Utica College Faculty | Health Care Administration

Health Care Administration Faculty

Dana Brooks Hart
Director of M.S. in Health Care Administration

A dynamic educator in the Health Care industry, Dr. Hart has provided exceptional leadership and guidance to professional and aspiring professionals in corporate and academic settings. His commitment to research and applications to best practice offers a unique value proposition that both academic students and health care practitioners have honored.

Based on a 25 year foundation of ongoing research and teachings, Dr. Hart has blended an avocation in behavioral sciences and a vocation in organizational development to effect positive change. As a systems thinker, he is able to guide individuals and their organizations in creating future states that are both compelling to the stakeholders and caring to the clients served.

Dr. Hart is Director of the Leadership Institute, which is relocating under his leadership from Syracuse University to UC. Founded in 2001, the Institute has evolved to a regional coalition builder in linking business, education, and economic development organizations in a systems approach to community development.

Dr. Gail Young
Assistant Professor
M.S. in Health Care Administration

Prior to joining the Utica College faculty in 2011, Dr. Gail Young worked as a Health Services Administration Coordinator at Keiser University, an adjunct instructor at Kaplan University, a substance abuse counselor in Fairfax, Virginia and as a social services counselor for the Department of Corrections in Doral, Florida. She earned a BS in Psychology and a BA in Spanish at Howard University, an MA in Psychology in Education at Columbia University Teachers College, and a PhD in Health Behavior at the University of Florida. Her areas of research interest include women’s health, diabetes self-care practices, chronic illnesses, minority health and underserved populations. Her doctoral dissertation focused on self-care in African-American women with type 2 diabetes.

Dr. Young is a member of the American Public Health Association (APHA), Eta Sigma Gamma National Health Education Honorary, the Sigma Beta Delta International Honor Society for Business Management and Administration, and the Golden Key National Honor Society.
Dr. Thomas Curnow
Adjunct Lecturer

Dr. Thomas Curnow has extensive experience in the developmental disabilities and mental health field at the administrative leadership level. He has held leadership positions in residential services, community-based services, quality development and corporate compliance. Most currently he is the Senior Vice President for Human Resources at Upstate Cerebral Palsy in Utica, NY. Dr. Curnow was awarded a Doctoral degree in 1990 from Syracuse University in Rehabilitation Counseling Administration through the School of Education.

Dr. Curnow has been teaching as an adjunct faculty member since 1992. As an adjunct faculty member at Mohawk Valley Community College he taught courses in Behavior Modification, Research Methods in Psychology, and Case Management in Human Services. Dr. Curnow is currently an adjunct faculty member since 2009 for the Utica College Health Care Administration graduate program. His teaching responsibilities include, Human Resources Management, Quality Management and Performance Improvement in Healthcare, Advanced Seminar in Project Management, and Master's Capstone Project.

Dr. Curnow's professional volunteer experience includes serving as a Senior Reviewer for the Empire State Advantage: Excellence at Work program from 1997 – 2007. The Empire State Advantage Program was a Malcolm Baldrige type program to assess and support excellence and quality across the not-for-profit, health care, education, government and business sectors.

Dr. Curnow also provides consultation services focused on leadership development, strategic planning, and organization mission/values. Dr. Curnow has worked with the SUNY Institute of Technology, School of Arts & Sciences, Mohawk Valley Psychiatric Center, Central New York Psychiatric Center, and the Oneida County Executive's Office.

Dr. Curnow is also a frequent presenter at conferences for the Cerebral Palsy Association of NYS. Examples of presentation topics include Understanding Data for Performance Improvement, Perspectives on Excellence, Strategies for Implementing a Leadership Development Process, Strategic Planning for Non-profits and Leading for Quality.

Sarah Burnett-Wolle PhD CTRS
Chair of Gerontology, Psychology/Child Life, & Therapeutic Recreation
Adjunct Lecturer

Sarah Burnett-Wolle PhD CTRS (pronounced Burnett-Wally), is an effective and caring educator who has over 6 years of full-time teaching experience. In addition to an appointment as Assistant Professor of Therapeutic Recreation, she is the Chair of the Aging Studies, Therapeutic Recreation, and Psychology/Child Life programs at Utica College. Sarah completed her PhD in Recreation, Parks and Tourism Management and a minor in Gerontology at Penn State. While there, she was awarded a prestigious 3-year pre-doctoral fellowship from the National Institute on Aging. Her M.S. in Recreation and Leisure Studies is from SUNY Cortland and her B.A. in Psychology is from SUNY Purchase. Sarah's research focuses on the use of theory to guide program planning and social relationships of residents in senior housing. Interests these subjects emerged from four years of clinical work in nursing homes and hospitals as well as three years of full-time work researching senior housing. Her publications have gained national and international notoriety.
Nancy Hollins, Ph.D., O.T.R./L.
Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy
Health Care Administration, Gerontology
Adjunct Lecturer

Nancy Hollins has 25 years of experience at Utica College having started as a full-time faculty member in the fall of 1987. During this time, she has spent most of her time teaching occupational therapy and health studies students. For the past 5 years, she has also taught for the Health Care Administration and Gerontology programs. Nancy holds a Ph.D. in Instructional Design, 2012 and M.S. in Instructional Design, 1986, both from Syracuse University, and a B.S. in Occupational Therapy, 1973 from the University of Minnesota.

Her research interests focus on issues of accessibility for individuals with disability, particularly accessibility of electronic resources (web, phone, and computer) and her health care experience spans all age ranges and settings. For instance, she has worked as a therapist in intensive care nurseries in acute care hospitals and in hospice with community agencies. Much of her healthcare experience has been with elderly individuals in hospitals, rehabilitation centers, residential settings, as well as home health. This experience combined with her doctoral education has contributed to her ability to translate research methods into the healthcare environment, necessary for teaching the HCA654: Clinical Research course.