Welcome to the first issue of the *Annual Research Report* for the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing which was developed to acknowledge the substantial nursing research contributions that faculty make to the health and care of Canadians as well as the discipline of nursing overall. It reflects the research activity of our scholars from April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008. The Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto is widely recognized as a research-intensive environment that promotes education and scholarship in nursing. Our faculty are world-class scholars whose expertise has shaped the discipline of nursing. Bloomberg faculty research activity demonstrates the integration of teaching and research in our core graduate fields of study. Within these core study fields individual Bloomberg faculty are clustered in three research areas: *effective care and health outcomes*, *nursing health systems*, and *critical approaches to health and health care*. Our undergraduate, master’s and doctoral students are offered opportunities to experience research through active engagement with Bloomberg faculty in their programs of research within these research fields.
Effective Care and Health Outcomes
The focus of this research field is on rigorous evaluations of conventional and innovative forms of nursing care, using randomized controlled trials, theory-driven evaluations, and systematic reviews of the evidence. Studies are conducted in formal and informal health-care settings, addressing a wide variety of health and illness issues in, for example, maternal-newborn health, cancer care, genetics, critical care, cardiovascular disease, acute and chronic pain in adults, infants and children, and in the area of sleep. Many of the studies are multi-disciplinary and international in scope. In this Research Report, we profile the groundbreaking work of one of our junior faculty members, Dr. Robyn Stremler, a CIHR New Investigator whose program of research focuses on sleep disturbance and fatigue in new families and sleep for hospitalized children and their families. As well, doctoral student Janet Yamada’s research aimed at measuring how well a pain-management intervention is implemented in hospitals is described, focusing on understanding the real-world challenges involved in utilizing research to change practice.

Critical Approaches to Health and Health Care
Scholars in this field explore issues in health and health care using a range of critical and social theories as a foundation. The work of this eclectic group incorporates a number of research methodologies, with an emphasis on qualitative, participatory, and theoretical inquiry. Three strands of investigation are pursued. Several members of this field study health disparities that stem from interconnected and marginalizing social relations of gender, income inequality, disability, racism and heteronormativity. Others analyze the historical, ethical and political basis of health care. Finally, a strong focus on international and global health is reflected in research conducted in this field. You’ll read about a recent CIHR-funded study led by Dr. Denise Gastaldo exploring health inequity and exploring the experiences of recent immigrant women in the community. In addition, the doctoral research of Craig Dales, a recent recipient of a Sir Frederick Banting and Dr. Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarship from CIHR, examining nursing experiences of providing hygiene in high-technology settings is highlighted.

A number of researchers in the health-care community hold affiliations with Bloomberg Nursing and are actively engaged in research and teaching here. One of our status appointees, Dr. Kathy McGilton, a MOHLTC Career Scientist at the Bloomberg Faculty and Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, examines relationship-building and care interactions with the elderly. Her most recent work on a new model of care for elders in the health-care system is outlined in this report. At the student level, you’ll read about Lorraine Dales’ undergraduate research experience that helped create interventions to prevent interruptions in busy nursing units.

And finally, we provide an overview of our funded research chairs, research recognitions, broad national and international presence of Bloomberg research in scientific meetings, many of an interdisciplinary nature, and the scope and number of peer-reviewed faculty publications. RR
Shhh! New parents and babies sleeping

It’s tough to be a new parent, but it’s even tougher when you are sleep deprived. Parents consistently rank sleep as a major health concern for themselves and their new infant. And studies have shown sleep deprivation has negative effects on emotional and physical health. But Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing CIHR New Investigator, Dr. Robyn Stremler, RN is trying to make things a little easier for groggy families. Health-care professionals have little advice to offer postpartum families to improve their sleep and decrease their fatigue, says Stremler. “The goal of my work is to provide mothers with information, strategies and support so that they and their babies can get more sleep in the important first few months of life.”

A current study underway is ‘TIPS’, Tips for Infant and Parent Sleep. The randomized control trial is recruiting new mothers from two downtown Toronto hospitals and Stremler hopes to analyze results by late 2009. Not surprisingly, Stremler isn’t having difficulty with recruitment. “Families are very interested in participating in the hope it might improve their sleep,” she says. Half the mothers in the study are randomly assigned to meet with a nurse on the postpartum unit who has received special training in promoting sleep. They also receive telephone support from that nurse in the first few weeks at home with their new baby. The nurse provides information about what to expect from her baby’s sleep, strategies to improve her baby’s sleep and support and encouragement around the woman’s ability to achieve good sleep for herself and her infant. The other half in the study don’t receive any special information about sleep. At age six and 12 weeks, all the infants and moms are visited in their homes, and Stremler measures their sleep using a technology called “actigraphy.” Actigraphy involves wearing a small wristwatch-like device that detects motion. “Based on the amount of motion we see on the actigraphy data, we can determine how much time the mother and baby spent asleep,” says Stremler.

Given that approximately 150,000 women give birth for the first time each year in Canada, sleep disturbance in the postpartum period is an important public health issue. Attention to improving sleep outcomes could have significant effects on the health of Canadian families and give them the best start possible. RR

“Sleep disturbance in the postpartum period is an important public health issue”
Less pain for baby

Having a baby hospitalized in a neonatal ICU can be a distressing time for a family, particularly if the infant is experiencing pain due to multiple diagnostic and treatment procedures. Reducing some of this anxiety, and more importantly, improving pain assessment and management in the NICU is something Janet Yamada, RN and PhD student at the Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, is hoping to achieve. That’s because studies have shown that pain management and assessments for neonates can be improved “There seems to be a gap in putting research knowledge into practice at the bedside,” says Yamada, a research associate at SickKids in Toronto. But implementing practice changes, for all health-care practitioners, isn’t easy. “Health professionals are busy; it takes a lot of support, facilitation and education to effect practice change,” says Yamada.

