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Contributors
Haley Abugov
Renee Atallah
Thalia Aubé
Christina Kozakiewicz
Mélanie Lavoie-Tremblay

Design
Lisa Kisiel
Communications and External Relations
Elona Lagendyk

Ingram School of Nursing Research Office
Faculty of Medicine
McGill University
680 Sherbrooke West, suite 1800
Montreal, QC, Canada
H3A 2M7

www.mcgill.ca/nursing
@McGill Nursing
@McGillNursing
It is with great pride that we present our inaugural edition of the Ingram School of Nursing Annual Research Report, which provides us the opportunity to showcase the exciting developments and achievements of our faculty researchers and students over the past year.

McGill University’s Ingram School of Nursing is home to 15 faculty researchers whose work captures the far-ranging scope of both the art and science of nursing; from health promotion and improving quality of life, to eradicating health disparities and moving evidence-based data forward in practice.

This year was marked by outstanding research outputs including many publications in high-ranked journals, and prestigious distinctions and grants awarded to some of our professors. Among our faculty members, two hold Senior FRQS (Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé) career awards, one holds a FRQS Junior II career award, one holds a Canada Research Chair-Tier 2, and one holds the McGill Chair in Psychosocial Oncology.

This year we welcomed two new faculty members to our research team, who show great promise. With that, it is with great pleasure that I introduce our research professors and students, and share this year’s progress in our mission to continue influencing nursing practice in Canada.

Mélanie Lavoie-Tremblay
RN, PhD
Associate Professor
Antonia Arnaert  
RN, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Telehealth technologies and whole person care  
antonia.arnaert@mcgill.ca

Laurie Gottlieb  
RN, PhD  
Professor  
Development of Strengths-Based Nursing as an approach to practice, leadership/management and education  
laurie.gottlieb@mcgill.ca

John Pringle  
RN, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Global health, humanitarian ethics, research ethics  
john.pringle@mcgill.ca

Franco Carnevale  
RN, PhD  
Professor  
Pediatrics ethics, the experience of critically ill children and their families, childhood disability, qualitative methodology  
franco.carnevale@mcgill.ca

Sylvie Lambert  
RN, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Impact of cancer on patients and their family caregivers, psychometric analysis using Rasch analysis, mixed research methodology (quantitative and qualitative)  
sylvie.lambert@mcgill.ca

Margaret Purden  
RN, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Interprofessional education, interprofessional practice, cardiovascular care, qualitative methodology, quantitative methodology  
margaret.purden@mcgill.ca

Nancy Feeley  
RN, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Neonatal intensive care, parent-infant interaction, perinatal women’s mental health  
nancy.feeley@mcgill.ca

Mélanie Lavoie-Tremblay  
RN, PhD  
Associate Professor, Associate Director, Research  
Health promotion, administration/management of nursing services, knowledge translation, action research, health care leadership/health care policy  
melanie.lavoie-tremblay@mcgill.ca

Sonia Semenic  
RN, PhD  
Associate Professor  
PhD Program Director  
Breastfeeding, implementation of evidence informed practice in perinatal health, cultural diversities in perinatal health behaviours  
sonia.semenic@mcgill.ca

Anita J. Gagnon  
RN, MPH, PhD  
Associate Dean, Faculty of Medicine; Director, Ingram School of Nursing  
Migration, women’s health, maternal-child health, public health  
anita.gagnon@mcgill.ca

Carmen G. Loiselle  
RN, PhD  
Professor  
Psychosocial oncology and cancer care, young and middle-aged adults, mixed methodology, transitions in care, global health  
carmen.g.loiselle@mcgill.ca

Argerie Tsimicalis  
RN, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Cancer care/oncology, infants/children, vulnerable/at risk populations, transitions in care, informatics/technologies in health care  
argerie.tsimicalis@mcgill.ca

Celine Gelinas  
RN, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Critical care nursing, pain assessment and measurement, pain management, qualitative methodology, palliative care  
celine.gelinas@mcgill.ca

Christine Maheu  
RN, PhD  
Associate Professor  
Psychosocial oncology and cancer care, survivorship care, cancer and work, fear of cancer recurrence, clinical trials and intervention studies  
christine.maheu@mcgill.ca

Andrea Van Hulst  
RN, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Childhood obesity, environments in relation to obesity and associated health behaviours, risk factors among youth with type-1 diabetes  
andreaa.vanhulst@mcgill.ca
Research in Numbers

