

2020

THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH
AND HUMAN SERVICES
FACILITIES & RESOURCES
GUIDE

THE COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF RESEARCH
UNC CHARLOTTE

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The College of Health and Human Services

About

Our growing and dynamic college offers a wide range of graduate and undergraduate degrees and certificate programs to prepare graduates to pursue advanced degrees, and for a variety of practice, research and administrative roles in the health and human services fields. Our high quality, innovative educational programs include opportunities to study abroad and for distance education. Academic units include the Department of Kinesiology, Department of Public Health Sciences, School of Social Work, and the School of Nursing.

Mission & Vision

The College of Health and Human Services offers professionally recognized and accessible undergraduate and graduate programs that are nationally and globally relevant, and responsive to changing needs of health care and human services in the state and region. The College achieves excellence through informed and effective teaching in its degree programs, community outreach services and partnerships, professional activities, and research to advance science and practice in the health and human services professions.

The College's mission is focused on achieving excellence in teaching, research, and service. Research is ongoing in a number of areas including health services research, effects of physical activity on health, promoting healthy individuals and communities, and research with specific chronic illnesses. The health and human services fields demand that professionals maintain cutting edge knowledge. Our faculty are actively engaged in the advancement of knowledge of the basic mechanisms underlying health and illness, and improving the delivery of health and human services. Community leadership is an important aspect of our college mission and faculty are active in community service.

Profile of Students in CHHS

The Spring 2020 Census Report for the College of Health and Human Services at UNC Charlotte reports a total undergraduate enrollment of 3,353 students, including students seeking baccalaureate degrees in Exercise Science, Health Systems Management, Nursing, Neurodiagnostics & Sleep Science, Public Health, Respiratory Therapy, and Social Work. Of these, 53% of students are Caucasian and 40% are minority (African American, Hispanic, American Indian, or Asian). The other 7% is comprised of non-resident aliens, any two or more races, and those who did not specify a race.

The Census Report also states that for Spring there were 705 graduate students enrolled in the College of Health and Human Services graduate programs: PhD in Health Services Research, PhD in Public Health Sciences, Doctor of Nursing Practice, PhD in Interdisciplinary Biology, Master of Health Administration, Master of Science in Kinesiology, Master of Science in Athletic Training, Master of Science in Respiratory Care, Master of Science in Nursing, Master of Public Health, Master of Social Work, Master of Arts in Gerontology, and the Master of Science in Health Informatics and Analytics.

Facilities

The College of Health and Human Services is a key component of the vibrant environment of UNC Charlotte. The Departments of Kinesiology and Public Health Sciences and Schools of

Social Work and Nursing have outstanding facilities and resources that support the accomplishment of its mission of excellence in education, research, and service with an increasing emphasis on research. The College of Health and Human Services is housed in its eponymous 138,000 square foot \$34 million state-of-the-art building, The College of Health and Human Services Building, and an upgraded Belk Gymnasium with \$20 million of new renovation.

The College of Health and Human Services is a key component of the vibrant environment of UNC Charlotte. The College supports significant investigator-initiated research funded through the National Institutes of Health, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Defense, and numerous other national and local entities. The College provides faculty and staff with access to specialized research software not supported by the University, including EndNote bibliographic software; MPlus, Stata/SE and SUDAAN quantitative statistical analysis packages; NVivo qualitative analysis software; Stat/Transfer data conversion software; and the Prism scientific graphing package, geographic information systems analysis software, SPSS, and SAS statistical analysis packages, and extensive electronic library resources.

Research Administration Office (RAO) Space & Laboratories

Faculty members may use their offices for research/scholarly activities, and have access to additional workspace if needed.

| College of Health and Human Services Research Office/Laboratory Space | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Office Space (sq. ft.) | Laboratories (sq. ft.) |
| Dean's Office | 1,502 | |
| Informatics | 886 | 7,659 |
| Kinesiology | 6,396 | 12,980 |
| Nursing | 4,181 | 1,732 |
| Public Health Sciences | 4,745 | |
| Social Work | 2,015 | |
| TOTAL: | 19,725 | 22,371 |

Research Support: Office of Research

The College of Health and Human Services facilitates research through the College’s Office of Research. This office provides a multifaceted support structure to assist researchers from the inception of an idea through the proposal and then post award. The process begins with concept reviews for initial ideas, mock proposal reviews, and feedback from other researchers at every career stage. Also provided by the Office of Research are research assistants, paid consultants to review and edit publications and proposals, biostatistical support, and pre-award and post-award specialists to assist faculty in all aspects of proposal preparation and award processes. There are

three full-time positions housed in the CHHS Office of Research, including a Research Officer (Pre-Award Specialist), and 2 Post-Award Specialists.

- **Research Officer, Pre-Award Specialist:** Manages the research business functions related to research funding in the College of Health and Human Services. Consults and assists Principal Investigator in identifying research opportunities; proposal planning; budget development; assists PIs with the completion and review of the internal processing forms in Niner Research; assures proposals meet Federal, University, and sponsor guidelines, policies and procedures; identifies and manages data management, conflict of interest, and contracting issues. Reviews and prepares proposal components prior to submission. This position is the first line of contact for research faculty, and is responsible for updates, communication, and unit's adherence to all mandated (federal, state and private) rules and regulations. This position coordinates all the data use agreements.
- **Post-Award Specialists (2):** The CHHS Post-Award Specialist facilitates award management, spending, reporting, and closeout. The CHHS Post-Award Specialists and CHHS Pre-Award Specialist work closely together to ensure proposals submitted are in compliance with all regulations and to ensure a smooth pre and post-award experience. This close working relationship is crucial to ensure proposals submitted are in compliance with all regulations, as well as to ensure a smooth pre and post- award experience. This includes but is not limited to monthly budgets, reconciliation, 90-day budget reports, and 6-month spending reports.