It’s an important issue, she says, and not only because of ethical reasons. “Just because babies can’t speak, they still have the right to have their pain managed appropriately like everyone else. And we don’t want to cause pain when neonates are still developing if possible.” There are indications that unmanaged pain in infants can have long-term cognitive and behavioural effects. “Their systems are still developing, and unmanaged pain can cause both immediate and long-term consequences.

“Unmanaged pain in infants can have long-term cognitive and behavioural effects”

It’s more challenging because we have to rely on their behavioural cues,” Yamada explains.

In her doctoral dissertation, Yamada is using her clinical and nursing research skills to develop a measure to evaluate how well an improved pain-management intervention is implemented in hospitals across the country. Yamada is leading the pilot study, under the direction of her PhD supervisor, Dr. Bonnie Stevens, Signy Hildur Eaton chair in pediatric nursing research, as part of a large, CIHR team grant in children’s pain in neonatal and pediatric hospital settings in Canada.

“It’s quite a significant project. Ultimately, we’d like to empower individual health-care professionals to make these practice changes, see if pain intensity is reduced overall and foster better outcomes for patients and their families,” says Yamada. RR
Healthy communities

Community nursing professor Dr. Denise Gastaldo knows all too well the stresses and anxieties connected with landing in and adapting to a new country. She’s emigrated from her native Brazil three times to complete her studies in Spain, the UK and Canada. “It made me acutely aware of the impact of immigration on one’s health and well-being, the feelings of displacement and the loss of identity,” says Gastaldo. She keeps her personal experiences top of mind when researching the social determinants of health, specifically how the intersection of gender and migration affects people’s mental and physical health. She’s working on a project on recent immigrant women living in Toronto, exploring their pathways to poor or optimal mental and physical health. It’s a hot issue, says Gastaldo.

One of the challenges Canada faces as a country with high immigration rates is the so called “healthy immigrant effect.” Gastaldo explains: “At arrival, immigrants are more educated and healthier than the average Canadian, but after 10 years in the country, they experience poorer health and more chronic conditions. This participatory project funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research [CIHR] addresses these pathways to health inequity and has generated knowledge for different audiences, such as a Web site with immigration information, a poetry book and a video for mental health promotion programs.”

Gastaldo’s research also delves into the fastest growing form of migration worldwide—undocumented workers. Two studies, one in Spain and another in Canada, are currently investigating the health consequences of non-status migration. “Research suggests that non-status workers tend to perform the most dangerous, physically demanding or lowest paid jobs with no access to health care,” she says. Not much is known about this population in Canada, estimated at more than 500,000, with most living in Ontario. But Gastaldo plans on finding out.

“It’s all about preventing disease and unnecessary suffering. We need to shape interventions, policies and programs to create the conditions for optimal mental and physical health in these communities.” To neglect these groups, says Gastaldo, is too costly in the long run. RR
Back to basic care

In the high-tech, pressure-cooker world of the ICU nurse, Craig Dale, RN wants to take a low-tech step back to the basics. “Very simple acts of cleanliness can have a significant impact on mortality,” says Dale, “yet this is a problem today in hospitals. Patients can suffer the added burden of hospital-acquired infection, which can negatively affect their recovery or contribute to death.” He believes hygiene is not only an important priority of care, but also a necessary discourse among practitioners “since many patients do not receive the hygienic care they need.”

With 15 years of critical care nursing at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre under his belt, Dale saw first-hand the impact of basic acts of care. Something as simple as brushing patients’ teeth can make a significant difference in outcome. “Mechanical ventilation is a core life-saving technology yet patients receiving this treatment are at risk of respiratory infection without proper oral hygiene. Pneumonia can double their risk of death, increase the duration of ventilation and prolong their stay in hospital.” Studies show pneumonia can be prevented entirely, but in demanding ICU units, hygiene doesn’t always get the attention it deserves, says Dale.

That’s what he’s trying to change. Dale’s PhD research will focus on the nursing experience of providing hygiene in high-tech settings and the impact of workplace documents, such as formal protocols, flow-sheets, checklists and email reminders. “Through a better understanding of nursing work in the ICU, we can better understand the provision of hygiene.” He brings a unique perspective to the project, given his frontline credentials and understanding of the complexities of care.

“Statistical reporting remains central to healthcare discussion, however metrics don’t readily explain how nurses take-up information and prioritize their work. Getting at unconscious and tacit nursing behaviours may help us understand how hygienic practices are positioned within busy, unpredictable critical care settings,” says Dale.

Craig says nurses only need to look back in their own professional history which situates hygiene, nutrition and sanitation as pivotal to improved health. “It’s paradoxical that we are fighting similar battles faced by Florence Nightingale in a modern context.”
High-tech nursing

Dr. Diane Doran uses her personal wireless device to read email on the road, store phone numbers and keep memos. But she wants these tech gadgets to do much more in the world of nursing. The Lawrence S. Bloomberg Professor in Patient Safety researches how to use real time information on handheld mobile devices to improve patient care and outcomes, and help link nurses to resources when they need it. “Wireless devices are being used more frequently, particularly in the home-care setting,” says Doran, “where nurses do not have access to colleagues for quick consultations.” But all that changes with Internet access through smart phones, such as Blackberries or I-Phones, or small mobile computers, like a tablet PC. For example, “One homecare nurse had to change the wound dressings of an amputee on a daily basis, which was very painful for the patient. She knew her agency had best practice guidelines on its Web site, which she accessed with her wireless device. She was able to communicate the treatment protocol to the surgeon, who agreed with her recommendation, and changed the treatment.”

