



Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future – AACN Fall 2015 Minority Nurse Faculty Scholars



Billy A. Caceres, MSN, RN-BC, AGPCNP-BC, is a third-year PhD student at New York University (NYU) College of Nursing where he is a Jonas Nurse Leaders Scholar. His research interest is in the area of geriatrics and health disparities. Billy's dissertation focuses on modifiable risk factors for cardiovascular disease in lesbian, gay, and bisexual adults. He was recently selected as a pre-doctoral trainee at the NIH-funded NYU Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) and as a Jonas Policy Scholar at the American Academy of Nursing. In addition, he is an adjunct faculty for undergraduate nursing at NYU and active in several organizations including the American Heart Association, Gerontological Society of America, and Sigma Theta Tau International.

Carla Clements, MSN, CRNP, is a third year doctoral student at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her BSN at the University of Alabama-Birmingham and received her MSN from the University of Pennsylvania. She has extensive clinical and administrative experience in various areas including Staff Development, Labor and Delivery, Cardiology, Geriatrics and Emergency Medicine. Prior to pursuing her PhD, Ms. Clements was the Director of Medical Center Education at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center. Her research interest is skin science, specifically the biomechanical property skin hydration and its influence on skin protection for skin of color. Ms. Clements is the past recipient of an NIH-funded Diversity Minority supplement related to her research area. She is a member of the Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs and the Emergency Nurses Association.



Sharrica Miller, CPNP-PC, RN, is a fifth year PhD student at the University of California, Los Angeles. She received her BSN from Howard University and has over 10 years of clinical experience in pediatrics. After obtaining her MSN from California State University, Long Beach, Ms. Miller served as Chair and Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at American University of Health Sciences. Her other roles at the University included Chair of Student Affairs, WASC Accreditation committee member, and Director of the University's developing Sigma Theta Tau chapter. Her doctoral research focuses on health services utilization among transitional age foster youth. Ms. Miller hopes to inspire

other former foster youth such as herself to pursue higher education and give back to their communities.

Anitha Saravanan, MSN, APRN, ANP-BC, PCCN, is a third year PhD student attending Loyola University Chicago. She received her associate degree in nursing from the College of DuPage and her MSN from Loyola University Chicago. Since completing her MSN, she has practiced as an Adult Pain Management Nurse Practitioner in outpatient and inpatient settings. She recently joined the College of DuPage faculty as Assistant Professor of Nursing. Her research interest is to study the effects of multidisciplinary pain programs and the role of inflammatory markers in patients with chronic pain and depression. Anitha hopes to inspire, motivate, and encourage minority students to provide excellent care to the community at large.



Ashley Jingzhi Xu, BSN, RN, is a second year PhD student attending Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. She has previously worked as a cardiothoracic and transplant operating room nurse at Duke University Hospital and was responsible for quality improvement initiatives by developing and delivering of educational materials, didactic training, and simulation sessions to new nurses. Her current research is focused on end stage heart failure patients who are implanted with ventricular assist devices and their relationships

with caregivers and how it impacts self-care and health outcomes. Her goal is to build capacity for a strong voice and representation of under-represented minorities among doctoral-prepared leaders in nursing education and research. She is a member of Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses, Heart Failure Society of America, and Sigma Theta Tau International.