

Spring 2014

SAMHSA Minority Fellowship Program

American Nurses Association

Marife Aczon-Armstrong, PhD, MSN,



MSCP, RN, has been selected for a Fulbright Specialist project in Uganda, Africa at Uganda Christian University during 2014, according to the United States Department of

State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Dr. Aczon-Armstrong will be teaching the course called Teaching and Learning for the brand new graduate class to begin in June 2014. This is a critical first course of the program. In this course, students not only learn about teaching that they can directly apply in their current work place after completion of the module, but this course also develops writing skills, and their use of the APA writing style. The purpose of the grant is to provide doctorally prepared nurse educators for the only functioning Masters in Nursing Science Program in all of Uganda, in a country where only two National Nurses with a PhD exists. This enables this critical program at Uganda Christian University to continue. Dr. Aczon-Armstrong is one of over 400 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad this year through the Fulbright Specialists Program. The Fulbright Specialists Program, created in 2000 to compliment the traditional Fulbright Scholar Program, provides short-term academic opportunities (two to six weeks) to prominent U.S. faculty and professionals to support curricular and faculty development and institutional planning at post-secondary, academic institutions around the world. Recipients of Fulbright Scholar awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement. Dr. Aczon-Armstrong is a Nurse Manager for Care Coordination and Patient Flow Division at the Queens Medical Center and an Adjunct Nursing Faculty at Hawaii Pacific University in Kanaeohoe, Hawaii. She is an MFP Alumna, Class of 2010.

Donna Grandbois, PhD, RN Assistant



Professor of Nursing has been awarded tenure with promotion at North Dakota State University. Dr. Grandbois is an MFP Alumna, Class of 2007; Post-Doctoral Class of 2009.

John Lowe, PhD, RN, FAAN, John



Wymer Distinguished Professor at Florida Atlantic University Christine E. Lynne College of Nursing, was recently awarded the "Intertribal Talking Circle

for the Prevention of Substance Abuse in Native Youth," a five year research project funded by a \$3 million R01 grant by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) that will evaluate an after-school substance abuse prevention intervention, the Intertribal Talking Circle, targeting 6th grade Native American youth in three Native American communities: Ojibwe/Chippewa in Minnesota, Choctaw in Oklahoma, and Lumbee in North Carolina. This project builds on several years of previous studies conducted by the Principal Investigator, Dr. John Lowe, that have evaluated the use of the Talking Circle as an intervention for the prevention of substance use/abuse among Native American youth. A community-based participatory research (CBPR) approach will be used to culturally and technologically adapt the intertribal Talking Circle. A two-condition controlled study will evaluate the efficacy of the Intertribal Talking Circle to increase Native American youth cultural identity (Native self-reliance) while decreasing Native American youth substance use involvement.

An adult training program second level intervention study will also be conducted to train tribal personnel from the three regional tribes on how to implement the Intertribal Talking Circle intervention as a tribal program beyond the study period. Effectiveness will be determined by a small partial cross-over randomized trial comparing the Intertribal Talking Circle intervention to a Wait-List Control condition. Process evaluations will focus on the future adoption and implementation of the Intertribal Talking Circle, and recommendations for sustainable adaptations. The project will also build Native American capacity to address health disparities, as experienced by Native American researchers (Dr. Lowe and Dr. Baldwin) will mentor three junior Native American researchers: Dr. Jada Brooks, Dr. Michelle Jennings-Johnson, and MFP Alumni Dr. Gary Lawrence. Dr. Lowe is the Vice Chair of the MFP National Advisory Committee and MFP Alumni, Class of 1996.

Robert Pope, PhD, RN, MSN, Assistant



Professor at San Francisco State University, paper presentation, "The Social Determinants of Substance Abuse in Older African Americans: Illicit Drug

Use in Black Baby Boomers," has been accepted for oral presentation at the Aging & Society Conference, November 7 - 8, 2014, in Manchester, UK. Additionally, Dr. Pope's completed article is being submitted to The International Journal of Aging and Society for peer review and publication consideration. Dr. Pope is an MFP Alumni, Class of 2009; Post-Doctoral Class of 2012.

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Mayola Rowser, PhD, DNP, FNP-BC,



PMHNP, Assistant Dean of the University of Southern Indiana (USI) College of Nursing and Health Professions and Chair of the Doctor of

Nursing (DNP) program, has accepted the appointment of Interim Director of the Office of Graduate Studies. In addition to overseeing all the graduate programs at USI, Dr. Rowser continues to practice as a psychiatric nurse practitioner and director of the three University of Southern Indiana Community Health Centers. Dr. Rowser is a recipient of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center's Academic Excellence and Community Service Award and the University of Southern Indiana College of Nursing and Health Professions Distinguished Nursing Alumni Award. Dr. Rowser is an MFP Alumna, Class of 2008.

Cheryl Woods-Giscombe, PhD, PMHNP-



BC, Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was recently invited to speak at a TEDx event held at the

North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) in Durham, NC. Dr. Woods-Giscombe is an MFP Post-Doctoral Alumna, Class of 2009.

Watch Dr. Woods-Giscombe's talk on the importance of self-care here: <http://nursing.unc.edu/cheryl-woods-giscomb-featured-in-tedxncssm-2014/>

Kathy Wright, PhD, MSN, GCNS-BC,



PMHCNS-BC, FGNA, has been selected to participate in the KL2 Scholars Program conducting research in

the same area as her dissertation, "Understanding Chronic Stress, Allostatic Load, and Outcomes (mental and physical

health and quality of life) in Low Income Older Adults." Dr. Wright is a post-doctoral scholar at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. She is an MFP Alumna, Class of 2013.

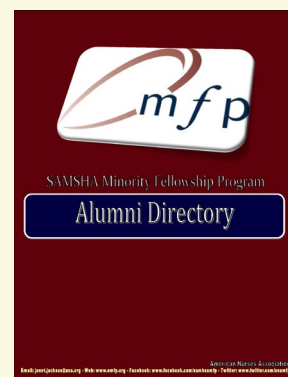
Debbie Yong Stevens, PhD, PMHNP-



BC, MSN, abstract, "Caregiver Burden & Racial Discrimination: A Mixed Methods Study on Chronic Stress," has been accepted as

a poster presentation at the American Psychiatric Nurses Association (APNA) 28th Annual Conference, October 22-25, in Indianapolis, IN. Dr. Stephens is an MFP Alumna, Class of 2014.

Photo Highlights: 2014 American Nurses Association and American Psychiatric Association Minority Fellowship Program Trans-Disciplinary Intensive Winter Institute. [Click here to watch video highlights.](#)



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