Doran works with telecommunication giants such as RIM (makers of the Blackberry), Telus, IBM and Nortel to eliminate barriers to access resources for nurses in a variety of health-care settings, be it homecare, acute or primary care or in correctional institutions. In 2008, the Nursing Secretariat of the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term care funded a project led by Doran to help 30 organizations purchase wireless mobile devices for nurses. The devices were enabled with best practice guidelines from the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario and Web resources, such as Nursing PLUS. The evaluation results? “We found significant improvement in nurses’ access to information, particularly for community nurses, who can be quite isolated,” says Doran. “This is helping to improve the quality of care for patients, and increase support for nurses in their practice, in real time, wherever they may be located.”

Doran is thrilled to see the big impact of such small devices, and is eager to move on to stage two of the initiative. “We’re evaluating their use in clinical documentation, in addition to access to resources,” says Doran, in the hopes to decrease possible errors in transcribing hand-written nursing notes into computer databases. Could this soon mean a wireless mobile device for every nurse across Canada? One day, she says. RR
Transition of new nurses

Dr. Jessica Peterson remembers her first days as a new nurse, and it wasn’t always easy. “I had a lot of support around me, but it was still stressful and overwhelming.” She soon found out she was not alone, and some literature searching turned up a long-standing problem in the profession. “I kept hearing and reading about this transition time for new graduates,” says Peterson. Since the 1970s, problems associated with heavy workloads, new job stress, and lack of support for new nurses have been published, “and there are still articles today talking about these difficulties and how widespread the issue is,” says Peterson. “There’s a lot to learn for a new nurse in a very busy acute care setting.”

Peterson decided to investigate further, and the master’s student at the Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing was fast-tracked into a PhD program to research these issues in acute care settings. Her dissertation focused on the relationship between job demands, control, social support, self-efficacy, and job stress, job satisfaction and intention to leave. Peterson found the same issues and concerns reflected in her study. By consolidating and solidifying what the current state of the nursing work environment is, Peterson hopes to develop an intervention to help decrease the stresses of newly graduated nurses and support them through the transitional period, out of a classroom and into the acute care world. “If we can give them direction and some interventions, we can add to their job satisfaction and decrease staff turnover in hospitals,” says Peterson. “Longer retentions mean continuity in the care of patients, and better morale on nursing units. It all translates to better patient outcomes and better use of hospital resources.”

Peterson completed her dissertation with the support of the Social Sciences and Health Research Council, and a doctoral fellowship from the Ontario Training Centre in Health Services and Policy Research. She plans to continue answering her questions in the next steps of her career. RR
Connecting the ‘disconnect’ in elder care

A respected mentor and professor in her graduate course made Dr. Katherine McGilton think about how we care for seniors. “Dr. Dorothy Pringle really opened my eyes to the idea that nurses could make a difference in the long-term care of the elderly,” says McGilton. And she hasn’t looked back since.

The assistant professor (status only) at the Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, and research scientist at Toronto Rehabilitation Institute focuses on relationship-building and interactions with the elderly in a variety of care settings, with particular interest in clients with cognitive impairment.

McGilton has developed a new model of care called REAP, which refers to her four tenets of optimal elder care: relating well, environmental manipulation, ability focus and personhood. REAP has been pilot tested at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, and the results have been positive, says McGilton. “If we can get nurses, and allied health professionals such as occupational and physical therapists, to use REAP regardless of cognitive impairment, we can get elderly patients home once they are rehabilitated, instead of admitted to a long-term care setting.”

Knowledge of dementia and delirium is essential as well, says McGilton, as many patients admitted to rehabilitation and acute care facilities experience one or both of these conditions.

Simple acts, such as making a connection with patients by explaining procedures to them when taking their vitals, or using one-step commands dependent on their existing level of ability, will prevent cognitively impaired clients from getting upset or frustrated. When clients have Alzheimer’s disease, says McGilton, care providers need to first assess what these patients are still able do for themselves. “And then we need to ask, based on these assessments, what should we be doing? We need to ensure our interventions keep patients as independent as possible. If health-care professionals take the time to employ REAP, they’ll find care a little easier,” says McGilton.

She has funding from the CIHR to replicate this new model in two facilities with control groups, and hopes to roll out REAP across Canada. “We really need to look at our assumptions around elder care, and keep them out of hospitals and long-term care facilities once they’re rehabilitated so they’re not spending the rest of their lives there.” It’s better for patients, and better for their families. And it saves significant resources in the health-care system. Says McGilton: “We can make a huge difference in this area.” RR
Discovery starts in undergrad

After completing a busy first year of nursing at the Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, Lorraine Dales never thought about moving into research. But a chance to apply for one of the Faculty’s summer research fellowships was too good to pass up. She landed a position assisting Dr. Linda McGillis Hall, a recognized leader in nursing health services and systems research, which was an area that interested Dales. McGillis Hall was conducting a study looking at the kinds of interruptions a clinical nurse received during a hospital shift. Researchers followed nurses on their 12-hour shift to document the interruptions, and Dales was involved with classifying and coding these interruptions. What she discovered astounded her.

