

**Donna M. Grandbois, Ph. D, RN**  
**SAMHSA/ANA Minority Fellowship Program**  
**FY 2008 – 2009 funding cycle (September 29, 2009)**  
**2008-2009 Postdoctoral Fellow**

**2009 Final Report**

**SCHOLARLY ENDEAVERS**

**Design and teach a graduate course**

Dr. Grandbois has been given the directive by the NDSU Department of Nursing Associate Dean to design and teach a digitally delivered, interdisciplinary graduate course during the Summer 2010 semester titled: *Global Perspectives on Eliminating Health Disparities and Achieving Health Equity in the 21st Century*. Components of the course would include but would not be limited to gerontology and ageism, psychosocial determinants of health, upstream and downstream factors, limited access, and health outcomes.

**Course Description**

This course will focus on the causes and solutions of health disparities through behavioral and social science research in the global community with an emphasis on U. S. populations. Health disparities between racial/ethnic populations, lower socioeconomic classes, and rural residents as compared to the overall U.S. population are major public health concerns that will be a focus of study.

**Inter/Intra-disciplinary Collaborative University Project**

**Team Members:** Dr. Donna Grandbois, Department of Nursing and Dr. Anita Welch, School of Education will jointly serve as Principles Investigators; while Dr. Larry Napoleon, Jr., from the School of Education and Distance/Continuing Education, will serve as Co-PI on this project.

**Instructional Development Project Description**

In an effort to diversify the instruction practices of the nursing faculty through the use of virtually delivered instructional methods (i.e. WIMBA) and to expand and diversify the geographic pool of NDSU nursing students, funds from this project will be used to redesign three nursing courses and to train the nursing faculty in virtual instructional and assessment methods so that additional courses can be adapted to be virtually delivered. As a result of the collaboration between the academic units and data collected during this project, both the Department of Nursing and the School of Education will have new knowledge and expertise which will transfer to new instructional strategies, assessment methods, and the

effective use of NDSU-sponsored technologies (i.e. WIMBA). The evaluation plan will use formative and summative approaches to determine the degree to which project goals are met, to document project activity, and to determine success. Results from this project will be disseminated through several means. The researchers will submit their findings to various peer review journals related to nursing education, instructional strategies using technology, and educational research. The researchers will also present their findings at various colloquiums hosted by their respective colleges and at university-sponsored events. Proposals will also be submitted to make presentations at national and international conferences, including the WIMBA Connect 2011 conference.

### **Women's Week 2010: Rebel, Rebel**

**Background:** During this year's Women's Week, organizers are focusing on women, ideas and actions that have forged a new path, a new way of thinking or are bucking the system to gain equality. "This is the time to celebrate women's accomplishments and blaze new lines of thinking," says Kara Gravley-Stack, outreach coordinator and director of NDSU's Equity and Diversity Center. Women's Week is held every year to create awareness and celebrate women's accomplishments. Paper and presentation sessions relevant to all topics encompassing women's studies, gender studies and feminist studies will be considered. Presentations that address diversity in women's lives (age, disability, gender identity, nation of origin, race, ethnicity, religion, faith, sexual orientation, social class and status as a veteran) are especially encouraged. Interdisciplinary research, upper-level student research and proposals for roundtable discussions are encouraged.

#### **Presentation Session: March 1-5, 2010**

**Digital Divas – Rebels in the Classroom: Innovative Instructional Strategies** to be offered by Dr. Donna Grandbois, Nursing, Dr. Anita Welch, Education, Dr. Ann Clapper, Education, and moderated by Dr. Nancy Lilliberg, Director of Information Technology Services.

These three creative, energetic female professors will share how they use Instructional Technology successfully. Once a decidedly male-dominated subgroup of faculty, these Digital Divas buck tradition as they learn new technologies and use them with innovative instructional strategies. In this roundtable discussion our three Divas will display how they use technology while sharing the pedagogy behind their successes. These women will share how they use their Socratic and facilitating tendencies as they use technology tools to stress interpersonal and collaborative learning with their students.

