



Where would you like to see gerontological nursing education to be at in 5 years?

I would be thrilled if a majority of nursing schools began to really thread gerontological nursing into their curriculum throughout the nursing student's education. Appropriate content in all classes. Also that there would be more clinical sites where nursing students could practice the art and science of gerontological nursing. I am privilege to be able to have students spend a significant amount of time in a veterans nursing home, adult day care, a memory care facility and 2 hospices.

Favorite experience as a gerontological nurse expert educator?

Witnessing the change in my clinical student's attitudes and knowledge base in caring for older adults, especially those with dementia.

What motivated you to become a gerontological nurse educator?

What motivated me to be interested in geriatric nursing was the wonderful relationship I had growing up with my grandmother. I loved spending time with her and her friends. What motivated me to become a nurse educator in this field was my husband, who is an academician and told me I needed to educate the 'masses' with my passion on the care of the older adult.

Key words of wisdom for those nurses interested in becoming a distinguished educator in gerontological nursing education?

Follow your geriatric nursing passion and seek mentors who are working as geriatric nurses, geriatric NPs and faculty who love teaching geriatric nursing. Take advantage of opportunities that challenge you and will help you grow in the geriatric nursing academic arena.

Who is a key person who supported you in becoming a gerontological nurse educator?

My academician husband, who edited a textbook on Geriatric Anesthesia.



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About Nanci

Nanci McLeskey, DNP, MCG, MDiv, RN-BC, CHPN, FNGNA received a B.S. in nursing from Columbia University School of Nursing in NYC. After 20+ years as an ICU and medical-surgical nurse, she completed a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Unit from Scott and White Hospital, Temple, TX, received a Masters of Gerontology from Baylor University, Waco, TX, and a Masters of Divinity from Truett Seminary, Baylor University, was awarded the Teaching Nursing Post Masters Certificate at the University of Utah, completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice, and became ELNEC (End of Life Nursing Education Consortium) trainers for the geriatric curriculum and the 'Intergrating Palliative Oncology Care into the Doctor of Nursing Education and Clinical Practice'.

She is doubly boarded in Gerontological Nursing and Hospice and Palliative Nursing. Nanci's work experience also includes serving as Alzheimer's Director in an assisted living facility, Nurse Educator in a long-term care facility, and Geriatric Nurse Educator at the University of Utah where she educated and worked on QI projects with health care providers in primary care clinics throughout UT, MT and WY in caring for the older adult. Nanci is currently Instructor (clinical) in Gerontology at the University of Utah College of Nursing and the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Program and a Fellow in the National Gerontological Nursing Association (NGNA). She is the author of a growing list of publications dealing with improvements in the medical care and overall support of the geriatric patient, and has developed novel curricular advances in educating nursing students in the care of older adults. Teaching about the care of older adults, especially those with Alzheimer's disease and those at end of life, is her passion!