

Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Gerontological Nursing

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON | SCHOOL OF NURSING

Position Description

The University of Washington, School of Nursing has a history of developing nursing scientists in the care of older adults. We are pleased to announce two Postdoctoral Fellowships in Gerontological Nursing to start Fall 2022. Funding is provided from private donors. The purpose of the postdoctoral positions is to prepare individuals for research careers in universities. The postdoctoral fellow will be supported for one year of training with a second year of funding available based on satisfactory progress in the first year.

Dementia impacts more than 47 million people and this number is expected to double every 20 years. Currently in the U.S., over 5 million people are living with this disease and are cared for by 15 million family or friend care partners. Expert dementia care is sparse – only 13,000 physicians and nurses have specialized training in this field, leaving many people living with dementia without accessible care. Family members provide the majority of the care for individuals with dementia. The levels of stress and depression in family caregivers and the challenges they face are well-documented.

We are seeking highly motivated individuals for two positions:

Postdoc Position 1: Music and Memory

People with dementia respond favorably to music and yet the reasons are not clear. **The postdoctoral fellow will join a multidisciplinary and multisite team who is testing an innovative method using cortisol and DHEA-S to measure stress in people with dementia and family caregivers.** As a member of the research team, the postdoctoral fellow will assist with data analysis, write and publish scientific papers, and develop research grant proposals. The postdoctoral fellow will receive mentorship from members of the de Tornyay Center for Healthy Aging in the School of Nursing.

Postdoc Position 2: Optimizing Dementia Care

Many care partners report significant difficulty in managing care at home and therefore, research that both supports care partners and educates healthcare providers in comprehensive dementia care is urgently needed. **The post-doctoral fellow will join a multidisciplinary team who is exploring factors for: optimizing dementia care, implementing best practices in clinical training and education, studying variables that can support care partners at home, and testing interventions to enhance self-care practices and barriers to treatment among underserved and historically disadvantaged populations.** The postdoctoral fellow will receive mentorship from members of the Dementia and Palliative Education Network in the School of Nursing.

Both postdocs will be supported in the development of additional academic skills and the publishing of their dissertation. Postdoctoral fellows are expected to attend a training seminar every quarter during the academic year, except during summer quarter. They will have the option to take up to 6 credits per quarter during the academic year under tuition waiver.

Postdoctoral Scholars are represented by UAW 4121 and are subject to the collective bargaining agreement, unless agreed exclusion criteria apply. For more information, please visit the University of Washington Labor Relations website (<https://hr.uw.edu/labor/>).

Program Aims

The post-doctoral fellow will:

- Learn theories, methods, and skills necessary to conduct gerontological research
- Develop research expertise through experiences with interdisciplinary teams, exposure to and immersion in ongoing research activities, and structured feedback and critique
- Receive mentoring in the ethical conduct of research, inclusive of diverse vulnerable populations

Qualifications

- Complete a PhD in Nursing Science degree or related field after 2020 and by the time the position starts.
- International applications are welcome. Applicants must be eligible for U.S. employment. For more information, please visit the International Scholars Operations website (<https://ap.washington.edu/ahr/visas/>).
- Show evidence of a program of research that supports aging.

Preferred qualification:

- Postdoc 1 Music and Memory: Bilingual in English/Swedish.
- Postdoc 2 Optimizing Dementia Care: High level of experience in statistical methods.

Application Instructions

- Applicants are invited to submit a cover letter, letters of recommendation, resume, transcript, and 1-2 pieces of sample writing (e.g. articles, grants).
- Three letters of recommendation submitted directly into Interfolio at apply.interfolio.com/102133. Letters should address the applicants' scholarly abilities, area for growth, and future potential in academia. Letters need to be received by the application deadline.
- Applicant's cover letter should include responses to the following items based on the interest in postdoc 1 or postdoc 2 position. Each question has a maximum of 200 words. If an applicant is interested in both positions then they should submit two packets:

1. Explain how your research interests and expertise match with the core project on:

Postdoc 1: Music, cognitive health, stress, and physiological markers that is the foundation of this fellowship

OR

Postdoc 2: Optimizing care in dementia, supporting care partners and identifying mitigating variables associated with hospitalizations.

2. Describe your 3 and 5 year professional goals.

All application materials are to be addressed to Basia Belza, PhD, RN, FAAN, FGSA, Director of the de Tornyay Center for Healthy Aging and submitted in Interfolio at apply.interfolio.com/102133. Deadline for first consideration is Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 5:00 pm/PST.

Questions about the position and/or application process can be directed to Ms. Heather Wicklein Sanchez, Manager, de Tornyay Center for Healthy Aging, at agingctr@uw.edu.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement

University of Washington is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, genetic information, gender identity or expression, age, disability, or protected veteran status.

Commitment to Diversity

The University of Washington is committed to building diversity among its faculty, librarian, staff, and student communities, and articulates that commitment in the UW Diversity Blueprint (<http://www.washington.edu/diversity/diversity-blueprint/>). Additionally, the University's Faculty Code recognizes faculty efforts in research, teaching and/or service that address diversity and equal opportunity as important contributions to a faculty member's academic profile and responsibilities (<https://www.washington.edu/admin/rules/policies/FCG/FCCH24.html#2432>).

COVID-19 Vaccine Requirements and Information

Under Washington State Governor Inslee's Proclamation 21-14.1, University of Washington (UW) workers must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof thereof, or receive a UW-approved medical or religious exemption. This requirement will be a condition of any offer associated with this recruitment. For more information, please visit <https://www.washington.edu/coronavirus/vaccination-requirement/>.