#5
Nursing Faculty in Canada/10 Total (QS Ranking, 2017)

#32
University in the World/ 959 Total (QS Ranking, 2017)

#37
Nursing Faculty in the World/ 101 Total (QS Ranking, 2017)

42 Publications in High-Impact Journals
73 Journal Article Publications
3 Book Chapters
7 Systematic Reviews

14 Doctoral & Post-Doctoral Students (12 PhD & 2 Post-Doc)

$647,572 as Principal Investigators
$22,490,268 Total Research Grant Funding Awarded

$21,472,696 as Co-Investigators

$370,000 as Co-Principal Investigators

$424,772 of total funding for PhD students for the 2016-2017 academic year
Dr. Sylvie Lambert, Assistant Professor, Ingram School of Nursing, McGill Faculty of Medicine, is one of eleven women recently awarded a Canada Research Chair (CRC) at the University. Dr. Lambert was awarded a Tier 2 CRC in Sustainable Self-Management Support for Patients with Cancer and Their Family Caregivers in March of 2017. Tier 2 Chairs are awarded to exceptional emerging researchers, acknowledged by their peers as having the potential to lead in their field, and are valued at $100,000 annually for five years with one opportunity for renewal. The CRC program was created to enable Canadian universities to attract and retain established and emerging world-class researchers.

Prior to becoming a researcher, Dr. Lambert was an ICU nurse, where she met patients and families trying to cope with severe illnesses. “I wanted to know what information patients and families needed, where they find this information and how they are applying this knowledge to living as healthily as possible despite a chronic illness,” says Dr. Lambert. “As a clinician, I quickly realized how powerful and empowering knowledge is for patients and their families, but by the same token, misinformation and lack of knowledge can be just as powerful, in a negative way.”

Not surprisingly, the basis of Dr. Lambert’s Research Chair is focusing on the development and evaluation of clinical interventions that provide the best available information to meet the needs of patients and their families, in a compassionate and useful way. “Communicating information and making sure individuals learn the skills they need to live as well as possible at a time when stress and other emotions are high is a challenge, one that our team has taken on!” says Dr. Lambert.

The goal of Dr. Lambert’s research is to ultimately equip clinicians with a set of interventions to help patients and their families manage the emotional, social and physical challenges of living with a chronic disease. “We want clinicians to have the resources and tools to be able to support patients when they need it the most,” says Dr. Lambert. “We are also factoring in the current climate of the health care system, so as to not create additional costs, which means, for example, using online platforms, or organizing the interventions in a way that the most intensive are reserved for those who need them the most.”

Dr. Lambert’s team has received two catalyst grants for innovative clinical trials from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR). “We’re looking forward to witnessing the practical implications of this research,” says Dr. Lambert. “This Research Chair is the recognition and the validation of the scientific accuracy and value of our work by other Canadian researchers within and outside this field.”

Major funding sources for Sustainable Self-Management Support for Patients with Cancer and Their Family Caregivers include Prostate Cancer Canada, Réseau de recherche en interventions en sciences infirmières du Québec, Le Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé and CIHR. Collaborators are pan-Canadian: Princess Margaret Hospital, McGill University Health Centre, St. Mary’s Hospital Center, CancerCare Manitoba, Tom Baker Cancer Centre, University of Calgary, and Vancouver Prostate Centre.

Dr. Lambert came to McGill from Australia where she was a National Health and Medical Research Council Research Fellow at the Translational Cancer Research Unit, Ingham Institute for Applied Medical Research, University of New South Wales.
Heart disease—including cardiovascular disease—is an umbrella term for a group of conditions that affect the structure and functions of the heart. While some forms of heart disease are congenital (present at birth), the vast majority develop with age. According to Health Canada, cardiovascular disease affects approximately 2.4 million Canadian adults, and is the second leading cause of death in the country.

While children and teens are not usually diagnosed with clinical heart disease, they may present risk factors for the illness. These include high blood pressure, abnormal cholesterol levels, diabetes and being overweight. Right now, an estimated 27% of Canadian children and teens are overweight, and of them, 13% are considered obese, making excess weight and obesity the most common pediatric risk factors for heart disease. Moreover, studies show that obese children and teens are more likely to develop compounded risk factors, and to remain obese as adults, leaving them more at risk for developing heart disease into adulthood.

The good news: many forms of heart disease can be prevented by living an active, healthy lifestyle, and McGill Nursing professor and researcher Andraea Van Hulst would argue that targeting childhood obesity is one of the best ways to prevent the development of this illness.

