

Advisory Council

Beth Brooks, PhD, RN, FACHE – The Brooks Group, LLC

Beth has a unique blend of leadership experiences from three distinct sectors of the health care industry; nursing administration in a health care system, academic administration, and leadership positions in the for-profit arena; specifically, in marketing communication agencies specializing in employment branding, communications and employment marketing.

She earned a Doctor of Philosophy in nursing from the University of Illinois at Chicago, a Master of Science in nursing administration from Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Valparaiso University.

Her doctoral studies resulted in the creation of Brooks' Quality of Nursing Work Life Survey. Her survey has been used in twenty-five countries from Iran to Thailand and has been translated into five languages.

Beth is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. She serves on the Board of the American Assembly for Men in Nursing, serves chair of the National Council for the College of Nursing at Valparaiso University, and is on the Advisory Board for the Forum for Shared Governance. She is a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellow Alumnus, 2012 Cohort.

She has been published numerous times and is the creator of the Brooks' Quality of Nursing Work Life Survey(C).

Therese Fitzpatrick, PhD, RN, FAAN –Senior Vice President, Kaufmann Hall

Therese is a Senior Vice President of Kaufman Hall and a member of the firm's Strategic and Financial Planning practice, specializing in Strategic Cost Management. Her responsibilities focus on providing consultation to hospitals and health systems across the country in assessing their clinical and operational performance, and developing effective strategies to enhance efficiencies and optimize staffing.

She has 40 years of healthcare experience spanning operations and policy development in local, regional, and global markets. Her areas of expertise include strategic management of clinical and administrative services, analytic and financial competencies, labor relations and contract negotiations, and strategic workforce optimization with specialty focus in developing clinical staffing algorithms based on advanced modeling and scheduling policy.

Prior to joining Kaufman Hall, Therese was a Principle and Practice Operations Lead for Philips Healthcare North America. In that role, she provided strategic and analytical support to governments, regional entities, and individual hospitals and health systems in creating sustainable population health solutions and clinical/business performance improvement across the continuum of care. Her previous positions include serving as Executive Vice President at Assay Healthcare Solutions and The Optime Group, as Senior Vice President at Evanston Northwestern Healthcare, and as Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer at St. Francis Hospital in Milwaukee.

Therese holds a Ph.D. in Urban Studies from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, and a Masters in Nursing Administration and a B.S.N., both from DePaul University. She was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing in 2016, and is an Assistant Clinical Professor in the College of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Bob Kepshire, MS/MA/RN/CENP – Administrator and Chief Nursing Officer, University Hospital - Thomson

Bob serves as both the nurse executive and senior administrator of hospital operations at University Hospital McDuffie; a twenty-five bed, not-for-profit community hospital located in Thomson, Georgia. He has responsibility for ensuring that appropriate patient care is provided to all patients; developing, reviewing, revising and administering the hospital strategic plan, budget, policies/procedures and performance improvement activities.

Bob is accountable for organizing, developing, managing, and evaluating operations of the organization and integrating service activities with those of the medical staff, ancillary departments, and other organizations/entities within the health care continuum and provides leadership to the organization to operate, innovate, and collaborate in the delivery of high quality, cost effective care and ensures ongoing growth which meets community needs. Working closely with key stakeholders in the community, he develops strategies to improve the health of they serve. He serves as a member of the University Health Care System senior management team; reporting to the Executive Vice President/System Chief Operating Officer & President of University Hospital.

Karen Minyard, PhD – Director, Georgia Health Policy Center, Georgia State University

Karen has directed the Georgia Health Policy Center (GHPC) at Georgia State University's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies since 2001. Minyard connects the research, policy, and programmatic work of the center across issue areas including: community and public health, end of life care, child health, health philanthropy, public and private health coverage, and the uninsured. Prior to assuming her current role, she directed the networks for rural health program at the GHPC. She has experience with the state Medicaid program, both with the design of a reformed Medicaid program and the external evaluation of the primary care case management program. She also has 13 years of experience in nursing and hospital administration.