Biostatistics Core

The Biostatistics Core supports CHHS faculty through collaboration with the following analytical aspects of grant proposal development: quantitative design of experiments/interventions; study aims/hypotheses and measurable outcome(s) elicitation; statistical analysis plan development; sample size calculation; etc. The Biostatistics Core collaborates with faculty on manuscripts by performing statistical analyses as well as writing methods and results for inclusion in manuscripts to be submitted for peer-reviewed publication. As co-investigators and/or co-authors, some contributions could include: power analyses; statistical modeling; quantitative analysis and coding, including handling of missing data; preparation of tables and figures for manuscripts; drafting of statistical methods and results sections, etc. You can read more about the Biostatistics Core, the team (Drs. Laura Gunn (Director; laura.gunn@uncc.edu) and Rajib Paul (rajib.paul@uncc.edu)) - including virtual office hours listed by semester, and how the Biostatistics Core can support your research efforts at: <https://health.uncc.edu/research/biostatistics-core>.

Research Academies

The College of Health and Human Services supports and guides research through the activities of five independent research groups – the Academy for Research on Community Health, Engagement, and Services (ARCHES), the Academy for Clinical Research and Scholarship (ACRS), the Academy for Veteran and Military Health (AVMH), the Academy for Population Health Innovation (APHI), and The Race and Social Equity Academy (RASE). The academies provide access to research investigators locally at UNC Charlotte and with University partners throughout the world, providing necessary expertise for conducting interdisciplinary research.

The academies provide structures for cross-disciplinary networking among research investigators and community partners, and they serve as incubators for research in high priority areas.

- **ACRS:** The Academy for Clinical Research and Scholarship is committed to promoting research and scholarship that enhances health for clinical populations. The primary focus of ACRS is building capacity and interdisciplinary partnerships to develop and translate knowledge to affect health outcomes.
- **APHI:** The Academy for Population Health Innovation is a partnership between the UNC Charlotte College of Health and Human Services and Mecklenburg County Public Health. Its mission is to make Mecklenburg County and the Charlotte Region the healthiest place to live by addressing the complex population health challenges facing the Charlotte area. APHI works with local government, nonprofits and charitable groups, health care companies, consultants, and other organizations to strengthen cooperation, coordination, and exchange of resources and to provide evidence-based best practices and introduce innovations that improve population health outcomes. APHI's key pillars are (i) innovation and research, (ii) education and professional development, and (iii) community engagement.
- **ARCHES:** The Academy for Research on Community Health, Engagement, and Services develops and supports impactful research and training partnerships and programs for reducing health disparities among vulnerable populations in high-risk communities. ARCHES incorporates the scientific and social missions of the health sciences. ARCHES faculty are involved in building community-oriented research capacity locally, nationally, and globally. We conduct community-based research in health disparities, health equity, health services, cancer control, access to care, minority health, care of the uninsured, and several other topic areas.
- **AVMH:** The Academy for Veteran and Military Health is dedicated to improving the health and community reintegration of military-affiliated populations (veterans, service members, and their families). The academy develops and provides effective instruction, actionable research, and supports services to address the challenges and health disparities facing transitioning service members, veterans, and their families by connecting UNC Charlotte and the community.
- **RASE:** The Race and Social Equity Academy (RASE) fosters the scholarship of practice and research focused on advancing racial and social parities within the community. Along with empirical scholarship, RASE supports race dialogue through intellectual discourse, bringing together thought leaders in our community representing a variety of perspectives on race and social equity matters.

CHHS Academic Technology Unit

The University provides each faculty and staff with a computer that has virus protection, the Microsoft Office Professional productivity package, and internet applications installed. Geographic information systems analysis software, SPSS and SAS statistical analysis packages, and extensive electronic library resources are also available to all faculty upon request. Site licenses have been purchased to cover all users.

The College of Health and Human Services provides faculty and staff with access to specialized research software not provided by the University, including EndNote bibliographic software; MPlus, Stata/SE and SUDAAN quantitative statistical analysis packages; NVivo and ATLAS.ti qualitative analysis software; Stat/Transfer data conversion software; and the Prism scientific graphing package.

SMART Classrooms and Conference Rooms

The College of Health and Human Services building has 39 classrooms, 10 conference rooms, 4 skills laboratories, and 1 reception hall that are all outfitted with the campus SMART room standard. This standard includes an LCD projector, DVD/VCR unit, instructor computer, document camera and SMART Technologies Symposium. Installed and maintained by the UNC Charlotte Office of Classroom Support these enhanced venues offer an additional level of interaction and instruction.

Faculty/Staff Technology Workroom

CHHS 363: This workroom is equipped with both Apple and Windows workstations and will allow faculty to scan documents and images, manipulate these files and print on a large format printer. CD/DVD duplication for distance education and other purposes is also available.

Video-Teleconferencing Portable Units

Adding to our video-teleconferencing resources four portable solutions are available to enable calls from conference rooms and offices across the College. Each unit has dual flat-panel displays for simultaneous audio, video and content sharing.

REDCap

The College maintains a REDCap cloud instance available to all researchers and students. REDCap is a secure web application for building and managing online surveys and databases. Its main usage in the College is the management of clinical data gathered through primary research. Maintaining REDCap in the Cloud creates a scalable solution for faculty interested in growing their research projects as funding allows.

Qualtrics

The college maintains a Qualtrics license for every faculty, staff, and student in CHHS. Qualtrics enables web-based data collection through wide variety of survey options. Survey response types within Qualtrics include Likert scales, Heat Maps, and Sliders. Surveys can contain a number of skip logic patterns including programmable responses and randomization to treatment group. Qualtrics enables faculty the ability to automate survey data collection and reach national as well as international respondent groups.