Professor Van Hulst began her career as an ER nurse in a hospital with many patients seeking care for conditions related to heart disease. "While I loved the challenges and the pace of the ER, I soon realized I was not focusing my efforts where they were most needed," says Van Hulst. "At the end of a shift, I felt good about contributing to saving the life of a patient who suffered a heart attack or stroke, but I felt that I needed to stop people from falling into the river instead of pulling them out of the water as they were drowning," she says.

Van Hulst went from the ER to pursue graduate studies in public health, to now, where her program of research includes identifying the social and environmental factors and conditions that can lead to poor lifestyle behaviours and obesity in childhood. "Eating is part of everyday life, and how a child eats depends largely on how their family and friends eat, and on their access to different types of food," says Van Hulst. "Where we live and work affects us, and children are no different," says Van Hulst. "Environments in which children live, learn and play influence their health. Living in low-income neighbourhoods often means less access to health promoting opportunities such as proximity to stores selling healthy foods, or parks that are safe and appealing to children for play," she says. "We hope our research can identify targets for the prevention of obesity both at the individual and at the population levels."

Having joined the Ingram School of Nursing’s faculty for the 2017-2018 academic year, Van Hulst is putting together a team and developing a program of research, which will include focusing on preventing risk factors for heart disease in children and teens, and incorporating nursing expertise into the development of health-promotion and obesity-management strategies. "Family-based approaches are recommended for treating childhood obesity, and nurses have an expertise and a longstanding background in using whole-family approaches in their practice," says Van Hulst. "One of my goals is to develop a nurse-led multidisciplinary approach to obesity prevention and treatment."
John Pringle doesn't have a definitive answer on why he chose to become a nurse. But he can tell you, with 100% certainty, is that it was the best decision he ever made. Pringle is an Assistant Professor at the Ingram School of Nursing, joining the faculty in August of 2017. His interest in pursuing a career in nursing first surfaced during his backpacking days in Europe, after finishing high school. At a time fraught with decisions to be made about his future, Pringle knew he wanted a career that would allow for travelling, but also contribute to communities in meaningful ways. After returning from his travels overseas, he completed a BScN at McMaster University and became an RN, working in an advanced scope of practice in First Nations communities in northern Manitoba. He then turned to the reputable Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), an international, humanitarian, medical, non-governmental organization. MSF is best known for its projects in conflict zones and in countries experiencing endemic or epidemic diseases.

During his time with MSF, Pringle witnessed the sheer magnitude of nurses’ contribution to health care delivery globally. “Most healthcare in the world is provided by nurses,” he says. “This notion compelled me in my becoming a nurse and working for MSF.” During his work in refugee camps in Eritrea in 2001 during the Eritrea-Ethiopia conflict, Pringle saw the devastation caused by outbreak-prone diseases. He then went on to complete a Masters degree (MSc) in Community Health & Epidemiology from Queen's University, and then, after a few more missions with MSF, he obtained a PhD in Public Health and Bioethics from the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto.

Just months after completing his PhD, Pringle went with MSF to assist with the West Africa Ebola crisis. At the height of the outbreak, Pringle was in Sierra Leone, helping to set up a new Ebola treatment centre, triaging patients as they arrived for treatment, and assisting with a mass administration of antimalarial medications across the greater Freetown area. Pringle recalls feeling overwhelmed during his time there, as he saw MSF carrying the brunt of the response. “It was unfathomable to me, that the start of the 21st century, the response to the world’s worst Ebola outbreak, the first to spread to major urban centers and across international borders, was left to a humanitarian organization like MSF,” he says. “Globalization is raising ethically troubling issues as neoliberal economic policies strip away protections for public health and the environment whilst abandoning the needs of the poor.” Looking for ways to critically understand these types of ethical dilemmas, Pringle joined the Humanitarian Health Ethics (HHE) Research Group. “I am fortunate to be part of the core group in Canada,” he says. “The HHE Research Group is committed to these tough questions and to proposing solutions.”

As part of an HHE research study, Pringle returned to West Africa in the summer of 2017 to interview Ebola survivors about their experiences as research participants. The study seeks to identify the barriers and facilitators of applying ethical standards in clinical research during the Ebola outbreak, in order to inform future research during public health emergencies. (HHE, 2018). Over 100 stakeholders from the worst affected countries of Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia were recruited for the study, the findings of which Pringle is working with his colleagues to publish in the coming year.