“I was shocked to see how busy, and how many interruptions these nurses experienced,” says Dales. Follow-ups in these nursing units included interventions to keep interruptions to a minimum, and reduce any possible incidences of error. “It really helped me see how applicable research was to practice settings. We were able to collaborate with the nurses and come up with simple, concrete solutions that anyone could apply on the unit.”

The fellowship helped open her eyes to the many opportunities a nursing background can offer her. Hearing about the research projects her other colleagues were working on that summer inspired her even further. After graduating with her BScN, Dales worked in transplant nursing at Toronto General Hospital, then completed her MN in the administration stream at Bloomberg Nursing. Dales’ interests brought her back to nursing research, and she currently has a full-time position as a research officer in the Faculty.

“I thought research was separate from clinical practice,” says Dales, but her fellowship experience proved otherwise. “I really enjoy clinical nursing, and in fact, I miss it at times. But I never thought there were so many interesting and evidence-based research areas in nursing. And that’s exciting,” says Dales.

Could a PhD be in the works? “Maybe,” laughs Dales. “I never say ‘never.’”
Researchers from the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing hold an unprecedented eight research chairs, more than any other nursing faculty in Canada. Research chairs are achieved by faculty members who have demonstrated global leadership in their field in academic excellence and research scholarship. Several of the research chairs held within the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing are funded from national peer-reviewed competitions, while others are endowed research chairs in collaboration with affiliated academic health science centres.

Dr. Ellen Hodnett  Heather M. Reisman Chair in Perinatal Nursing Research  
Dr. Bonnie Stevens  Signy Hildur Eaton Chair in Pediatric Nursing Research  
Dr. Linda O’Brien-Pallas  CHSRF/CIHR Chair in Nursing Human Resources  
Dr. Carles Muntaner  CAMH Psychiatric and Addiction Nursing Research Chair  
Dr. Doris Howell  RBC Chair in Oncology Nursing Research  
Dr. Cindy-Lee Dennis  Canada Research Chair in Perinatal Community Health (Tier 2)  
Dr. Arlene Bierman  Ontario Women's Health Council Chair in Women's Health  
Dr. Patricia McKeever  Bloorview Kids Foundation Chair in Childhood Disability Studies
TOTAL RESEARCH FUNDING—ENTIRE FACULTY (3 YEAR ROLLING AVERAGE VALUES)

- GRANTS HELD AT HOSPITALS
- GRANTS HELD AT UOFT

SOURCE: UTBI RESEARCH CUBE
WHERE WE WENT

Aaruhus, DNK  Danish History of Nursing Conference
Amelia Island, USA  Pediatric Sleep Medicine Conference
Berlin, DEU  European Society of Intensive Care Medicine Congress
Berlin, DEU  International Congress on Neuropathic Pain
Boston, USA  International Society for Quality in Health Care International Conference
Honolulu, USA  Congress of the Society of Critical Care Medicine
Indianapolis, USA  Internation Nursing Administration Research Conference
Malmo, SWE  European Society of Cardiology Spring Meeting
Melbourne, AUS  International PhD collaboration with University of Melbourne
Minneapolis, USA  Associated Professional Sleep Societies Annual Meeting
Monterrey, MEX  International PhD collaboration with University of Nuevo Leon
Montreal, CAN  Conference of the Canadian Sleep Society
Orlando, USA  Association of Women’s Health Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses Meeting
Oxford, GBR  St. Anthony College
Portland, USA  Western Institutes of Nursing Research Conference
Providence, USA  Eastern Nursing Research Society Scientific Sessions
Rotorua, NZL  Australia and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Scientific Meeting
San Diego, USA  American Society of Human Genetics
Sao Paulo, BRA  International PhD collaboration with University of Sao Paulo
Saskatoon, CAN  Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences Congress
Sydney, AUS  International PhD collaboration with University of Sydney
Toronto, CAN  Canadian Nursing Informatics Association Annual Conference
Turku, FIN  International PhD collaboration with Turku University
Vienna, AUS  International Evidence-Based Nursing Research Congress
Who Came to Us

Addis Ababa, ETH  Addis Ababa University
Amsterdam/Groningen, HOL  Midwifery Academy
Andhra Pradesh, IND  Catholic Health Association of India
Catalonia, ESP  University of Lleida
DFCM Chilean Group, CHL  Various institutions in Chile
Dorset, GBR  Bournemouth University
Florianopolis, BRA  University of Santa Catarina
Hyogo, JPN  University of Hyogo
Kent Ridge, SGP  University of Singapore
Melbourne, AUS  University of Melbourne
Nagano, JPN  University of Nagano
Oita City, JPN  Oita University
Oslo, NOR  Oslo University College
Palma, Majorca, ESP  University of the Balearic Islands
Philadelphia, USA  University of Pennsylvania
Reykjavik, ISL  University of Iceland
San Francisco, USA  University of California, San Francisco
Sao Paulo, BRA  University of Sao Paula, Health Secretariat of Sao Paulo
Santiago, CHL  Sociedad Chilena de Educacion en Enfermeria
Suffolk, GBR  Suffolk College
Sydney, AUS  University of Sydney
Taipei, TWN  National Defense Medical Center
Tokyo, JPN  Kitasato University
Utrecht, NLD  Patient Care Managers
The research-intensive environment at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing provides an optimal setting for post-doctoral fellows (PDFs) to transition from graduate student studies to independent scholarship. PDFs with the Bloomberg faculty are trainees who are provided with the opportunity to further their research skills while working with an experienced faculty mentor. Our postdoctoral fellows throughout 2007 and 2008 included:

1. Dr. Roberta Cardoso  
   Hospital Israelita Albert Einstein and University of Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
   Postdoctoral supervisor: Dr. Bonnie Stevens  
   Period of study: July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2008

2. Dr. Maria Itayra Padilha  
   Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Florianópolis, Brazil  
   Postdoctoral supervisor: Dr. Sioban Nelson  

3. Dr. Jennifer Stinson  
   Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing and Sick Children’s Hospital, Toronto  
   Postdoctoral supervisor: Dr. Ellen Hodnett (with Dr. Patrick McGrath)  

4. Dr. Denise Harrison  
   University of Melbourne and the Royal Children’s Hospital, Melbourne, Australia  
   Postdoctoral supervisor: Dr. Bonnie Stevens  
   Period of study: February 1, 2008 – February 1, 2009

5. Dr. Debora Kirschbaum  
   Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
   Postdoctoral supervisor: Dr. Denise Gastaldo (with Dr. Joan Eakin)  
Inaugural Appointments to the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Professorships and Post Doctoral Fellowship

The fall 2007 announcement of the generous $10 million gift from financier Lawrence S. Bloomberg provided the opportunity to expand internationally our innovation and excellence in research. Two limited-term professorships were developed for post-doctoral faculty members who have exhibited outstanding leadership in research. These professorships are for five-year terms and are aimed at new or existing faculty to expand their program of research in support of advancing nursing practice and patient care.

**Dr. Diane Doran**, PhD, RN, FCAHS, Professor, was named the **Lawrence S. Bloomberg Limited-Term Professor in Patient Safety**, beginning January 1, 2008. The foci of her research are the evaluation of methods for improving the quality of health care, the design and measurement of nursing sensitive patient outcomes, health care teams and innovations in patient safety.

**Dr. Louise Rose**, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor—was named the **Lawrence S. Bloomberg Limited-Term Professor in Critical Care**, beginning January 1, 2008. Dr. Rose, an internationally recruited faculty member, studies critical care, emergency and trauma nursing of adult and pediatric patients.

In addition, to generate increased international collaboration opportunities, a visiting professor and post-doctoral fellowship were also developed.

**Dr. Alex Molassiotis**, from the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom was named the **Frances Bloomberg International Distinguished Visiting Professor** beginning in January 2008. Dr. Molassiotis is currently professor of cancer and supportive care, School of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work, University of Manchester. A leading figure in cancer nursing research and end of life care in the UK and Europe, his focus will be to develop capacity building initiatives in collaboration with Bloomberg clinical partners for the development of research in cancer and palliative care nursing.

**Marit Leegaard** from the University of Oslo in Norway was named the **Tom Kierans International Post-Doctoral Fellow** working with Professor Judy Watt-Watson beginning in April 2008. Ms. Leegaard, an expert clinician in pain and anesthesia, is visiting the Faculty upon completion of her doctorate at the University of Oslo. Her work at Bloomberg Nursing will be in the area of pain, focusing on cardiac pain and will be seeking clinical partnerships to build collaborative research links with nurses in cardiac teams in Toronto and internationally.
Faculty researchers from the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing have also achieved substantial success in research personnel award competitions, both at the national and provincial levels. Research personnel awards are designed to support the development and retention of emerging research scientists who have been judged by their peers as outstanding in their field of study. These programs support training and early career development by providing some salary support to the Bloomberg Faculty for the research and scholarly activities of these select investigators. Research personnel awards held by Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing researchers include Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) New Investigator Awards, and Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) Career Scientist Awards.
CIHR New Investigator Awards

Considered to be one of the most prestigious awards in the country, the CIHR New Investigator Award supports researchers in the early stages of their career who have shown promise as independent investigators by providing assistance for them in establishing their program of research. This program provides opportunities for new investigators within the first five years of their independent research career to develop and demonstrate their independence in initiating and conducting health research. Bloomberg faculty have consistently held these esteemed awards since their inception in 2002.

Dr. Kelly Metcalfe
July 2007 to June 2012
Research Field
Effective Care and Health Outcomes
Topic
Differences in uptake of cancer prevention options in Canadian women with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation

Dr. Janet Angus
July 2006 to June 2011
Research Field
Critical Approaches to Health and Health Care
Topic
Locating barriers and supports to maintenance of risk modifications in coronary artery disease

Dr. Cindy-Lee Dennis
March 2005 to February 2010
Research Field
Effective Care and Health Outcomes
Topic
A RCT to evaluate the effectiveness of peer (mother-to-mother) support for the prevention of postpartum depression

Dr. Linda McGillis Hall
July 2002 to June 2007
Research Field
Nursing Health Systems
Topic
Nurse staffing models and work environment strategies

Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) Career Scientist Awards

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) supports outstanding researchers in the province who are in the early stages of their careers to carry out independent research in health services in Ontario. The overall goal of the program is to facilitate the development of health research personnel in Ontario. Lawrence S. Bloomberg faculty have a longstanding record in the achievement of these awards.