Interdisciplinary Programs

Gerontology Program

The Gerontology Interdisciplinary program at UNC Charlotte started in 1990 and includes students and faculty from many disciplines. The Gerontology program is sponsored jointly by the College of Health and Human Services and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. Current offerings include an undergraduate gerontology minor and a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology. The multidisciplinary nature of the program prepares students and professionals to work with older adults across a variety of career fields. The Graduate Certificate has an Early Entry option for advanced undergraduate students.

Health Informatics and Analytics

UNC Charlotte's Health Informatics and Analytics program within the School of Data Science is designed in conjunction with industry leaders in the field, with the purpose of transforming the

quality and efficiency of health care through data. Our unique programs provide students with the skills and knowledge to analyze and transform data into actionable intelligence in the pursuit of a healthier society.

The program offers both a Graduate Certificate and a Master's degree, as well as a new, fully online pathway to completing the Graduate Certificate in as little as 11 months.

College of Health and Human Services Advising Center:

The CHHS Advising Center provides comprehensive academic advising from pre-admission to admission into upper division undergraduate majors within the College. The Advising Center is staffed with a Director of Advising and three professional academic advisors who provide academic advising to all Health Systems Management majors up to 60 credits, pre-major and minor students (over 3,000 students), course scheduling, career advisement, brief personal counseling, and referral services. A secondary function of the Advising Center is to provide services that support the College's teaching mission by tracking student compliance with agency requirements and consolidating aggregate student data for accreditation documents and various reports necessary to fulfill the overall college functions.

Director of Student Success and Assessment: The Director of Student Success and Assessment has the primary responsibility to collaborate with college unit administrators and program directors in meeting The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) discipline specific and general accreditation requirements. The Director prepares annual college wide surveys on advising, post-graduation alumni information, employer perceptions of our graduates, and the college census and profile data. Additionally, this position oversees student success initiatives within the college.

Academic Units:

Department of Public Health Sciences

About the Department: The Department of Public Health Sciences is made up of 35 full-time faculty and staff who contribute to the day-to-day teaching, research, service, and administrative functions of the unit. The unit is supplemented by a robust part-time faculty, representing an array of off-campus clinical, non-profit and private sector partner organizations who contribute in multiple ways to the unit's overall success in both teaching and research. Faculty in the Department of Public Health Sciences have engaged in research programs funded by the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, federal government agencies, and other state and private foundations. Researchers publish in leading peer-review journals relevant to contemporary public health. Faculty interests include: chronic disease assessment and management; community health; epidemiology; gerontology; health analytics; health care delivery systems; health issues among at-risk populations; health-related measurement, evaluation, and outcomes; maternal and child health; and violence prevention.

Mission: Advance health equity and well-being in an urbanizing world.

Vision: Healthy communities partnered with responsive population health systems.

Current Research and Strengths

The Public Health Sciences faculty research focuses on health determinants related to the prevention and management of disease and disability among diverse and vulnerable populations. Contemporary public health problems are examined at the individual, community and population levels with a primary focus on addressing health outcomes through community engagement. Faculty research encompasses disparities and social determinants of health across a variety of populations including women, infants, children, elderly and minorities. Public health issues include chronic illness, health promotion behaviors, and factors particularly related to relationships between urban environments and health outcomes. Methodological strength of the faculty includes qualitative analysis, use of large data sets, program evaluation, community health assessment and community-based participatory research.

Department of Kinesiology

About the Department: The Department of Kinesiology at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte offers degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate level designed to prepare students in clinical, scientific, and applied disciplines in exercise science, sports medicine, and allied health. Our programs include baccalaureate degrees in Exercise Science, Respiratory Therapy, Neurodiagnostics & Sleep Science, and master's degrees in Kinesiology (consisting of a research-focused Applied Physiology concentration and a Clinical Exercise Physiology concentration), Athletic Training, and Respiratory Care. The Department also has faculty affiliated with the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Program in Biology and the Ph.D. Program in Health Services Research. In addition to our degree programs, the Department fulfills its mission by conducting research and disseminating this work in respected journals in exercise science, genomics, sports medicine, respiratory therapy, and sleep science. Externally funded research conducted by our nationally and internationally known scholars utilizes a multidisciplinary and collaborative approach to better understand the physiological effects and genetic influences of physical activity, aging, cardiovascular and skeletal muscle function, neuromechanical consequences of joint injury, respiratory health, sleep hygiene, and nutrition. The Department of Kinesiology is committed to providing courses and services to the University community and the Charlotte regions that encourage life-long movement, while also advocating and promoting healthy living through physical activity, respiratory health, sleep hygiene, and nutrition.

Mission: The mission of the Department of Kinesiology at UNC Charlotte is to engage a variety of populations and communities to advance optimal wellness through scholarly research, teaching, and service.

Vision: The vision of the Department of Kinesiology at UNC Charlotte is to be recognized locally, nationally, and internationally for its leadership in promoting optimal health and well-being through lifelong movement, physical activity, care and prevention of injuries, respiratory health, sleep hygiene, and nutrition. This will be accomplished by serving diverse healthy and clinical populations through distinctive academic programs, excellence in scholarly research, and engaging the citizens of our region.