Pringle is now working with MSF to examine the role of telemedicine in humanitarian projects. He is currently evaluating a telemedicine platform that MSF set up in a remote community hospital supported by MSF in Niger that is designed to assist local clinicians in caring for complex pediatric patients. In addition to his research, Pringle has been Vice Chair of the MSF Ethics Review Board since September 2015. The MSF Ethics Review Board is an independent board comprised of a multidisciplinary group of experts in research methodology, global health and research ethics, tasked with reviewing and approving MSF research. Pringle intends to continue supporting MSF as Assistant Professor in the Ingram School of Nursing.
1 Professor Céline Gélinas was recipient of a Senior Research Scholar Salary award, from the Fonds de la recherche du Québec - Santé (FRQ-S), for the 2017 to 2021 period. The FRQS award is a unique opportunity for Professor Céline Gélinas to have the time to advance her research and knowledge in her field of expertise. The award was issued for the project entitled; Innovation dans l'évaluation et la gestion de la douleur dans les unités de soins intensifs adultes, with a valued total of $347,735. The goal of this research program is to develop innovative measures of pain assessment in critically ill adults and to implement best practice guidelines to improve pain management in the adult intensive care unit.

2 Professor Christine Maheu was recipient of a Junior II Research Scholar Salary award, from the FRQ-S, for the 2016-2019 period. The award was issued for the project; Enhancing survivorship care services with evidence-base practices and knowledge translation activities, with a valued total of $259,266. When asked about this award, Christine Maheu replied “I am forever grateful for receiving this Junior II career award that has allowed me to invest additional time in expanding a program of research that seeks to improve and facilitate the ‘living with and beyond’ a cancer diagnosis”. Key features have been in the development of two Canadian firsts: The first Canadian evidenced-based intervention for the management of fear of cancer recurrence (Maheu, C., Lebel, S., Courbasson, C., Lefebvre, M., Singh, M., Bernstein, L. J., . . . Sidani, S. (2016). Protocol of a randomized controlled trial of the fear of recurrence therapy (FORT) intervention for women with breast or gynecological cancer. BMC Cancer, 16(1), 291) and the first Canadian evidenced-based website of Cancer and Work (www.cancerandwork.ca) with over 500 pages of resources and over 40 Canadian experts on the topic that contributed to its work.

3 Professor Nancy Feeley was recipient of a Senior Research Scholar Salary award from the FRQS, for the 2014-2018 period. This award was for the project; Santé psychologique et habiletés parentales pendant la période périnatale, valued at $287,500. This program of research is concerned with parent psychological health and parenting in the perinatal period primarily in parents at-risk for the development of psychological distress due to their childbirth experience. These topics are explored in both mothers and fathers, in particular those who have a newborn born premature and hospitalized in Neonatal Intensive Care. This research describes parent psychological health, identifies factors associated with psychological health, and examines how psychological health affects parenting behaviour. An understanding of factors associated with psychological health will provide knowledge to guide the development of evidence-based nursing care to optimize the parenting environment of young children and thus ultimately enhance child health and development.
In 2017, Professor Mélanie Lavoie-Tremblay, and her colleagues were the winners of the academic award for the Project Management Institution (PMI) Case Competition. Since 1974, the PMI awards have honored organizations and individuals whose passion, talent and expertise have made outstanding contributions to the project management profession. Research & academic awards, in particular, honor a project management research or educator to recognize individuals, groups and published works that significantly advance program management. This award was for the Monique Aubry et al, case from the CIHR grant, Lavoie-Tremblay et al, valued at $5000.

In May 2017, Professor Carmen Loiselle was awarded with the Certificate of Appreciation. This certificate was in recognition of Dr. Loiselle’s service to Canadian Partnership Against Cancer (CPAC) and the cancer community. Dr. Loiselle has been involved in CPAC activities for over ten years, including membership on steering committees to improve cancer care, research advisory committees, and as an expert panelist at venues across Canada. Dr. Loiselle has also received CPAC grant funding to test a virtual navigation system to support patients (Pl: Loiselle; $160,880). In 2011, Dr Loiselle was appointed inaugural Christine and Herschel Victor/Hope & Cope Chair in Psychosocial Oncology – the first of its kind in Quebec, the third in Canada and less than six worldwide. Following a 5-year report on her accomplishments throughout the inaugural period of the Chair, a committee was formed to review her dossier and Dr. Loiselle received unanimous approval for the 5-year renewal (in total 2011-2021). Dr. Loiselle’s program of research focuses on the patient experience with cancer and care as well as the development and testing of innovative web-based approaches that can readily provide support to patients throughout the cancer trajectory: www.loisellelab.ca

