

## Nursing Education Research Conference 2018 (NERC18)

### Self-Awareness of Civility Among Nursing Faculty in Creating a Positive Learning Environment

#### **Malliga Jambulingam, PhD, RN**

*Nursing Program, Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD, USA*

Michele Harrell, MSN, MPA, CCRN, RN

*Nursing, Montgomery College, Takoma Park, MD, USA*

Brenda Smith-Nettles, DNP, ACNP

*School of Medicine, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD, USA*

Valerie Wright, MSN, RN

*Nursing Administration, Veterans Administration Maryland Healthcare System (VAMHCS), Baltimore, MD, USA*

Students learn most effectively in environments that facilitate learning by encouraging and supporting them. Unpredictable, unstructured and overwhelming classroom environments can leave students with feelings of vulnerability and anxiety and ultimately contribute to poor learning outcomes. Faculty members bear responsibility for being positive role models and creating positive learning environments where students feel safe in engaging an open of ideas. Although self-awareness of the faculty is the strongest predictor of overall success of the students' learning in the classroom, no research has systematically examined the faculty's self- awareness of civil behavior. This study will explore nurse faculty's awareness of their civil behaviors and their impact on creating a positive learning environment.

The objective of the study is to examine nurse faculty's awareness of their civil behaviors in creating a positive learning environment

An exploratory descriptive research design utilizing an online web-based survey as a means of exploring the perceptions of nurse-faculty of their civil behaviors in the classroom in creating a Positive Learning Environment (PLE). Data will be collected using the demographic questionnaire and "Civility Index for Faculty", self-report questionnaire consisting of 20 items on nurse faculty's civil behaviors in creating a PLE.

Descriptive statistics will be conducted to describe the demographic variables and total score of civility. Correlations between demographic variables (age, education, years of nursing experience, years in teaching nursing students); and tests of differences across demographic variables (ethnicity and education) and their awareness of civil behavior in the classroom in creating a PLE.

Findings will reveal how the level of awareness of nursing faculty with regard to civil behaviors in order to create a PLE

We anticipate that this study will provide invaluable information, raise awareness among nurse faculty and determine strengths and to create opportunities for engaging civil behaviors in order to create and enhance a PLE for students.

---

#### **Title:**

Self-Awareness of Civility Among Nursing Faculty in Creating a Positive Learning Environment

#### **Keywords:**

Civility, Positive Learning Environment and Student Learning Outcomes

## References:

Clark, C. (2017). *Creating & sustaining civility in nursing education*. (2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed). *Sigma Theta Tau International*. ISBN: 9781945157080.

Clark, C. M. (2009). Faculty field guide for promoting student civility in the classroom, *Nurse Educator*, 34(5), 194-197.

Education Corner. (2017). Strategies for building a productive and positive learning environment. 1(1).

National League for Nursing. (2012). Ethical Principles of Nursing Education. Retrieved from <http://www.nln.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/ethical-principles-for-nursing-education-final-final-010312.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

## Abstract Summary:

Students learn most effectively in environments that facilitate learning by encouraging and supporting and making them feel they are part of the team. This study focuses on faculty members' self awareness and how it impacts student learning

## Content Outline:

Students learn most effectively in environments that facilitate learning by encouraging and supporting and making them feel they are part of the team. If the classroom environment is unpredictable, unstructured and overwhelming, students can be left with feelings of vulnerability and anxiety. Each faculty member is responsible for being a positive professional role model and setting the best example for students in the classroom for the safe and open exchange of ideas. It is essential for the faculty to be aware of his/her civil behavior in front of students in the classroom. Although self-awareness of the faculty is the strongest predictor of overall success of the students' learning in the classroom, no research has systematically examined the faculty's self- awareness of civil behavior.

Objective: To examine nurse faculty's awareness of their civil behaviors in creating a positive learning environment (PLE).

Method: An exploratory descriptive research design utilizing an online web-based survey as a means of exploring the perceptions of nurse-faculty of their civil behaviors in the classroom in creating a PLE. Data will be collected using the demographic questionnaire and "Civility Index for Faculty", self-report questionnaire consisting of 20 items on nurse faculty's civil behaviors in Creating a PLE.

Data Analysis: Descriptive statistics will be conducted to describe the demographic variables and total score of civility. Correlations between demographic variables (age, education, years of nursing experience, years in teaching nursing students); and tests of differences across demographic variables (ethnicity and education) and their awareness of civil behavior in the classroom in creating a PLE.

Results: Findings will reveal how much nurse-faculty are aware of their civil behavior in order to create a PLE

Conclusion/Implications: It will provide invaluable information, raise awareness among nurse faculty and determine strengths and opportunities for civility improvement in order to create and enhance a PLE for students.

First Primary Presenting Author

**Primary Presenting Author**

Malliga Jambulingam, PhD, RN  
Morgan State University  
Nursing Program  
Assistant Professor  
Baltimore MD  
USA

**Professional Experience:** 2015 - Present: PhD Program Coordinator, Morgan State University, School of Community Health and Policy, Nursing Program, Baltimore Maryland 2013 - 2016 Nursing Professor, Radians College of Nursing, Washington, DC 2004 - 2013 Registered Nurse (Maternity), Providence Hospital, Washington, DC

**Author Summary:** Dr. Malligam Jambulingam has more than 25 years of nursing; with a specialty in maternity nursing. The last 14 years, she has also been a nursing educator in some manner.

Second Secondary Presenting Author

***Corresponding Secondary Presenting Author***

Michele Harrell, MSN, MPA, CCRN, RN  
Montgomery College  
Nursing  
Assistant Professor  
Takoma Park MD  
USA

**Professional Experience:** Assistant Professor of Nursing Program: Montgomery College, Associate Degree Nursing Program, Takoma Park, Maryland Nurse Specialist Leadership: Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Bethesda Maryland

**Author Summary:** Prof. Harrell has over 15 years experience in nursing. While her primary background is in Critical Care Nursing, recently she has moved into nursing leadership.

Third Secondary Presenting Author

***Corresponding Secondary Presenting Author***

Brenda Smith-Nettles, DNP, ACNP  
Johns Hopkins School of Medicine  
School of Medicine  
Acute Care Nurse Practitioner  
Baltimore MD  
USA

**Professional Experience:** Brenda Smith-Nettles has a long, storied career in nursing. Her latest career move is as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where she has been for the last 10 years.

**Author Summary:** Dr. Brenda Smith-Nettles has a long, storied career in nursing. Her latest career move is as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where she has been for the last 10 years.

Fourth Secondary Presenting Author

***Corresponding Secondary Presenting Author***

Valerie Wright, MSN, RN  
Veterans Administration Maryland Healthcare System (VAMHCS)  
Nursing Administration  
Nurse Officer of the Day  
Baltimore MD  
USA

**Professional Experience:** Valerie Wright has a long, storied career in nursing. She started her career as LPN in the military. She continued to complete Associate, Bachelors and Master's Degrees and is in the process of completing her DNP in Leadership

**Author Summary:** Valerie Wright has a long, storied career in nursing. She started her career as LPN in the military. She continued to complete Associate, Bachelors and Master's Degrees and is in the process of completing her DNP in Leadership