Laboratories

- **Laboratory of Systems Physiology Current Research and Strengths:** The Laboratory of Systems Physiology in the Department of Kinesiology has dedicated laboratory space of approximately 3760 ft², with an additional 750 ft² for faculty offices and 450 ft² for graduate assistants and post-doctoral offices. The Laboratory of Systems Physiology houses all the necessary equipment to successfully complete wide range of experiments including cryostatic tissue cross-sectioning, inverse fluorescent light microscopy (IX 71 by Olympus Microscope) western blotting (read by Licor Odyssey), Real-Time PCR, and a microplate reader for ELISA-based hormone analysis. Furthermore, the Laboratory of Systems Physiology shares a Meso Scale Discovery multiplex analysis system with the Department of Psychology. The laboratory complex also includes wet laboratory space equipped with a range of centrifuges, a water purification system, gel electrophoresis equipment (gel boxes, power supplies etc), Konica Minolta SRX101A Tabletop X-Ray Film Processor and two Thermocyclers. Further, additional laboratory space is used as a 'clean' RNA procedure room equipped with a Nanodrop 1000 Spectrophotometer and dedicated cell culture work space equipped with two Heracell and two automatic water-jacket incubators as well as two laminar flow hoods and a portable cell culture aspirator. Tissue samples can be stored in one of the three -80°C freezers and all reagents and consumables used for molecular biology techniques are stored in the three -20°C freezers or four refrigerators as necessary, which are all housed within the laboratory space. The -80°C freezers are connected to circuits with emergency back-up power and are monitored by Smart-View sensors. All -20°C freezers, refrigerators and microtome are on back-up power. The Laboratory of Systems Physiology also contains an Aurora Scientific 1305A Muscle Test System (for *in situ* muscle lengthening contractions), a VistaVision Microscope with gooseneck and 150W fiber optic light source, and a 6-lane treadmill designed for use on small rodents.
- **Exercise Physiology Laboratory:** The Exercise Physiology Laboratory in the Department of Kinesiology occupies approximately 2500 ft² of dedicated space that is fully available for undergraduate and graduate teaching as well as applied research. Specifically, this space supports a teaching classroom portion and a clinical exercise physiology area that contains multiple treadmills, cycle and arm ergometers, metabolic measurement systems, EKG assessment equipment, and blood pressure analysis equipment. The lab also includes flexibility assessment devices (e.g., sit-and-reach boxes, goniometers), strength testing equipment, pulmonary function testing equipment, and body composition assessment equipment (e.g., Bod Pod, skinfold calipers, bioelectric impedance analysis). Portable gurneys are available for resting and graded exercise testing metabolic and EKG analyses. The lab also includes 5 private examination/assessment rooms for student lab data collection, a supply closet to house lab equipment, and an associated 500 ft² Emergency Medical Response Classroom.
- **Biodynamics Research Laboratory:** The Biodynamics Research Laboratory (BIODRL) in the Department of Kinesiology occupies approximately 2550 ft² of dedicated space. This space supports a neuromechanical research area and a motion assessment area. The BIODRL is equipped with an 10-camera, 3 dimensional high resolution Vantage V5 motion capture system from Vicon that is interfaced to an Intel Xeon quad core processor

PC. This system can fully integrate with the 2 Bertec non-conductive force platforms that can measure 3 translational forces and 3 moments of forces. Furthermore, the BIODRL has a wireless in-shoe plantar pressure system (Novel Inc.) that can measure pressure distributions during functional tasks and 1 Optogait system for gait analysis. The BIODRL also contains a custom-built instrumented ankle arthrometer that is used for assessing joint laxity. In addition to mechanical joint stability, the lab contains a LOGIQ diagnostic ultrasound machine. This allows measurement of ligament length and width. The BIODRL also has a Magstim Rapid machine for assessing motor cortex excitability, a Digitimer DS7AH for testing spinal reflex excitability, and a 40 channel NuAmps electroencephalography system for neurophysiological assessments. The laboratory contains two 16-channel biological data acquisition systems (MP150 unit, BIOPAC, Inc) complete with many transducers and amplifiers to perform: EMG, kinematic and kinetic analyses, along with multiple triaxial accelerometers, as well as an 8 channel Delsys Trigno wireless EMG system. The laboratory also contains a Biodex System 3 exercise dynamometer with all attachments (including back extension and lift simulation attachments) to measure strength and 2 AMTI force plate platforms to assess postural control. Additional equipment includes one treadmill and one stationary bicycle for aerobic exercise as well as rehabilitation equipment including foam balance pads and elastic resistance bands. Overall, each of the systems can seamlessly integrate with each other to provide for multidimensional data acquisition capabilities. The data acquisition systems in the BIODRL are supported by multiple PC workstations and the Health Informatics unit in the College of Health and Human Services.

- **Athletic Training Clinical Instructional Laboratory:** The Department of Kinesiology also houses an athletic training clinical instructional laboratory, approximately 1570 ft² that contains all of the amenities of a modern athletic training room. It contains multiple treatment tables, and various therapeutic exercise equipment used for rehabilitation. There is a separate wet room that contains a full body whirlpool tank and an extremity tank. There is also an ice machine, full size hydrocollator, and a separate changing area for students. The athletic training clinical instructional laboratory contains a full complement of state of the art therapeutic modalities such as: ultrasound, electrical muscle stimulation, iontophoresis, portable TENS devices, and paraffin wax bath. The laboratory is well equipped with various supplies that are used to treat and care for acute injuries, in addition to containing a state of the art multimedia instructional system designed specially to facilitate the delivery of lectures and presentations that are given in this space.
- **Health Risk Assessment Laboratory:** The Health Risk Assessment Laboratory in the Department of Kinesiology occupies approximately 2100 ft² of dedicated space for the integration of community engagement, graduate and undergraduate training, and faculty research. The laboratory tests multiple disease risk factors and provides lifestyle advice on how people can reduce their specific health risk(s). On-site resources include a fully equipped physician's exam room and clinical chemistry lab, along with treadmills, cycle ergometers, metabolic measurement systems, EKG assessment equipment, and bed for resting and stress-test metabolic and EKG analyses. It also includes a Bod Pod, dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) machine with subcutaneous vs. visceral adiposity distinction software, MasterScreen Body Plethysmography and Diffusion Pulmonary

Function Test System, and crash cart. All resources in the Health Risk Assessment Laboratory are fully available to support faculty research.