She is an advocate for the importance of community in national, state, and local policy and the power of communities to improve health. Dr. Minyard maintains her connection with communities by working directly with local health collaboratives and serving on the boards of the National Network of Public Health Institutes, Physicians' Innovation Network, and Communities Joined in Action.

Her research interests include: financing and evaluation of health-related social policy programs; strategic alignment of public and private health policy on all levels; the role of local health initiatives in access and health improvement; the role of targeted external facilitation and technical assistance in improving the sustainability, efficiency, and programmatic effectiveness of non-profit health collaboratives; and public health systems and financing. She frequently makes presentations and acts as a neutral convener and facilitator for groups and organizations. She often provides testimony for the state legislature and recently presented to congressional and executive agency staff at the National Health Policy Forum.

Currently, she is spearheading a team of faculty and staff at Georgia State University dedicated to translating national health care reform.

Karen received a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Virginia, a master's degree in nursing from the Medical College of Georgia, and a doctoral degree in business administration with a major in strategic management and minor in health care financing from Georgia State University.

Carole Miserendino, DrPH, RN, FACHE

Carole is a dynamic, results oriented clinical operations executive with more than 30 years' experience in Nursing and patient centered care, patient care quality and safety, clinical operations improvement, clinical informatics, LEAN process improvement, and leadership development. She is a flexible and resilient change agent who sets measurable goals, establishes infrastructure, and holds team accountable to achieve solid outcomes. Her relevant skills mastered:

- Ability to evaluate complex situations and develop relevant strategies to address the complex challenges of a situation
- Confidently able to use data to drive towards relevant solutions.
- Innate ability to identify talented individuals who have a solid track record for accountability and success.

Thrives in matrix reporting structures

Lucy Marion, PhD – Dean, College of Nursing

Lucy Marion, PhD, RN, FAAN, FAANP is Dean, Professor, and Kellett Endowed Chair of Nursing at the Augusta University (AU) College of Nursing. She was the Associate Dean of Academic Nursing Practice and Department Head at UIC. A Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) and American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, USPHS Primary Health Care Policy Fellowship, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Executive Nurse Fellowship, she received awards for promoting and integrating nursing education, NIH-funded research, and practice. Her AAN Edge-Runner and HRSA-funded project, UIC Center for Integrated Health Care, continues to integrate primary and mental health care for people with serious mental illness. She has led national and state health policy nursing workforce initiatives. She received her BSN and MN in Health Nursing with minor in Maternity Nursing from USC and PhD in Nursing Science from UIC.

At AU, she champions innovations in nursing education and nursing faculty practice/community service and helped to found and continues to support the safety-net Greater Augusta HealthCare Network to expand primary care for vulnerable people. Under her leadership, the College of Nursing Academic Nursing Practice has grown to provide faculty with clinical opportunities and additional funds to support other missions. As a family nurse practitioner, she cared for people at highest risk due to poverty, homelessness, mental and other illnesses, and abuse, and she incorporated research and teaching into these practices. She works with the AU academic health center leadership to advance nursing practice and interprofessional transitional and continuity of care initiatives, and serves on the AU Health board and the AU

Medical Center Business Development Committee. Dr. Marion serves as a member of the Care Transformation Board of the Presence Healthcare System in Chicago, IL.

Lori Anderson, PhD – Associate Dean, Augusta University College of Nursing

Lori Anderson, PhD, RN is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor of Nursing at the Georgia Regents University, College of Nursing. She has over twenty-five years of acute and critical care nursing experience in various roles ranging from staff to administration and academia. She has been faculty at the College of Nursing since 2000 and has served as faculty and department chair. She holds a doctorate in nursing from Duquesne University. She received her Master of Science degree in nursing from the University of Minnesota and her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Creighton University.

Anderson has utilized simulation since 2000 and led the initiative for the establishment of the Interdisciplinary Simulation Center for the Georgia Regents University campuses. Her research interests include investigating the utilization of simulation in academia and in the healthcare setting, critical thinking and clinical decision-making, and learning outcomes. Anderson has published in the area of clinical simulation. In addition, she serves as a simulation consultant and is on the editorial board for the multidisciplinary journal *Simulation in Healthcare*.