Dr. Kathy McGilton
July 2004 to June 2009
Research Field
Nursing Health Systems

Dr. Ann Tourangeau
July 2003 to June 2008
Research Field
Nursing Health Systems

Research Personnel Awards

Dr. Cindy-Lee Dennis, associate professor at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto received a Tier 2 Canadian Research Chair in Perinatal Community Health in September 2007. Established in 2000, the Canada Research Chair program is aimed at the recruitment and retention of academics who are world leaders in their field of expertise. Tier 2 chairs are designated to exceptional emerging researchers whose potential to lead in their field has been acknowledged by their peers.
Dennis’ research program is directed towards rigorously evaluating interventions to improve the care of pregnant and postpartum women. She is the principal investigator of two large, multi-site randomized controlled trials related to the prevention and treatment of postpartum depression, and a co-investigator on several other research projects concerning breastfeeding and maternal mood. She has numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals related to maternal and infant health outcomes including the detection, prevention, and treatment of postpartum depression, and is the primary reviewer for five Cochrane systematic reviews related to perinatal (antenatal and postpartum) depression. Her theoretical and measurement contributions to the breastfeeding field are widely acknowledged internationally. Dennis’ research provides evidence-based information to address health problems that many pregnant and postpartum women experience with the goal of promoting a healthy transition to motherhood.

Dr. Patricia McKeever, Professor at the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, a health sociologist whose program of research addresses sociospatial, philosophical and policy aspects of childhood disability/chronic illness, was named the inaugural Bloorview Kids Foundation Chair in Childhood Disability Studies in November 2007. In the chair, McKeever will continue to conduct research that addresses the physical, social and policy barriers to inclusion that Canadian children with disabilities and their families encounter. Her areas of expertise include long-term care policies, chronic illness and disability, interdisciplinary scholarship, contemporary social theory and qualitative research methods. She has been the co-director of the Health Care, Technology and Place Collaborative Research Personnel Awards.

Dr. Kelly Metcalfe received a five-year CIHR New Investigator award in July 2007. This award is designed to provide outstanding New Investigators the opportunity to develop and demonstrate their independence in initiating and conducting health research through provision of a contribution to their salary. In this highly competitive funding round, only 19 percent of all applicants (55/292) were funded. Dr. Metcalfe’s primary area of research focus is on the psychosocial implications of being at an increased risk of developing breast cancer. The New Investigator award will explore “Differences in uptake of cancer preventive options in Canadian women with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation.”
Distinctions

Dr. Linda McGillis Hall was inducted as an American Academy of Nursing International Fellow during the Academy’s 34th Annual Meeting and Conference, on Nov. 10, 2007, in Washington, DC. The American Academy of Nursing (AAN) is constituted to anticipate national and international trends in health care, and address resulting issues of health care knowledge and policy. The mission of the Academy is to serve the public and nursing profession by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge.

Other Research Acknowledgements and Awards

In November 2007 Dr. Kelly Metcalfe was the recipient of the Excellence in Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Award from the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS). The ONS is the largest professional oncology association in the world. It consists of over 35,000 registered nurses and other health-care providers dedicated to excellence in patient care, education, research, and administration in oncology nursing. This award is given to a registered nurse who: is a recognized expert in the field of cancer prevention and early detection (e.g., through publications, presentations, research, and peer review), has made a significant contribution to cancer prevention and early detection, including professional/patient education, clinical practice, and nursing research, and serves as a role model for other nurses.

Dr. Sioban Nelson, professor and Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing dean, is editor with Suzanne Gordon of the book “Complexities of Care: Nursing Reconsidered” which received Book of the Year awards in five categories in the American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Awards as published in the January 2008, 108(1), 73-77. It received the top award in Professional Development and Issues, the History and Public Policy, and the Community and Public Health categories. It was also ranked in the top three in the Nursing Leadership and Management Category, and the Nursing Education and Professional Development categories.

The Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing was recognized as an organizational hub for an important World Health Organization [WHO] project; “The Commission on Social Determinants of Health (CSDH)”, under the direction of Dr. Carles Muntaner. The Health Inequalities Research Group (Occupational Health Research Unit) of Pompeu Fabra University, Spain; Social Equity and Health Research Unit (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health) of the University of Toronto, Canada; and the Institute of Collective Health, Federal University of Bahia, Brazil, are the co-hubs for the Employment Conditions Knowledge Network. Chairs of the project include: Joan Benach, Carles Muntaner, and Vilma Santana. The Commission on Social Determinants of Health supports countries and global health partners to address the social factors leading to ill health and inequities. It draws the attention of society to the social determinants of health that are known to be among the worst causes of poor health and inequalities between and within countries. The determinants include unemployment, unsafe workplaces, urban slums, globalization and lack of access to health systems.
**Arlene Bierman**
1. Ontario Health Quality Council with the Ministry of Health Long Term Care (OHQC) — three-year term.
2. Chair, Performance Measurement Advisory Board, Ontario Health Quality Council.
3. Member, Seniors Council of the Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).
4. Member, Advisory Committee, Gender and Health Interest Group, Academy Health.
5. Member, Blue Ribbon Panel for Centers for Medicare and Medical Services (CMS) Health Outcomes Survey.

**Ellen Hodnett**
1. Member, Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG) for World Health Organization, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, Geneva, Switzerland.

**Michael McGillion**
2. Co-Chair, Scientific Program, Joint meeting of the Canadian and British Pain Societies (2010).

**Linda McGillis Hall**
1. Chair, Grants Review Panel Committee-Health Services Evaluations and Interventions Research “B”, Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)

**Kathy McGilton**
1. Chair, Subcommittee on Curriculum Development in Gerontology, National Initiative for the Care of Elderly (NICE).