- **Microarray Facility:** The DNA Microarray Facility of the Charlotte Genomics Consortium consists of an Affymetrix GeneChip Instrument System that includes a Model 640 GeneChip Hybridization Oven, a Model 400 GeneChip Fluidics Station and a Model 3000 GeneArray Large-Format Scanner. These are controlled by a Dell OptiPlex GX1 10 computer running Affymetrix Microarray Suite 5.0 software. The two Total Desktop Mining Solution workstations consist of a Dell OptiPlex GX110 computer running Affymetrix Microarray Suite 5.0, MicroDB 3.0, and Data Mining Tool 3.0 software. One workstation is located in the Cannon Research Center of the Carolinas Medical Center. The other is located in the Department of Biology at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and is freely accessible to Investigators.
- **Animal Laboratory:** The UNC Charlotte Vivarium is located in the Woodward building and meets or exceeds all PHS regulations. The facility employs three full-time technicians and four part-time technicians that oversee the facility seven days a week. The facility has 24 hour temperature monitoring and alarms to ensure a constant ambient temperature of 65-75°F and 20-60% humidity (depending on season). The rooms used to house mice are of differing sizes depending upon the needs of the Principal Investigator. Additionally, procedure rooms are available for use by the research teams for dissections, recovery surgery, and exercise testing of the animals. The University Vivarium is under the direction of a professional laboratory animal technician who holds an American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) certification. Additional support is provided by a veterinarian who is on call 24 hrs/day 7 days/wk.

School of Nursing

About the School: The School of Nursing (SON) was founded in 1965 and has outstanding facilities and resources. All programs within the school are accredited by the Collegiate Commission on Nursing Education (CCNE) through 2021. The Nurse Anesthesia program also is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) through 2024. All appropriate programs are approved by the North Carolina State Board of Nursing. The School of Nursing offers baccalaureate, masters and doctoral degrees in nursing. The School of Nursing consists of 37 full time faculty members, 43% hold research focused doctorates, while 22% have earned practice doctorates. Faculty also sit on local, state and national boards to serve as a voice of change within the nursing profession. The School of Nursing is supported by a team of four administrative support personnel and many educationally and experientially qualified part-time faculty members.

Faculty in the School of Nursing are engaged in research and scholarship funded by the National Institutes of Health, American Nurses Foundation, Sigma Theta Tau, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Charlotte Area Health Education Center (AHEC) and various other funding agencies focusing on symptom management and vulnerable populations. Faculty publish in leading peer-review journals relevant to nursing science and nursing practice.

Mission: The UNC Charlotte School of Nursing prepares nursing professionals to serve as leaders, clinicians and scholars through innovative educational programs designed to meet the healthcare needs of an evolving and diverse society. The School generates and disseminates knowledge through research on the life transitions that affect the health outcomes of individuals, families and communities. The School is a leader in its use of information technology to enhance learning and to provide greater student access to both undergraduate and graduate education. Educational programming is culturally competent, relevant and visionary in addressing current and future health care. The School engages in campus-community partnerships that provide research and service-learning opportunities for students and faculty. The School collaborates and partners with other disciplines on campus, other universities and clinical agencies to provide educational programs, services and to conduct research. Faculty and students practice in a variety of clinical settings integrating values-based and evidence-based research into practice.

Vision: Our vision is to provide the highest quality of nursing education, scholarship and practice with a commitment to community engagement in order to promote health among citizens in the Charlotte region and beyond.

Current Research and Strengths

The School of Nursing (SON) combines extensive research and clinical expertise, ensuring a focus on highly relevant topics critical to moving the state-of-the- science forward. Founded in 1965, the SON has significant strength in vulnerable populations, health promotion, symptom management, health systems and educational research, informatics, and mobile health. Investigator expertise extends to simulation, measurement, quantitative methods, qualitative methods (advanced multivariate analysis, and structural equation modeling), mixed methods, community-based participatory research, and family and community reintegration. In 2018, the School of Nursing developed the Academy for Clinical Education and Scholarship (ACRS), which was designed to build research capacity, inter-professional collaboration and to provide mentoring to junior faculty members. Since its inception, ACRS has submitted internal and external funding proposals exceeding 2 million dollars. Current research among ACRS collaborators and other faculty members includes studies examining the use of peer-led support programs for African Americans with Type 2-diabetes, the use of mobile technology to decrease episodic drinking among college students, the use of simulation to enhance student learning, promoting inter-professional collaboration to enhance student outcomes and patient safety, self-management in older adults, safe sex practices in adolescents, mobile phone technology to reduce HIV infection, quality of life in heart failure patients, and older adults in long-term care setting. Our inclusion of multi-disciplinary clinicians in many of our studies is a particular strength. We have engaged community organizations as part of the SON team—investigators and experts in cardiovascular care and HIV management, as well as health systems are actively participating with our School. Our depth in other professionals (e.g., Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Educators, Community Health Nurse Specialists, and Doctors of Nursing Practice) further strengthens the relevance of our research. For more information, see <http://nursing.uncc.edu/>.

Clinical: A variety of agencies are used for clinical experiences throughout the Charlotte metropolitan region. These agencies include large medical centers, community hospitals, schools, and various public health and community health clinics and agencies. Undergraduate students receive broad based experiences that reflect generalist nursing practice and have

exposure to the diversity that makes up the Charlotte region. Graduate students have experiences in a variety of advanced practice clinical resources throughout the region. More than 300 area health experts volunteer their time as community-based preceptors for undergraduate and graduate students at the School of Nursing.