Currently, Anderson serves as a member of the Health Safety and Quality Improvement Research study section of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). This study section reviews applications relating to: improving patient safety and quality of care; medical simulation; identifying risks and hazards that lead to medical errors; the scope and impact of medical errors on cost, quality, efficiency and effectiveness of health care; reducing medical error; quality improvement; and medical liability research.

Bill Hamilton MBA/MHA - Assistant Dean, Administration, Augusta University College of Nursing
College of Nursing

Bill Hamilton is the Assistant Dean for Administration and an Assistant Professor of Physiological and Technological Nursing in the Augusta University College of Nursing. Additionally, Bill holds Assistant Professor positions in the Department of Neurology at the Medical College of Georgia and in the Hull College of Business, both at Augusta University. His teaching experience includes instruction at the graduate and undergraduate level in health care management, health care information technology, marketing research, management, and economics.

Bill has over 25 years of experience in Healthcare Administration, previously holding positions at Aiken Regional Medical Centers, Augusta University Health, and Trinity Hospital of Augusta. As an entrepreneur, Bill was a founder and executive at REACH Health, Inc., a tele stroke, health information technology company services over 150 health facilities in the United States.

Bill holds an undergraduate degree in history from Emory University. He completed his graduate work at Georgia State University, where he received a Master's in Business Administration and a Masters in Healthcare Administration.

He is an Advisory Board Fellow, member of the American Academy of Healthcare Executives, an Eagle Scout, advisory board member of the Institute of Health Administration at Georgia State University, and past president of the Augusta West Rotary Club.

Marguerite Murphy, DNP – Associate Professor, Augusta University College of Nursing DNP Acute Care Program Director

Marguerite Murphy, DNP, RN is the Director of DNP Program-Acute Care and Associate Professor in the College of Nursing and The Graduate School, and Fuller E. Calloway Endowed Chair. Murphy has nearly 30 years' experience in undergraduate and graduate nursing education. As Director of the DNP Program, she has served as mentor and advisor to students in the DNP program as they work on DNP projects, which required modeling and advising students in developing, implementing and evaluating appropriate evidence based educational programs in a variety of health care settings.

Beth Nesmith, PhD – Chair, Physiological and Technological Nursing

Dr. NeSmith is Chair of the Department of Physiological and Technological Nursing, which houses the DNP Executive Program. She is an Associate Professor in the College of Nursing with adjunct status in the AU Graduate School. Dr. NeSmith has more than 30 years of experience in trauma, emergency, and disaster nursing, with nursing leadership roles in these areas at the local, regional, and national levels.

Having obtained her Doctor of Philosophy degree with a focus on translational and interdisciplinary research, Dr. NeSmith's federally-funded grants have focused on the effects of lifetime chronic stress on the inflammatory response and how it impacts healing and vulnerability to complications following acute life-threatening injury. Dr. NeSmith's research will lead to advances in tailoring individual treatments to prevent and improve acute outcomes of trauma.

Dr. NeSmith is also very active at the state and national levels as an advocate nursing research and faculty development. She was recently awarded more than \$399K from the University System of Georgia to launch a research-based, interdisciplinary nursing faculty expansion program. In collaboration with her research team, Dr. NeSmith has multiple trauma-related publications and nationally-presented abstracts, and co-founded the Trauma Interdisciplinary Group for Research (TIGR). Together with her TIGR co-founder, Dr. Regina Medeiros, Dr. NeSmith developed and authored publications and national presentations which focus on the implementation of their PhD/DNP Operational Collaborative (P-DOC) Model of clinical and research collaboration among doctorally-prepared nurses.

Mark Thompson, PhD – Associate Dean, Hull College of Business

Mark A. Thompson is the Associate Dean and Professor of the Hull College of Business at Augusta University. He earned his PhD. in economics from Texas Tech and has published extensively in the areas of business conditions, risk analysis, energy, and the healthcare industry.

Mark has previously held administrative and faculty positions at Texas Tech University, Augusta State University, and Stephen F. Austin State University.

Mark has also served as the State Economic Forecaster for Arkansas, where he provided economic and policy analysis to various state and local agencies.

Stephen Gilliam, PhD – Interim Assistant Dean, Augusta University College of Nursing - Athens