## **RESEARCH**

### **Research Grant Submissions**

2009 NIH Summer Institute: Community-Based Participatory Research Targeting the Medically Underserved, August 2-7, 2009, New Orleans, LA

**Project: Build a Native American *Community Model of Resilience* on the White Earth Indian Reservation Community. Co-Principal**

**Investigators/Community Partners:** Dr. Donna Grandbois, NDSU Department of Nursing and Dr. Erma Vizenor, Chairwoman & Chief, White Earth Chippewa Tribe, White Earth, MN

**Background: Statement by Dr. Vizenor**

In addition to my interests in education, I am committed to building a strong infrastructure within the White Earth Reservation. I feel this is necessary to exercise tribal sovereignty, self-governance and services to the tribal membership. It is no surprise that Dr. Donna Grandbois and I share a vision for the people here. We share a belief that Indian communities across the country can be wonderful, prosperous, and progressive places to live. I share Donna's belief that our cultures hold the resilient qualities that we need to build on the work that I have invested my life's work on. I whole heartedly believe that White Earth can become a Native American "Model of Resilience" and that through the collaboration of my community, North Dakota State University, and NIH, we can bring this dream to fruition. It is time to end the disparities that have for so long plagued Indian people. (Unfunded)

**2010 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Partners Investing in Nursing's Future (PIN) Grant**

**Background:** Partners Investing in Nursing's Future is a collaborative effort between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Northwest Health Foundation to create new partnerships with local and regional foundations to encourage investment in nursing workforce solutions. The Dakota Medical Foundation (DMF), a 501(c) (3) non-profit public charity, founded in 1960 to promote research, education, and to manage the Dakota Hospital in Fargo, ND and North Dakota State University Department of Nursing has been invited to submit the full proposal for the PIN grant. Dr. Donna Grandbois was instrumental in helping the Associate Dean, Dr. Loretta Heuer bring the ideas and objectives of the Department of Nursing to the table. Specifically, Dr. Grandbois lobbied for representation and inclusion of Native American and other minority students in our student body. Dr. Grandbois is the only American Indian faculty member in ND with a doctorate in Gerontology and a masters degree in psychiatric/mental health nursing. Additionally, the DMF and North Dakota State University (NDSU) Department of Nursing (DON) will use this joint endeavor to 1) address the nursing workforce supply, 2) competencies in gerontology, and 3) to increase college preparatory educational opportunities for rural and diverse high school students with a special focus on American Indian students. The PIN project will allow DMF and NDSU DON to develop a state model for gerontology in nursing education that will facilitate communication and a common infrastructure for technical expertise, establishment of standards, sharing of scenarios/models, and establishing outcome measures for evaluation. The PIN project will also provide

an opportunity to attract high school students to careers in nursing by establishing preparatory educational information on pre-nursing requirements. Invited to submit the full grant proposal, which is due on January 20, 2010.

### **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2010 Nurse Faculty Scholars Program**

Dr. Donna Grandbois is in the process of writing her proposal for the RWJF 2010 Nurse Faculty Scholars Program, which is due by February 2, 2010. She is currently building collaborative relationships with a rapidly growing Native American community located in the Fargo/Moorhead communities.

### **McNair Mentor**

Dr. Donna Grandbois is a McNair mentor for a junior nursing student from Uganda. She will assist this student as she conducts a research study on immigrants from her native country who are non-English speaking and who are diagnosed with diabetes mellitus. She will look at health beliefs that may impede care as well as the diets available to these immigrants in the US.