**Pat McKeever**
1. Executive Committee, Bloorview Research Institute.

**Linda O’Brien Pallas**
1. Member, Research Committee of Sigma Theta Tau International.
2. Member, Research Committee, The Council of Graduates of Foreign Schools of Nursing.

**Elizabeth Peter**
1. Chair, Canadian Nurses Association Ethics Advisory Committee.
Canadian Institutes for Health Research [CIHR]—Operating Grants Competitions


Dr. Linda McGillis Hall is the principal investigator of a study examining outcomes related to nursing shiftwork “Nurse Scheduling and Patient Safety Outcomes” which received funding through the CIHR Operating Grants competition in June 2007. The study is co-sponsored by the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI). Co-investigators on this study include Diane Doran, Claire Mallette, and Jessica Peterson from the LSBFON University of Toronto, and Joan Tranmer from Queen's University.

Dr. Jan Angus is the principal investigator on the CIHR study funded in January 2008 “Gender and Co-morbidity: Everyday Tactics for Balancing Diabetes Self Care and Cardiac Rehabilitation (CR)”. Co-investigators on this study include: Beth Abramson, Alexander Clark, Lori Korkola, Susan Marzolini, Paul Oh, and PhD Students Jennifer Lapum and Jennifer Price.

Dr. Robyn Stremler received notification that her clinical trial, “The TIPS (Tips for Infant and Parent Sleep) Trial” was awarded funding by CIHR. Co-investigators on the study include Ellen Hodnett, Kathryn Lee, James Macfarlane, Shelly Weiss, and Andrew Willan. The TIPS trial is an expansion of Robyn's previous pilot work in the area and will enroll 234 first time mothers and their infants to determine the effects of a behavioural-educational maternal-infant sleep intervention in the early postpartum period on sleep, fatigue, depressive symptoms and breastfeeding at 6 and 12 weeks postpartum.

Dr. Denise Gastaldo is co-principal investigator on a study —“Gender and migration as social determinants of health: The case of Latin American undocumented workers in the greater Toronto area” which received funding through the CIHR Operating Grants June 2007 competition. Co-principal investigator on this study is Dr. Lilian Magalhaes.

Dr. Michael McGillion is co-principal investigator on a study examining prevalence, demographic, clinical, social, and psychological predictors of chest pain following angioplasty —“Prevalence and predictors of non-ischemic chest pain following successful percutaneous coronary intervention” which received funding through the CIHR Operating Grants June 2007 competition. Co-principal investigator on this study is Heather Arthur, and co-investigators include Tammy Cosman, Madhu Natarajan, Kevin Thorpe, and Judy Watt-Watson.

Dr. Carles Muntaner is co-investigator on a study examining the “Effects of Social Housing on Adult and Child Mental Health—A prospective study in the GTA west” which received funding through the CIHR Operating Grants competition in January 2008. The principal investigator on this study is J. Dunn and other co-investigators include S. Hwang, M. Janus, F. Matheson, R. Moineddin, and P. O’Campo.
**Dr. Patricia McKeever** is co-principal investigator on the CIHR-study funded in January 2008 on “School, Home and Neighbourhood Accessibility: Physically Disabled Children’s Assessments (The ScHan Project).” The co-principal investigator is S. Ruddick, and co-investigators include J. Dunn, N. Yantzi, and N. Young.

**Dr. Bonnie Stevens** is a co-investigator on a study led by R. Pillai Riddell from York University on “The development of behavioural pain responses in infancy: exploring the influence of maternal soothing behaviour” which was awarded funding by CIHR in June 2007.

**Dr. Katherine McGilton** is a co-investigator on the CIHR study funded in August 2007 “Institutional supports to improve nursing staff effectiveness in Ontario long term care” with principal investigator W. Wodchis, and other co-investigators Ann Tourangeau & Whitney Berta.

**Dr. Katherine McGilton** is a co-investigator on the CIHR-funded study “Advanced health hygiene system to reduce hospital-acquired infections.” Principal investigators on the study funded in June 2007 were G. Fernie & A. McGeer, while the other co-investigator is A. Mihailidis.

**Canadian Institutes for Health Research [CIHR]—Strategic Funding Competitions**

CIHR’s Institute of Population and Public Health in partnership with the World Health Organization and Statistics Canada developed a Request for Applications (RFA) ‘Analysis of the World Health Survey Data’. The purpose of this initiative was to provide an enhanced opportunity for expert analysis of the WHS data by Canadian researchers, together with international research collaborators. **Dr. Carles Muntaner**, the Psychiatric and Addiction Nursing Research Chair of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health and the Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto, Haejoo Chung of Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, Maryland), and Selahadin Ibrahim received funding to examine “Labour Institutions and Socioeconomic Inequalities in Health Among Wealthy Countries.”

In the CIHR strategic grant competition on ‘Development and Commercialization of Medical and Assistive Technologies for Ontario Researchers’, **Dr. Diane Doran** receiving funding for her study on “Enhancing Service Throughputs at the Point-of-Care for Patients with Mental Health Problems and Addictions.” Co-investigators include Lynn Nagle, R. Miller, A. Kushniruk, J. Patterson, T. Virani, I. Bajnok, and **Paula Goering**.

**Drs. Katherine McGilton** and **Ann Tourangeau** and are co-investigators on the grant “Examining the determinants of quality in Ontario long-term care” which was approved for funding in the August 2007, Partnerships for Health System Improvement Competition [PHSI]. The principal investigator is Walter Wodchis. The PHSI program supports teams or researchers and decision-makers interested in conducting applied health service research.