In March 2017, Professor Andraea Van Hulst, was one of two researchers selected to represent the Quebec Research Network in Cardiometabolic Health, Diabetes and Obesity at the 2017 Danish Diabetes Academy Winter School. This Winter School brings together international post-doctoral and doctoral trainees as well as world renowned researchers in diabetes for 5 days of discussion on a wide range of topics covering the prevention and treatment of diabetes. Together with 3 other team members, Professor Van Hulst was awarded the ‘Most promising team’ in a Diabetes Challenge aimed at proposing a strategy for improved prevention and management of diabetes using precision medicine.
## Grants as Principal Investigator

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<tr>
<th>INVESTIGATORS</th>
<th>SPONSOR</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT</th>
<th>AWARDED</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arnaert, A., Ponzoni, N., Soubeiga, D., Sia, S., Tchouaket, E., Kargourou, R.I. J.C., Prosper, D.A., Georges, G., Rouamba, G., &amp; Yenlema, D.</strong></td>
<td>Grand Challenges Canada</td>
<td>Stars in Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH)</td>
<td>STREAM: Strengthening the relationship between primary care and community health workers using technology-enabled home visits for preventative screening and monitoring of pregnant women living in the rural eastern region of Burkina Faso.</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carnevale, F. A.</strong></td>
<td>Fondation du Dr Julien</td>
<td>Project Grant</td>
<td>Évaluation du projet FER (Familles–Enfants–Réseau): Volet enfants.</td>
<td>$37,080</td>
<td>2017-2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carnevale, F. A., Tsimicalis, A.</strong></td>
<td>Institute for the Public Life of Arts and Ideas &amp; Henry Luce Foundation</td>
<td>Project Grant</td>
<td>Using practice-based research to recognize the moral experience and agency in the everyday lives of children.</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Feeley, N. &amp; Heon, M., Cinquino, C., Semenic, S., Gravel, S., Larone-Juneau, A., Somera, J., Savaria, M., &amp; Francoeur, M.</strong></td>
<td>Jewish General Hospital (JGH)</td>
<td>Research and Development Fund, Neonatology Department</td>
<td>Promouvrir et soutenir l’expression de lait maternel chez les femmes à risque d’un sevrage précoce de l’allaitement.</td>
<td>$5000</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gelinas, C., &amp; Emed, Jessica</strong></td>
<td>JGH</td>
<td>JGH Collaborative</td>
<td>OPTimize Opioid MONITORING for adults in acute care hospital settings (OPT-O-Monitoring project).</td>
<td>$130,525</td>
<td>2017-2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lambert, S. D.</strong></td>
<td>Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)</td>
<td>Research Portion of Canada Research Chair</td>
<td>Self-care and illness self-management support interventions.</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>2017-2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lambert, S. D., McCusker, J., Yaffe, M., Law, S., Antonacci, R., Paraskevopoulos, H., Amir, E., Creager, J., Conn, D.</strong></td>
<td>Drummond Foundation</td>
<td>Research Grant</td>
<td>Older adults with a chronic physical condition and comorbid depression and their family caregivers: Partners in the co-design of a dyadic self-care depression intervention.</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Grants as Co-Principal Investigator

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<tr>
<th>INVESTIGATORS</th>
<th>SPONSOR</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT</th>
<th>AWARDED</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goulding, K., Tsimicalis, A., Freeman, C., Turcotte, R., Mlynarek, A.</td>
<td>McGill University</td>
<td>Rossy Network Cancer Quality and Innovation Program</td>
<td>Defining the patient experience in extremity and retroperitoneal soft tissue sarcoma through sequential exploratory mixed methods approach: The Sarcoma-Specific Quality of Life (SARQOL) study.</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>2017-2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Grants as Co-Investigator