### **Committee Chair**

Dr. Grandbois is the chairperson for two doctor of nursing practice (DNP) students and two masters of nursing students in the nurse educator track. She has served as a committee member on one DNP committee.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Grandbois, D. M. & Sanders, G. F. (2009). The resilience of Native American Elders. *Issues in Mental Health Nursing (Peer-reviewed)*. Vol. 30, (9), pp. 569-580
- Grandbois, D. M., Madison-Jacobs, R. C. & Sanders, G. F. (2009). A perspective of American Indian and Alaska Native Nurses. In H. Bessent (Ed.) *Monograph: Minority Nurses in the New Century*, Sponsored by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, pp. 99-107.
- Grandbois, D. M. & Sanders, G. F. (2009). Resilience and Stereotyping: The experiences of Native American Elders, *Aging & Mental Health* (Submitted)
- Selzler, B. & Grandbois, D. & Patton, L. (2009). The relationship between elder abuse and substance abuse, *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing*, (peer-reviewed). (Submitted).

## **NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

Grandbois, D. (2009). Poster Presentation: *Resilience and stereotyping: The experience of Native American Elders*. National Alaska Native/American Indian Nurses Association (NANAINA) VX SUMMIT: *Preventing Violence against Alaska Native American Indian Women*, August 6-9, 2009, Embassy Suites Hotel, Albuquerque, NM

## TEACHING

- **N. 250 Health Promotion Across the Lifespan (2 Cr.)**. Coordinated and taught 61 first year (sophomore) undergraduate nursing students, utilizing both in classroom and blackboard teaching methods.
- **N. 402 Mental Health Nursing: Course Coordinator/Community Clinical Instructor (5 Cr.)**. Course coordinator for the didactic graduate student instructor and 2 clinical preceptors. Also directed the community clinical experiences with the homeless populations in the Fargo/Moorhead area for 24 senior nursing students.
- **N. 405 Psychosocial Nursing, LPN/RN Web-based Online Course, (2 Cr.)**: Coordinated and taught 16 LPN/RN nursing students implementing Wimba Technology via Voiceboard to promote interactive psychosocial experiences
- **N. 797S Comprehensive Project (DNP Students)**
- **798 Masters Thesis**
- **798 Thesis Continuing Registration**

## COMITTEES

Graduate Council (Nursing Department): member  
Admission & Progression Committee (Nursing Department): member  
Faculty Awards Committee (College): member  
Search Committee member (Psychiatric Nursing Tenure-track Faculty Position)  
Ad Hoc DNP Graduate Committee: member

## SERVICE

**Undergraduate Student Advisor:** 26 pre-nursing and nursing Students

## Leadership, Awards, & Honors

Nominated for the University of North Dakota's 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award at the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary College of Nursing Gala on Friday, October 2, 2009.

Nominated for President-Elect of the National Alaska Native American Indian Nurses Association (NANAINA), 2009.

### **Narrative Report**

It is with great pleasure that I report the wonderful opportunities that have been made available to me as a direct result of my association with the SAMHSA/ANA Minority Fellowship Program. Often times the things that have the greatest impact on a person's life are not measureable by the externals such as year-end statistics, resource expenditures, and other data. For example, because of the education and the mentoring support I received, both as a fellow and as a post-doctoral fellow, I learned to believe in myself and trust that through hard work and commitment, I could achieve any goal I set for myself. This, in itself, is a life changing and life enhancing accomplishment.

I recall the first MFP conference I attended. It was at the ANA Biennial Conference in Minneapolis, MN, where four of the fellows, including myself, were set to present our research papers. Besides being terrified, I remember looking out at the audience and knowing for the first time what it feels like to be in a validating environment, where people not only want you to succeed, but they expect you to do so. This is one of the most palpable and invaluable gifts of the MFP, under the leadership and direction provided by Dr. Faye Gary and Ms. Janet Jackson. We learned to expect to succeed. This is a life lesson I want to pass on to the students I will mentor and teach.

Because of the Minority Fellowship Program and the support and guidance I received, I am the first Native American nurse from North Dakota to earn a doctorate degree. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to be the first Native American faculty person to be hired by the College of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Allied Sciences and the second Native American faculty member University wide. I take this responsibility very seriously and I recall the edict given to the fellows by Dr. Gary. She said because of the opportunities that have been extended to us, we have a responsibility to give those that come behind us a hand up. I fully intend to do this throughout my career.

With Deep appreciation,  
Respectfully submitted,

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