

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

LOIS SARAH MARSHALL, PHD, MN, RN

Lois S. Marshall has been a nurse and nurse educator for 43 years. She continues to have a diverse and consistently evolving professional nursing career. Her career journey has taken her from full-time academics to broad-based consultation, where she has taken on challenges, embraced the many opportunities afforded to her, and grown her expertise in a wide array of areas.

The “guiding post” of many of these opportunities has been centered on the theme of career. Marshall has enhanced her work in all the facets of her own career, while at the same time mentoring others to develop, promote, challenge, and empower themselves as they navigate their own career trajectories. She has been at the forefront of nursing career development and management and all their various components over the last 10 years in her roles as lead advisor for the Sigma Career Center since 2013. Marshall has also been the coordinator of the Career Development Center for the National Student Nurses’ Association since 2012.

Marshall received her BSN from the University of Miami, Florida, USA; an MN from Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, USA; and a PhD from the University of Miami, with a focus on higher education, curriculum design, and outcomes assessment. From 1980 to 2004, Marshall held a variety of faculty and administration positions while at the University of Miami School of Nursing. She received numerous teaching awards throughout her career. In 2004, she was selected a Helene Fuld Fellow by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. In 2019, she was honored to receive the Florida Nurses Association Mentor/Role Model ICON Award for her contributions to the nursing profession.

Marshall’s research expertise is related to test-taking strategies, outcomes assessment, and evaluation related to the NCLEX-RN examination. She has been preparing nursing graduates with her own course for

40 years, locally, nationally, and internationally. Since the pandemic, Marshall has offered all her tutoring, reviews, and expertise free of charge for any nursing graduate to “pay it forward,” empowering them to achieve their first nursing career success. Her current research projects relate to career development and management in the broadest sense, including some of the specific areas addressed in this book, such as mentorship.

Marshall presents statewide, nationally, and internationally on topics ranging from career advancement and related subjects, the promotion of evidence-based nursing and research, the development of abstracts for presentations and grant applications, mentorship, and leadership. She mentors Sigma members and nonmembers in exploring and articulating their career identity, advancing their careers along their chosen path(s), and achieving their career goals. She also publishes on these same topics.

Marshall has been the principal and owner of LSM Educational Consulting since 2004. Her consultative services include but are not limited to career development, management, and advancement; mentorship; NCLEX-RN/PN and test-taking preparation for individuals and groups of students, nationally and internationally, within or outside of schools and colleges of nursing; faculty development related to instruction; curriculum design and implementation; curriculum and program evaluation; evidence-based nursing practice; abstract development; small grant writing and research development; scholarly writing development; and project management.

Marshall has been the clinical editor for Elsevier’s *ClinicalKey for Nursing, Evidence-Based Nursing Monographs* for 14 years. The research-based monographs are designed for bedside nurses, wherever that care is administered. These monographs have the unique feature of providing a synopsis of each of the most recent and relevant nursing and other research studies, as well as evidence-based nursing recommendations based on these synopses and current practice. The research monographs are a complete document for the nurse to provide them the information and evidence at the point of care.

Marshall is the research column editor for the *Journal of Radiology Nursing*, where she writes a quarterly column. Marshall is also the chair of the Research Special Interest Group for the Florida Nurse's Association. This committee is responsible for the coordination of the annual Research and Evidence-Based Nursing Conference.

CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS

Sarah E. Gray, DNP, RN, CEN, FAEN, is a creative visionary whose mission is to equip and empower others. She discovered her passion for service and transformational leadership during her 15 years in emergency and occupational medicine. She served as social media chair, among other roles, for the Indiana Emergency Nurses Association for six years. She is a fellow in the Academy of Emergency Nursing. Gray is currently the director of educational resources, global initiatives, and the marketplace for Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma). She develops continuing education programs, domestic and international events, and opportunities for the global nursing community. In this role, she also oversees Sigma's consultative status and programming with the United Nations (UN). Gray is a presenter, author, and coach on practical solutions, innovations, and inspirational topics, specializing in professional branding and leadership. She recognizes the power of professional branding within her own professional network and endeavors. She is now sought out to share her insights on using social media and networking to cultivate current and future potential in individuals.

Christina Ferrell, PhD, RN, NEA-BC, has been a nurse for 26 years with 19 years in nursing leadership roles. Her ambition to lead and mentor has been fulfilled in roles ranging from charge nurse to nurse manager, nursing director, director of clinical excellence, director of hospital education, and Magnet program coordinator. Her current role as an assistant nursing professor and director of the RN to MSN program at the University of Mississippi Medical Center's School of Nursing continues to afford her the opportunity to support the

professional growth of nurses. Her impact has been acknowledged through induction into the Norman C. Nelson Order of Teaching Excellence, University Hospitals' Leadership Excellence Award, Mississippi Nurses Association Non-traditional Nurse of the Year Award, University of Mississippi School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni of the Decade, and the Mississippi Hospital Association's Nurse Executive of the Year. Ferrell's experiences led her to a quest to understand the concept of nursing professional identity and its development over the continuum of one's career. Her PhD dissertation research focused on understanding the nursing professional identity of senior nurse leaders. Ferrell now collaborates with nurses from around the globe who share her interest in further understanding professional identity in nursing.

Matthew S. Howard, DNP, RN, CEN, TCRN, CPEN, CPN, is currently the Director of Scholarship and Leadership Resources at Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma). While also serving as faculty at Northern Kentucky University, Howard works as a staff nurse in the emergency department at Eskenazi Health in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. His nursing career has taken him from stretcher-side nursing to academia and back. His clinical background includes EMS, emergency department nursing, flight nursing, and trauma nursing, with several leadership positions. Howard serves on several local, national, and international councils and nursing associations, including the Emergency Nurses Association (ENA), the International Network for Doctoral Education in Nursing (INDEN), and Sigma, and as an advisory member to the National Nursing Education Research Network.

Samantha Martin, BA, is an experienced career program specialist with more than five years of experience working with Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma). She has supported the development of the Sigma mentorship and coaching program, the Sigma mentoring cohort, and numerous other career-support programs offered through Sigma for its membership. Although she does not hold a nursing degree, she does place a strong value on evidence-based program development and has a calling to work with professional nurses to help them reach their career goals.