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INVESTIGATORS</th>
<th>SPONSOR</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT</th>
<th>AWARDED</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tchouaket, E., Sia, S., Yentema, O., Arnaert, A., &amp; Ponzoni, N.</td>
<td>Universités Canada</td>
<td>Queen Elizabeth Scholarships/ Boursiers de la Reine Elizabeth</td>
<td>Partenariat pour l’amélioration de la santé maternelle et infantile en Afrique de l’Ouest à l’aide de la santé numérique.</td>
<td>$1,004,737</td>
<td>2017-2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projet</td>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Type de Subvention</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Montant</td>
<td>Période</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lafranchise, N., Kuyken K, Poulin, MH., <strong>Lavoie-Tremblay M., Grosjean S., Courcy, F., Bonneville, Paquet M.</strong></td>
<td>Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)</td>
<td>Research Grant</td>
<td>Démarche de recherche-action collaborative visant à approfondir l’optimisation et les impacts des groupes de codéveloppement professionnel, dans une perspective transversale des secteurs.</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>2017–2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gagnon, P., Cohen, R., Savard, J., Gauthier, L., Dumont, S., <strong>Loiselle, C.G.</strong> (and 200 others).</td>
<td>Gouvernement du Québec</td>
<td>FORSC</td>
<td>Réseau québécois de recherche en soins palliatifs et de fin de vie.</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>2017–2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maheu, C.</strong> &amp; Parkinson, M.</td>
<td>Bachem (Science research company)</td>
<td>Donation Fund</td>
<td>Cancer and Work Website.</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maheu, C.</strong> &amp; Parkinson, M.</td>
<td>Creek River</td>
<td>Donation Fund</td>
<td>Cancer and Work Website.</td>
<td>$1000</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavoie, P., Purden, M., Clausen, C., Frunchak, V., &amp; Emed, J.</td>
<td>McGill University</td>
<td>McGill Nursing Collaborative</td>
<td>Nursing handoff: Nurses’ perception of handoff quality and judgment regarding the patient’s risk of deterioration.</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>2017–2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Book Chapters


Some Highlights from the Past Year

Groundbreaking clinical project co-directed by McGill Nursing Professor wins highly coveted grant from Quebec Order of Nurses

Approximately 7% of babies in Quebec are born premature, and many of these infants require weeks to several months of hospitalization in neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) to support their growth and development.

Hospitalization in the NICU is a crisis event for parents, and the costs of NICU and neonatal follow-up care are a significant burden to the health care system. Nurses play a leading role in humanizing the NICU experience and improving neonatal and parental outcomes, by implementing low-cost, “low-tech”, health-promoting interventions such as breastfeeding support, skin-to-skin contact, developmental care and family-integrated care.

The Quebec Order of Nurses Foundation (Fondation de l’Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec) awarded their prestigious $250,000 “Pour mieux soigner” grant to a project, co-directed by Sonia Semenic, Associate Professor, Ingram School of Nursing, McGill Faculty of Medicine; Marilyn Aita, Faculty of Nursing at University de Montréal; and Audrey Larone-Juneau, Nursing Consultant in the NICU at the Sainte-Justine Hospital.

The goal of the project is to create a “community of practice” between Quebec NICU nurse leaders and university-based nurse researchers, to facilitate sharing of evidence-based NICU nursing care practices, tools, resources and educational strategies. As the care of premature infants can incur life-long impacts, the ultimate objective of the project is to harmonize NICU nursing care practices across the province, and ensure the delivery of the best possible evidence-based care for premature babies and their parents. “The four nursing practices targeted in our project are low-cost, but have proven benefits for the health and later development of babies born premature, for example, promoting parent-infant skin-to-skin contact, also known as ‘Kangaroo care,’” says Dr. Semenic.

“Some neonatal intensive care units have more expertise implementing kangaroo care as part of routine practice, and our project aims to identify and share this expertise across all of Quebec’s NICUs.” Managing elements within the NICU environment, such as levels of lighting, noise, and how premature infants are positioned in the incubator, are also key to helping premature infants adapt outside of the women and protecting their neuro-development.

All six Level 3 neonatal intensive care units in Quebec are participating in this project: Sainte-Justine CHU, McGill University Health Centre, Québec-Université Laval University Hospital, Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital, Sherbrooke University Hospital Centre and the Jewish General Hospital.

In each of these units, nurse leaders will be connected via a web-based platform (CVP-Neon@t) so that they can discuss their practices, share evidence-based literature and resources, and pass on their knowledge to their colleagues. “What we’re ultimately hoping for is better care via creating a framework for sharing best practices,” says Dr. Semenic. “We’re working towards more parental involvement, so that parents feel more prepared and competent, and that babies are going home with better outcomes.”

“We’re working towards more parental involvement, so that parents feel more prepared and competent, and that babies are going home with better outcomes.”

