

Graduate Nursing Program News

Fall 2024

About your program...

Colorado Mesa University is ranked by Edu Med as one of the most affordable online graduate nursing programs with the best student to faculty ratio in the country. This past year we had close to 160 applications. Our graduate NPs in both AGNP and FNP have a 100% pass rate for certification for the **past 4 years**. All our students submit for publication and presentations at peer reviewed national conferences. The program is rigorous, but small, lending to one-to-one faculty input. Applications are submitted centrally through Nursing CAS affording CMU more visibility.

Congratulations to our students for making your program a success.

Save the Dates: OSCEs...

November 18th & 19th (Monday and Tuesday) Virtual

Telehealth Objective Standardized Clinical Exams (OSCEs) & GPSI's have moved to week 14. Students in clinical practicums NURS 615, 620 & 640 are required to attend.

What to expect:

1. Objective Structured Clinical Exams (OSCEs) will be conducted for students clinical practicums.
2. Inservice content will be integrated throughout both days. We have great guest speakers with additional content.



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Fall Faculty Meetings You are welcome to attend all or part of a meeting.

Fall dates are:

9/17/2024 2-3:30pm MST

10/15/2024 2-3:30pm MST

11/13/2024 2-3:30pm MST

12/10/2024 2-3:30pm MST

They are held via Zoom. RSVP to Mr. Steven Cruse if you wish to receive a Zoom invite to attend. scruse@coloradomesa.edu

Advising

Please contact your assigned advisor should you vary from your Course Progression Sheet. Dr. Urban will advise all MSN FNP students. Dr. Hall will continue to advise all AGNP (& NE) students. Dr. Marshall will advise DNP students.

Students on the Move

Margot (left) & Kelly (right) attended the National NP symposium (NNPS) in Keystone, CO this summer. They saw Dr. Hall who took the picture 😊



Clinical Placement Coordinator News - Mr. Steven Cruse

Mr. Cruse continues to be our clinical placement coordinator. Please reach out to him a year before your clinical course begins to ensure a contract is in place.

Steven is working with CMU graduate medical programs to expand clinical affiliations with FQHC's (Federally Qualified Health Centers) in the Denver Metro area. Watch for information to be shared as progress is made. The growth of CMU graduate medical programs is exciting, and our graduates become valuable members of their communities.

Welcome to the New Faculty!

Dr. Ona Ridgeway shares a little about herself:

I am a Colorado native and enjoy everything Colorado has to offer, such as camping, hiking, and the Denver Broncos. I received my BSN from CSU-Pueblo, MSN at CU Denver for my family nurse practitioner (FNP) education and certification. I received my clinical doctorate (DNP) from Grand Canyon University. I finished my post master's education for my Psychiatric Mental Health NP (PMHNP) certification from University of Colorado, Colorado Springs just a couple of years ago. I have 3 human children and 3 furry kids. A fun fact about me is that I cannot commit to a favorite color. I teach NURS 605 and NURS 615 Primary Care Mental and Behavioral Health with the co-clinical.
Welcome to CMU Dr. Ona Ridgeway!

Dr. Lane Eyre shares a little about himself:

I grew up in a small town in southwestern Wyoming. After graduating high school, I spent 2 years serving a mission for my church in Peru. Following my missionary service, I attended Southern Utah University (SUU) in Cedar City, Utah (biology major) and then pharmacy school at Roseman University of Health Sciences in Las Vegas, Nevada where I obtained my Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) degree in 2008.

At the conclusion of pharmacy school, I opted to complete a 1-year post-graduate pharmacy residency program through the New Mexico VA Health Care System in Albuquerque, New Mexico focusing much of my training on primary care. At the conclusion of my residency program, I accepted a job at the Grand Junction VA Medical Center, and I moved to the Grand Valley with my family in 2009. While at the Grand Junction VA, I worked with primary care providers helping them manage their patient's anticoagulation, diabetes, hypertension, cholesterol, and other chronic disease state medications.