Laboratories

- **Skills Laboratory:** The Skills Laboratory is a seven bed laboratory dedicated to the acquisition of psychomotor skills for the undergraduate or graduate nurse. The laboratory's facilities include 7 hospital beds, nightstands and over bed tables, two large group tables, two scrub sinks, and a full working patient bathroom. Each laboratory room is equipped with SMART room standard technology podium including LCD projectors, DVD/VCR unit, instructor computer, document camera and SMART Technologies Sympodium, with full access to the university's network and network printer.
- **Clinical Simulation Laboratory:** The Clinical Simulation Laboratory is a three bed laboratory dedicated to simulation technology. These facilities include high fidelity Laerdal SimMan, Laerdal SimBaby, and a Noelle Birthing mannequin. The laboratory is equipped with CathSim virtual reality systems that are available to support student learning related to IV initiation and phlebotomy. Each laboratory room is equipped with SMART room standard technology podium including LCD projectors, a DVD/VCR unit, instructor computer, document camera and SMART Technologies Sympodium with full access to the university's network and network printer.
- **Examination Rooms:** There are three examination rooms to simulate a nurse practitioner's office or medical office. Each room contains an examination table, sink, counter space, and wall mounted otoscope and ophthalmoscope.
- **Health Assessment Laboratory:** The Health Assessment Laboratory is an eight examination table facility dedicated to the acquisition of skills required for health assessment at the graduate and undergraduate level. A variety of skeletons, static manikins and models are available for student instruction. The laboratory is equipped with wall mounted otoscopes and ophthalmoscopes available at each bedside.
- **Resource Laboratory:** The Resource Laboratory is a classroom or small group work area for individualized tutoring or small group work. The laboratory is equipped with SMART room standard technology podium including LCD projectors, DVD/VCR unit, instructor computer, document camera and SMART Technologies Sympodium with full access to the university's Novell system and network printer.
- **Marilyn Greene Smith Living Learning Laboratory:** Designed and furnished like an apartment, this laboratory includes a living area, kitchen, bedroom and

bathroom. Students gain skill in the delivery of care to clients in home and community settings.

- **Ann Mabe and William G. Newman Interaction Laboratories:** The Newman Interaction Laboratories includes a pediatric interview room, an adult interview room and two observation rooms. These rooms allow faculty to participate in counseling/interviewing connected with classes, or to observe subjects for research projects; subjects are unaware of the presence of observers. Principle AV equipment in the interview rooms consists of a ceiling-mounted camera and a ceiling-hung Audio-Technical unidirectional microphone. Other equipment used in interview/observation rooms includes TV monitors and VCRs for recording/playback of sessions as well as a podium microphone, combination CD/cassette recorder, and monitor amplifiers. In addition, a camera controller, video switcher and matrix switcher are in the signal chain. The rooms are soundproof and well equipped with comfortable furniture. The rooms have the following dimensions; room 323 (190 sq ft), room 324 (248 sq. ft.), room 325 (248 sq. ft.), room 326 (190 sq ft).

School of Social Work

About the School: In 1989, the undergraduate program in social work (BSW) was established in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work in the College of Arts and Sciences. In 2000, the Department of Social Work was created as a separate academic unit and the master's degree program in Social Work (MSW) was established. In July of 2002, the Department of Social Work was moved from the College of Arts and Sciences to the College of Health and Human Services. In May of 2006, an Advanced Standing MSW program was established. In March of 2015, the Department transitioned from the Department of Social Work into the new School of Social Work. The School consists of 18 full-time faculty members and is complemented by part-time faculty members from the community and supported by two full-time academic staff members. The school utilizes over 100 field instructors and placement sites in a year.

Mission: The mission of the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte is to prepare competent social workers and promote community well-being and social justice through teaching, scholarship, and service with special attention to vulnerable populations.

Vision: This mission is pursued with attention to the region's most vulnerable populations and with a commitment to, and vision of, a just and caring society, free of prejudice and oppression.

Current Research and Strengths

The School of Social Work advance programs of research and scholarship that expand the frontiers of knowledge, including those that solve problems at the interface of disciplines and leverage discovery for the public benefit: The faculty include two Hartford Geriatric Social Work Scholars and a recipient of a long-term grant from the Centers for Disease Control, Minority AIDS Research Initiative Program. Current research examines issues surrounding

homelessness, coping strategies for older adults with mental illness, healing of survivors of violence, risk and protective factors of adolescents, and early childhood psychotherapy.

The faculty of the Department of Social Work actively involves community programs and professionals in seeking and systematically researching problems of the region's vulnerable populations in order to promote their health and well-being and work towards a just and caring society.

UNC CHARLOTTE FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

UNC Charlotte is North Carolina's urban research institution. It leverages its location in the state's largest city to offer internationally competitive programs of research and creative activity, exemplary undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs, and a focused set of community engagement initiatives. Located in the state's largest metropolitan area, UNC Charlotte is among the fastest growing universities in the UNC system with more than 29,000 students and a 1,000-acre campus. The University has seven colleges: The Belk College of Business, The College of Arts and Architecture, The College of Computing and Informatics, The Cato College of Education, The Lee College of Engineering, The College of Health and Human Services and The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. UNC Charlotte offers 139 bachelor's degree programs, 65 master's degree programs and 24 doctoral degree programs, and is classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a Community Engagement Institution.

UNC Charlotte Student Statistics

There are currently 24,175 undergraduate students and 5,971 graduate students that attend UNC Charlotte; 50% are women and 50% are men. Roughly 46% of the student body are considered a racial minority (American Indian, Asian, African American/Black, Hispanic, Pacific Islander, and two or more races). 90% of the students are from North Carolina and 39% of students are considered low income. This impacts the type of urban research focusing on underserved populations in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County that UNC Charlotte is known for.

Research & Economic Development

Research and Economic Development (RED) is the central office at UNC Charlotte. RED strives to advance the quality, diversity and growth of research at UNC Charlotte by providing a sustaining environment where research, creative, and service activities will flourish. RED meets this commitment through the various services provided by the different offices as listed below.

