families-Issues
with Abstinence and Other Perspectives”
2002-2009 Faculty Sponsor: Student Internships - NICU
2002-2009 NRP Training: Faculty and Students
2002-04 Curriculum Committee
2002-2006 Guest Lecturer for Nursing/Health Courses

Appointments

Advancing Public Health Nursing Education (APHNE)
State Advisory Board Member (IL) 2002-2005
APHNE Regional Consortia Member (Urbana and Peoria)
2002-2005
Community Health Assessment Committee - McLean
County Health Department 2002-2005
Head Start Health Advisory Committee - McLean County
2002-2005
APHA National Mentoring Program: Public Health Mentor
2003-2007

Professional Memberships

Illinois Nurses Association
Sigma Theta Tau International– Xi Pi: Program Committee
AAN Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science
National League for Nursing

Professional Activities

April, 2005 Political Letter of Support to Senator Durbin
and Senator Obama, Illinois, re: Child Nutrition Promotion and
School Lunch Protection Act (S. 771)

July, 2003 Political Letter of Support to Congressman Peter
Fitzgerald, Illinois, re: Nurse Reinvestment Act

Jan, 2003 Political Letter of Support to Congressman Tim
Johnson, 15th district, IL re: Nurse Reinvestment Act

August, 1997 Political Letter of Support to State
Representative Bill Brady re: HB 1076 Amendment to the
Nursing Act