- Sonia Semenic
McGill Nursing Collaborative

The McGill Nursing Collaborative for Education and Innovation in Patient- and Family-Centred Care is a collaborative partnership between the Ingram School of Nursing (ISoN) and the nursing departments of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) and the CIUSSS du Centre-Ouest-de-l’Île-de-Montréal (Jewish General Hospital [JGH] Site).

The Collaborative was inaugurated in 2012 with a donation of six million dollars from the Newton Foundation and other donors in the community, with the goal of advancing nursing research, practice and education through the combined efforts of its members.

The Collaborative has launched more than 15 projects to strengthen professional competencies and leadership skills among ISoN students, faculty, and clinical partners, and as of May 2018, it has an official logo designed to represent each of its member organizations, along with the themes of service, care and collaboration.

Meet the Collaborative Team

Left top to right bottom:

Melanie-Lavoie Tremblay
Faculty Researcher, ISoN

Annie Chevrier
Faculty Lecturer, ISoN

Louise Murray
Nursing Practice Consultant, MUHC and Faculty Lecturer, ISoN

Alain Biron
Associate Director of Nursing, Professional Practice and Academic Affairs, MUHC

Valerie Frunchak
Associate Director of Nursing, Professional Practice and Academic Affairs, CIUSSS du Centre-Ouest-de-l’Île-de-Montréal

Christina Clausen
McGill Nursing Collaborative JGH Site lead
In December 2017 a publication by Dr. Nancy Feeley and her team was chosen as Paper of the Month by the Perinatal Mental Health Society. Their study compared posttraumatic stress (PTSD) symptoms in four groups of women following childbirth and examined change in symptoms over time, as well as the relationship between PTSD symptoms and mothers’ interactive behavior with their infant. At 5 and 8 weeks after birth, women whose infant required Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) hospitalization reported more PTSD symptoms compared to women having other childbirth experiences. Although their symptoms decreased over time, they nonetheless continued to report more symptoms than other mothers. Women with elevated PTSD symptoms were more intrusive in interactions with their infants. Studies are needed that examine fathers whose infant requires NICU hospitalization as they too may experience PTSD symptoms.

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PTSD
The Quebec Network on Nursing Intervention Research (RRISIQ) was created with the objective to develop nursing intervention research and connect research and practice to provide quality healthcare. The Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQS) funded network was first established in 2003 as a research group called the GRISIM (Groupe de recherche interuniversitaire en sciences infirmières de Montréal), which included researchers from McGill and the Université de Montréal. GRISIM was established with the support of the Newton Foundation (Richard Ingram).

Professor Nancy Feeley succeeded one of the founding co-directors of GRISIM in 2009 and has been Co-Director alongside Sylvie Cossette from the Université de Montréal since then. Just prior to Dr Feeley's succession, the network had expanded to include other universities in 2008 (Université Laval and Université de Sherbrooke), and was renamed RRISIQ (Groupe de recherche interuniversitaire en interventions en sciences infirmières du Québec) to reflect this. Today, the network is composed of eight universities across Quebec. Each university contributes funds dedicated to RRISIQ research activities with these contributed funds remaining at each university. These funds are used primarily to support fellowships for graduate students and pilot studies for faculty members from that university. Currently, RRISIQ has 116 regular researcher members from all but one Quebec nursing school or faculty.

RRISIQ’s funding from FRQS was last renewed for the 2014 to 2019 period, for the amount of $400,000/year plus $330,000/year of university contributions, totaling $730,000/year over five years for $3.65 million. The team plans to renew their application for funding in December of 2018, for the four-year period between 2019 and 2023. In 2018 the network’s international platform launched a new scientific journal, titled Science of Nursing and Health Practices, on RRISIQ’s theme of intervention research. The journal intends to publish research (80%) and knowledge transfer (20%) manuscripts in both French and English. The editor-in-chief is a RRISIQ member, Dr. Côté and the editorial committee has representation from Quebec, Canada and other countries. The first journal issue appeared mid-2018, with the journal officially launching at the Secrétariat international des infirmières et infirmiers de l’espace francophone (SIDIIIEF) international conference in France, June 2018.