In March of 2018 I accepted a new job as the Pharmacy Director at Family Health West in Fruita. This move has allowed me to be close to home (I live in Fruita) and the flexibility to be involved in my kids various activities. I love my job at Family Health West and the people I get to work with there.

My wife and I have been married for 20 years and have 5 kids. I enjoy getting outside and running and have completed 16 marathons. Most of my spare time now is spent chasing my kids around the state supporting them in their many activities, and occasionally finding a little time to do some running. My oldest just started her freshman year of college this fall and so I'm learning to navigate a new phase in life again. I'm excited for this opportunity to teach and help individuals find the incredible opportunities that come when we expand our knowledge and understanding.

Welcome to CMU Dr. Eyre!

What is Up with the Current Faculty?

Dr. Erin Donovan is the chair of the Colorado Action Coalition Strategic Advisory Committee #7. This spring she facilitated a statewide Service and Education meeting in this role. Dr. Donovan and two other committee members presented at the Nurse Educator Conference of the Rockies in Breckenridge, Colorado this summer. Their topic title was, "Awareness to Action: Strategies for Diverse Student Retention".

Dr. Lucy Graham shared some highlights from 2024

- In March 2024, Dr. Graham presented a poster titled "Pathways to health equity and a more diverse workforce" at the Collaborating Across Sectors for Colorado's Health Equity and Wellness conference in Colorado Springs.
- Dr. Graham traveled to Tacoma, Washington in June 2024 as an invited speaker for the Mountain West AIDS Educational and Training Center regional conference to lead a workshop called "Making meaningful mentorship matter".
- Dr. Graham was invited to submit a blog post by the American Nurses Association (ANA) about the project. It was published on the ANA site in June 2024: https://www.nursingworld.org/content-hub/resources/workplace/INNO_synergy-of-events-turned-frustration-into-innovation/
- Dr. Graham's HRSA grant, which was funded 7/1/2020, ended 6/30/2024. The Mesa County Health Department has taken over the Pathways Family Wellness Center program and will continue to provide clinical opportunities there for CMU undergraduate nursing, FNP and AGNP, and PA students with Dr. Ona Ridgeway, DNP, FNP-BC, PMHNP-BC.

Dr. Kathleen Hall presented a poster on the nonpharmacological treatment of schizophrenia at the National Nurse Practitioner Symposium in July. She continues to work on chapter revisions for the next edition of *Nursing for Wellness in Older Adults*. She will be a presenter at the upcoming National Hartford Center for Gerontological Nursing Leadership Conference in October on the use of tabletop exercises in gerontological nursing education.

Dr. Bridget Marshall received a \$115,000 telehealth grant for the purpose of improving workforce needs in the underserved regions throughout Colorado by expanding direct care clinical training for online NP students. Dr. Marshall obtained telehealth certification from the Center for Telehealth Innovation, Education, and Research (C-TIER) this past

summer. She worked with Dr. Hall to revise a chapter on evidence-based practice for the community and population health textbook that Dr. Stanley edits (11th edition).

Dr. Stacie Schreiner is assuming the role of *Faculty Senate President* for academic year 24-25. In addition, Dr. Schreiner oversees the Rural Health Initiative (RHI) grant.

Dr. Mary Jo Stanley will be teaching NURS 501EBP and NUR 540 Teaching Strategies in the spring. She is co-author of the nursing text *Community and Public Health Nursing: Promoting the Public's Health* 11th edition (in-press) published by Wolters Kluwer. Dr. Stanley also teaches population health nursing to undergraduate BSN students.

Dr. Karen Urban is moving into the role of co-coordinator of the Graduate Nursing Program for academic year 24-25. Dr. Urban will advise all MSN FNP's currently in the program. Dr. Urban recently attended the ACG Functional GI & Motility Disorders School and the ACG/VGS MASGA Regional Postgraduate Course and looks forward to sharing some important updates that are important for primary care. For example, the change in nomenclature for nonalcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD) is now metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD). The new name removes stigmatizing terminology and more accurately describes the disease.

Have a great fall semester!

Mr. Cruse and Drs. Donovan, Graham, Hall, Marshall, Ridgeway, Stanley, & Urban