**Dr. Patricia McKeever** is a co-investigator on the study “Development of an Indicator of the Impact of Assistive Devices on Children with Disabilities and their Families” which received funding through CIHR Partnerships for Child and Youth Health Indicators competition in January 2008. Co-principal investigators on this study are S. Ryan, K. Campbell, and B. Sawatzky, and other co-investigators include K. Mont-Petit, S. Perkin, P. Rigby, L. Roxborough, and J. Stevens.

**Dr. Bonnie Stevens** is a co-investigator on a study led by R. Pillai Riddell from York University on “The development of behavioural pain responses in infancy: exploring the influence of maternal soothing behaviour” which was awarded funding by CIHR in June 2007.

**Dr. Katherine McGilton** is co-principal investigator on the CIHR study funded in January 2008 on “Labour Institutions and Socioeconomic Inequalities in Health Among Wealthy Countries.”

**Dr. Katherine McGilton** is a co-investigator on the study “Examining the determinants of quality in Ontario long-term care” which was approved for funding in the August 2007, Partnerships for Health System Improvement Competition [PHSI]. The principal investigator is Walter Wodchis. The PHSI program supports teams or researchers and decision-makers interested in conducting applied health service research.

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**Dr. Katherine McGilton** is co-principal investigator on the CIHR-funded study “Advanced health hygiene system to reduce hospital-acquired infections.” Principal investigators on the study funded in June 2007 were G. Fernie & A. McGeer, while the other co-investigator is A. Mihailidis.
Dr. Robyn Stremler received a Connaught New Staff Matching Award in 2008. The purpose of the Connaught New Staff Matching fund program is to provide internal support at the University of Toronto for new faculty members who are launching their research careers. It is hoped that this funding support will help to establish a research program, thereby increasing their competitiveness for external funding. Awards are peer-reviewed and decisions are made on a competitive basis based on candidate submissions from across the health sciences at the university.

The Canadian Patient Safety Institute [CPSI] awarded a formative grant to Dr. Jan Storch (principal investigator from the University of Victoria) and Dr. Diane Doran (co-principal investigator from the University of Toronto) to establish a team of researchers and decision makers that will advance patient safety research in home care. Collectively, the team will have expertise in patient safety and/or home care and will eventually conduct shared research in this subject area.

Other Research Grant Competitions

Dr. Robyn Stremler was selected as one of the Sleep Research Society Foundation’s (SRSF) 2007 J. Christian Gillin, M.D. Research Award recipients for her proposal, “Sleep Disturbances in Hospitalized Children.” The SRSF J. Christian Gillin, MD. Research Grant is intended to support beginning investigators in sleep research for the purpose of gathering pilot data to be used for future grant applications.

Dr. Kelly Metcalfe received a research grant from the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation with co-investigators Dr. Steven Narod and Mary Lynn Quan. Her grant will examine ‘The Implications of a Sister’s Breast Cancer Diagnosis’, to determine their perceived breast cancer risks, their levels of cancer-related distress, and their information and support needs.

Dr. Linda McGillis Hall is the principal investigator on a four-year program of research related to nurse migration—“Moving to Action: Evidence-Based Retention and Recruitment Policy Initiatives for Nursing” which received funding through the Canadian Health Services Research Foundation. The study is co-sponsored by Health Canada - Office of Nursing Policy and Nursing Research Fund, Canadian Health Services Research Foundation. Co-investigators on this study include: Sandra MacDonald-Rencz from the Office of Nursing Policy—Health Canada, Francine Anne Roy from CIHI, Dr. Gavin Andrews from McMaster University, and Dr. Jessica Peterson, and PhD Students Michelle Lalonde, and Sheri Price from the LSBFON University of Toronto.
**Dr. Linda McGillis Hall** is the principal investigator of a study—“Stuck in the Middle: Addressing the Needs of Mid-Career Nurses in Ontario” which received funding through the **Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care** (MOHLTC) aimed at determining the unique career and work/work environment needs of mid-career nurses in Ontario and knowledge development strategies that can be integrated into individual health care settings for mid-career nurses. Co-investigators on this study include: **Dr. Jessica Peterson** and PhD student **Michelle Lalonde**.

**Dr. Robyn Stremler** is a co-investigator on a study entitled—“*Sleep and Fatigue in Children on Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia Maintenance Therapy and their Parents*” which received funding through the **Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario 2008 Seed Grant** competition. The principal investigator on this study is Ms. Sue Zupanec and co-investigators include: Dr. Robyn Stremler and Heather Jones.

**Dr. Louise Rose** is part of a team which was awarded an Australian College of Critical Care Nurses Novice Researcher Grant, for their study “*Postnatal Adaptation Following ICU Admission*”.

**Dr. Arlene Bierman** is co-investigator on the study “*Strengthening of Primary Health Care in Brazil and Canada*.” The Principal Investigator on this study is Yves Talbot, and funding was received from the Agência Brasileira de Cooperação (CIDA), Brazil, from 2007-2012.

**Dr. Arlene Bierman** is the principal investigator on the study “*Ontario Women’s Health Report Card Improving Health and Promoting Equity for the Women of Ontario*” funded by the **Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care** (MOHLTC).

**Dr. Patricia McKeever** is co-principal investigator on the study “*Books for Siblings of Children with Autism: Children’s Assessments*” with K. Johnson. It received funding from the Bloorview Research Institute Seed Grant Competition.
Journals/Periodicals


Faculty Publications


Books/Book Chapters