This international platform also launched its first international collaboration competition in 2017 with the goal of augmenting international research. As RRISIQ promotes inter-university and inter-domain collaboration, pilot research projects that are funded must include researchers from two Quebec partner universities and a third from an international site. Awarded funds can be used to pursue research activities such as conducting a systematic review. RRISIQ’s scientific events are accessible to the network’s members, students and non-members. Participants can attend these events on-site or by videoconferencing. For example, conferences such as “A Case Study Exploring Employment Factors Affecting General Practice Nurse Role Development” presented by Dr. Susan Crossman from the UK were held. Lastly, the network’s resources platform has established a research instrument and clinical tools database, created for consultation by members and students. There are now 72 registered users and 1716 measures and clinical tools. New measures continue to be added.

For more information, please go to: https://rrisiq.com
McGill Nursing Graduate among Up-and-Coming Researchers Honoured for Breakthrough Discoveries at 7th Annual Mitacs Awards

Mitacs is a national, not-for-profit organization specializing in the design and delivery of research and training programs, working with universities, companies and governments to support industrial and social innovation in Canada. On November 21, 2017 Mitacs held their 7th annual awards ceremony to recognize five up and coming researchers from across Canada, among them, Justine Behan, graduate of the Ingram School of Nursing (ISoN), McGill University.

Justine received the Mitacs Master’s Award for Outstanding Innovation for her ethnographic study aimed at improving the lives of children living with cancer in India. Her work involved collecting data at three different study sites in New Delhi, with the goal of acquiring a better understanding of how young cancer patients participate in decisions, discussions, and actions when it comes to their health and health care. While parents and health care professionals often act as intermediaries when a child is ill, Justine, spoke directly to children living with cancer—ranging in ages from three to 17—and observed them receiving various aspects of their care, including chemotherapy and radiation.

Her work was supervised by a multidisciplinary and international team, including ISoN professors Dr. Argerie Tsimicalis and Dr. Franco Carnevale; Dr. Sameer Bakhshi, Consultant Pediatric Oncologist and Associate Professor, Department of Medical Oncology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences; and Dr. Ramandeep Singh Arora, Senior Consultant, Paediatric Oncology, Max Super Specialty Hospital, New Delhi. Bani Bhattacharjee, RN, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, was also a part of the team and assisted with the data collection. Justine’s project provided much-needed empirical findings to spearhead childhood ethics research specific to pediatric oncology in India.

This project was conducted in collaboration with CanKids and VOICE (Views On Interdisciplinary Childhood Ethics). Justine was also recipient of the Global Health and Indigenous Nursing (GAIHN) Travel Award ($2,500), the McGill Travel Bursary ($1,500) and the Mobility Graduate Award ($1,500).
Masters Students Top Downloaded Research Paper

Master’s Students; Olena Doronina, Denise Jones and Marianna Martello published the following systematic review; "Doronina O., *Jones, D., *Martello, M., Biron, A., & Lavoie-Tremblay, M. (2017). A Systematic Review on the Effectiveness of Interventions to Improve Hand Hygiene Compliance of Nurses in the Hospital Setting. Journal of Nursing Scholarship, 49(2), 143-152. This article was one of the journal’s top 10 most downloaded papers. As of year-end 2017, the article received 4526 downloads, creating impact and raising the visibility of the Journal of Nursing Scholarship as well.

Research in Action (RiA)

Research in Action (RiA) is a student-level initiative where faculty members and students present on a specific research theme, organized into seminars throughout the academic year. The RiA seminars are presented by the ISoN, the Nursing Graduate Student Association and the Nursing Undergraduate Society. The RiA also has its own committee with membership from the ISoN Director of Research, one PhD graduate student, one MSc graduate student and one undergraduate student.

The mandate of the RiA is to;

1. Increase activities to socialize Graduate/Undergraduate students as research scholars
2. Increase visibility of our ISoN Research/Innovations/Chairs/Network Research in curriculum
3. Increase opportunity for students to be involved in research
4. Share information about conferences and other research events with students

To achieve these objectives, for the 2017 year, there were two seminars. The first was held in January 2017, with the theme of “Change and Innovation”. The second seminar took place in March 2017, with the theme of “Global Health”. Students from each educational level presented on their research projects.

For more information, please contact Aimee Castro, one of the RiA student coordinators at aimee.castro2@mail.mcgill.ca
Our PhD Students

14
Doctoral & Post-Doctoral Students

12
PhD

2
Post-Doc

$424,772
of total funding for PhD students for the 2016-2017 academic year

Left to Right: Marianne Sofronas, Lydia Ould Brahim, Monica Parmar, Raissa Passos dos Santos, Julie Fréchette and Aimee Castro.