- **Center for Research Excellence (CRE):** The Center for Research Excellence (CRE) serves faculty by developing research ideas, locating and evaluating funding sources, identifying collaborators, planning proposals and budget strategies, developing budgets, reviewing and editing proposal drafts, and training by hosting workshops and seminars.
- **Office of Research Services and Outreach (ORSO):** The Office of Research Services and Outreach is the central administrative office for managing proposal submissions, reporting to UNC General Administration, and outreach. ORSO provides support by reviewing and interpreting sponsor guidelines and regulations, preparing your budget documents, reviewing proposal packages for conformity to sponsor requirements, submitting and tracking your proposals.

In addition, the College of Health and Human Services has an independent research division directed by an Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies who is supported by staff leaders in pre- and post-award research administration, respectively.

- **Office of Research Compliance (ORC):** The mission of the Office of Research Compliance is to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations as well as University policies by partnering with the University of North Carolina at Charlotte research community in support of ethical research practices. The ORC promotes ethical research practices by providing education, training and resources to faculty, staff, researchers and students. The ORC oversees several research and research-related areas including human subjects research (IRB), the care and use of laboratory animals (IACUC), the use of biological agents (IBC), export controls, and conflicts of interest.
- **Lab Animal Resources:** UNC Charlotte's laboratory animal veterinarians and technical staff provide primary and veterinary care to all animals housed, as well as investigator training, technical assistance and guidance, and access to health status, laboratory, and imaging services. Our goal is the maintenance of an enriched, variable-free, secure, and humane environment for our animal subjects, as well as superb customer service for our research clients.
- **Conflict of Interest (COI):** The Conflict of Interest Manager works with faculty and staff to identify potential conflicts of interest and conflicts of commitment; and to ensure compliance with Federal, State, and university-wide regulations and policies.
- **Office of Grants and Contracts Administration (GCA):** The Office of Grants and Contracts Administration provides transactional support to college-based post-award staff and is responsible for overall sponsored program financial reporting and compliance. GCA also handles contract negotiation and issues sub-awards to other participating institutions.
- **Office of Research Commercialization and Development (ORCD):** The Research Commercialization and Development identifies, protects, and commercializes university research and intellectual property. ORCD works closely with faculty, students, and staff to help bring new technology and innovation to market and assists with the invention and patent process, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements, and material transfer agreements.

Library Services

The J. Murrey Atkins Library aspires to imagine and realize the full potential of a 21st century research library. As the intellectual and physical commons of a great urban University, the Library facilitates the growth of knowledge. The Library anticipates and meets the information needs of its diverse communities, at any time and in any place.

Atkins is the largest academic library in the southern piedmont and is a member of the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries. It houses nearly 2 million volumes and has access to over 108,121 electronic journals and electric newspapers, and over 1 million electronic books. Atkins offers approximately 650 databases (most in full text) in an A-Z List on the library's homepage. Available health science-databases include CINAHL, PubMed, EBSCO's Health Source (Academic and Consumer editions), Web of Science, Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, and databases for specific departments such as Social Work (Social Work Abstracts and Social Services Abstracts) and Kinesiology (SPORTDiscus). For more information about J. Murrey Atkins Library, visit <http://library.uncc.edu/>.

Book and Article Delivery

Atkins offers multiple services to provide faculty members with the materials that they need for their research. The library will deliver books from its collection to faculty offices via campus mail. Library staff will scan articles and book chapters from journals and books from the Atkins Library collection and send them electronically. Faculty can also request materials from other libraries through Interlibrary Loan. For more information about these services, visit library.uncc.edu/borrowrequest.

Library Research Assistance

J. Murrey Atkins Library provides support for teaching and research through a variety of programs. Subject librarians are available in-person, online, and by phone for consultation on how to find and use the best information for research projects and academic assignments. They also offer instructional sessions about library research and resources, help with links and resources to supplement your Canvas content, and can create course-specific subject guides. Subject librarians can also be embedded in Canvas via the Librarian Role that was recently created. This allows Subject Librarians to interact with students and embed course specific library material as needed. Subject librarians provide assistance to faculty members in their own research endeavors and also serve as a link to collection development for academic programs. For a list of librarians by subject, go to <https://library.uncc.edu/atkins/findyoursubjectlibrarian>

Data Support & Management

Atkins Library has a [Data Specialist Librarian](#) that can assist faculty and graduate students with locating and accessing numeric, geospatial, and statistical data, and with managing and preparing those data for analysis. They also provide data management support, including curation and archiving research data.

Area 49

Area 49 is Atkins Library's comprehensive suite of technology spaces. It includes a Visualization Lab, Gaming Lab, Multimedia Lab, and Makerspace. These spaces provide students and faculty access to specialized equipment that can support their research endeavors and is designed to support interdisciplinary collaboration, experimentation, and exploration. Library staff and faculty offer a variety of support for these spaces including workshops, integration into classroom activities, and one-on-one consultations. For more information click [here](#).

Niner Commons

Niner Commons is a digital repository hosted by Atkins Library. It promotes the scholarly works of faculty and researchers from UNC Charlotte while providing valuable long-term preservation. The collection of materials in the repository provide a comprehensive record of efforts, partnerships, results, and products that advance individual and institutional goals. It provides access to the global community. Click [here](#) for more information.

Digital Publishing

Atkins Library supports the publication of scholarly works including online journals, eBooks, and conference proceedings. Our services are built on robust publishing platforms that promote open knowledge exchange, wide scholarship discoverability, and innovative dissemination of

scholarly communication. Go to <https://library.uncc.edu/atkins/publishingservices> for more information.

UNC Charlotte Research Entities & Partners

UNC Charlotte School of Data Science

School of Data Science, SDS, is a part of the College of Health and Human Services and brings an interdisciplinary approach to all research and teaching. With Faculty from 6 Colleges and 19 Departments the faculty of the SDS are able to collaborate with many disciplines all within the School (11 faculty members from CHHS have affiliate appointments with SDS). SDS enables CHHS faculty to know and collaborate with faculty of very different expertise that enable unique interdisciplinary research to emerge. SDS also supports data acquisition and storage to assist faculty in appropriately securing their research data. In addition, the industry advisory board for the Health Informatics program enables close interaction with local and national healthcare corporations.

Urban Institute

The Urban Institute is a nonpartisan, applied research and community outreach center at UNC Charlotte. Founded in 1969, it provides services including technical assistance and training in operations and data management; public opinion surveys; and research and analysis around economic, environmental, and social issues affecting the Charlotte region. The institute is part of UNC Charlotte's Metropolitan Studies and Extended Academic Programs, which includes a number of the university's community engagement initiatives.

- **Institute for Social Capital:** The Institute for Social Capital supports and integrates UNC Charlotte social and human capital research and to increase the community's capacity for data-based planning and evaluation. Through collaboration with nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies, and other relevant organizations in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, the ISC has combined key sources of data into one community database. The Institute is a gathering place for researchers across UNC Charlotte interested in improving all aspects of community wellbeing.
- **Center for Transportation Policy Studies:** The Center for Transportation Policy Studies (CTPS) is dedicated to the study of transportation-related issues and policy. The Center conducts research that results in efficient investments and sound decisions for multimodal transportation systems and services.
- **Charlotte Mecklenburg Annual Survey:** The Annual Survey is a public opinion survey of Mecklenburg County residents. Conducted for nearly 30 years, it collects high-quality data while clients share the cost of survey research. This lets many local agencies and groups obtain valuable information on topics of their choice.
- **Charlotte Regional Indicators Project:** The Charlotte Regional Indicators Project tracks and assesses key indicators of quality of life for the 14-county, two-state region around Charlotte. The project provides objective, reliable, and relevant data measuring the region's progress on a wide range of social, economic, and environmental indicators.
- **PlanCharlotte.org:** PlanCharlotte.org offers residents and policymakers a look at problems and solutions in land use planning, neighborhood and urban design, environmental protection, transportation and other urban and regional issues. Through

articles, analysis, mapping and other research, PlanCharlotte.org helps citizens make sound decisions.

- **Transportation Information Management System (TIMS):** The Transportation Information Management System (TIMS) provides N.C. public school systems a key resource for routing and scheduling buses. It is a collaboration among the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) and the Institute for Transportation Research and Education (ITRE) at North Carolina State University.

The Center for Applied Geographic Information Science (CAGIS)

CAGIS is an interdisciplinary research center that focuses on using advanced space-time theories, methods, and technologies in cutting-edge Geographic Information Science for complex geographical problem-solving. Based on the synergistic coupling of spatiotemporal and computational thinking, major research themes of CAGIS consist of:

- CyberGIS for large-scale geographical problem-solving
- Land use/cover change and sustainability study
- Complexity theory and geospatial modeling
- Big data and space-time analytics
- Remote sensing, sensor networks, and volunteered geographic information
- Computational intelligence for geocomputational modeling
- Cartography and geovisualization driven by Internet
- Open-source GIS software

CAGIS has unique strength in these cutting-edge research themes and has intensive interest in their applications in alternative spatially integrated domains, including: Environmental studies, Ecology, Earth science, Health, Hydrology, Spatial epidemiology, Social science, Transportation, Urban regional analysis and policies

Office of Industry and Government Partnerships (OIGP)

The Office of Industry and Government Partnerships is the portal for business-university partnerships at UNC Charlotte. Regionally, OIGP works with the community and the campus to accelerate technology commercialization, and champions the growth of entrepreneurial ventures. Globally, OIGP develops intellectual capital through collaborations with industry, government and academia. In 2011, the Office was recognized with an honorable mention award for the first annual Prziembel Prize which recognizes collaborations of diverse organizations in the Southeastern United States. OIGP's research centers consist of people and facilities that are thematically aggregated to address complex problems in an interdisciplinary fashion.

Diversity Initiatives

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students, or employees based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability. In keeping with this commitment, UNC Charlotte actively seeks to promote diversity in its educational environment through its recruitment, enrollment, and hiring practices.

Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund: The Chancellor, through the Council on University Community (CUC), has created the Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund. The purpose of the

fund is to support faculty, staff, and student initiatives promoting the daily value of diversity in the intellectual life of the campus. Proposals may include educational activities that promote understanding of diversity; projects that enhance the campus climate for diversity, and foster a culture of inclusion and respect; and efforts to promote diversity through relationships with the Charlotte community. Awards may be up to \$5,000.

Multicultural Postdoctoral Fellowship Program: In light of UNC Charlotte's commitment to diversity, inclusion and building a strong intellectual community of scholars from different backgrounds, we are recruiting for (a) competitive postdoctoral research fellow(s) in STEM disciplines for a period of two years. The purpose of the MPFP is to support the early development of scholars who show promise of distinguished research careers and who are from historically underrepresented groups.

Charlotte & Mecklenburg County

UNC Charlotte, specifically the College of Health and Human Services, partners closely with the urban Charlotte population and with Mecklenburg County as a whole to improve the quality of life and access to healthcare in our community. The current population estimate for Mecklenburg County is 1,127,080, with 55% of the population being white, 31% African American/Black, 5.8% Asian, and 2.9% identifying as other. It is currently estimated that 12.7% of Charlotte residents are living in poverty and that 13% of people under age 65 do not have health insurance. One of UNC Charlotte's core values is community engagement, so as the region's premiere urban research university, we take seriously our economic, environmental and cultural impact. Our alumni, faculty, staff and students contribute to the betterment of the region and our world every day. UNC Charlotte and CHHS are committed to advancing research and outreach that improve the health and well-being of our community.

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