POLDI TSCHIRCH, PhD, RN, BC

DEAN AND PROFESSOR

The University of St. Thomas School of Nursing
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EDUCATION

Year	Institution – City, State	Degree/Major
1992	University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Galveston, TX	PhD – Medical Humanities
1983	UTMB School of Nursing Galveston, TX	MSN – Nursing/Adult Health
1974	Salve Regina College Newport, RI	BSN – Nursing/Cum Laude

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

1978 - Present	Texas RN License	Expires – 11/2014
02/09 – 06/14	Board Certified in Nursing Informatics by the American Nurses Credentialing Center	Expires – 06/2014

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Year	Institution	Position/Title
01/26/12 – Present	The University of St. Thomas School of Nursing Houston, TX	Dean and Professor
07/15/09 – 01/26/12	The University of St. Thomas Houston, TX	Associate Professor and Director for Nursing Program Development

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (cont'd)

10/05/2005 – 05/20/2009	UTMB Hospitals and Clinics Nursing Department Galveston, TX	Director for Nursing Informatics
09/01/02 – 10/04/05	UTMB Telehealth Center Galveston, TX	Director for Distance Education
09/01/02 – 08/31/07	UTMB School of Nursing Galveston, TX	Assistant Professor of Nursing (Adjunct)
04/01/02 – 08/31/02	UTMB School of Nursing Galveston, TX	Interim Associate Dean for Academic Administration
08/21/95 – 08/31/02	UTMB School of Nursing Galveston, TX	Baccalaureate Program Director
1987 – 2002	UTMB School of Nursing Galveston, TX	Assistant Professor
1984 – 1987	UTMB School of Nursing Galveston, TX	Instructor

HONORS AND AWARDS

2011	Texas Nurses Association District 9 President's Award
2004	United States Distance Learning Award for Health Care and Telemedicine Category, Excellence in Distance Education Programming
2004	Selected to participate in the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Senior Fellowship for Universities and Health Related Institutions, Austin, TX – May 19-22, 2004
2003	Texas Interactive Media Award, presented by the Austin Area Multimedia Alliance for the Web-based continuing education course, *Telehealth 101: Basic Principles of Telehealth* – March 9, 2003
05/2002	Faculty Excellence Award, UTMB School of Nursing
2001	President's Award, Texas Nurses Association
2000	Recipient of the UTMB School of Nursing Staff Assembly Faculty Recognition Award
03/1997	Inducted into the UTMB School of Nursing Alumni Association Hall of Fame
05/1993	Recipient of the Alpha Delta Chapter Excellence in Nursing Education Award

HONORS AND AWARDS (cont'd)

05/1993, 1990	Recipient of the UTMB School of Nursing Achievement in Media Award
05/1989	Faculty Excellence Award, Awarded by Faculty of the UTMB School of Nursing at Galveston
12/1989	Recipient of Sigma Theta Tau Media Award for Region 3,, Electronic Nursing Media for the videotape "A Century of Excellence, A Vision for the Future: A History of the University of Texas School of Nursing at Galveston"
05/1984	Recipient of the James E. Beall Memorial Student Address Award, Sponsored by the UTMB, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES

Grants and Contracts

Tschirch, P. (2011). Clinical Education for Nurses: A Partnership between the University of St. Thomas and Harris County Hospital District. The Baxter Trust. Funded: 4/28/11 – 4/28/12. Budget: $75,000.00.

Tschirch, P. (2010). "Building Enrollment with a New School of Nursing." US Department of Education Title V Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions grant. Funded: 10/1/10 – 9/30/15, Budget: $3,249,760.

Tschirch, P. (2005). Creating a National Telehealth Nursing Research Agenda. Agency for Health Research and Quality Small Conference Grant. Funded: 7/1/06 Budget: $24,925.

Tschirch, P. (2004). Educational Datacasting: A Tool to Enhance Health Literacy and Educational Outcomes at Rosenberg Elementary School. Health Education Centers Alliance of Texas Grant. Funded: 6/1-9/29/04, Budget: $10,335.

Tschirch, P. (2003). Datacasting for Dissemination of Health Information. National Library of Medicine Information System Grant. Budget: $300,000. Not funded.

Tschirch, P., & Waters, P. (2003). "Creating a Virtual School Health Community." UTMB Presidents Cabinet Award. Funded: 9/1/03 – 9/1/04 Budget: $37,900.

Tschirch, P. (2003). East Texas Community Telehealth Network.. Office for the Advancement of Telehealth, Telehealth Network Program Grant. Budget: $750,000. Approved but not funded.

Marcott, R., & **Tschirch, P.** (2001). Having Opportunities, Producing Excellence (HOPE) Program. Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Nursing Innovation Grant Program, 12/20/01 – 8/31/02, $219,402.00.

Rains, A. P., & **Tschirch, P.** (2000). Nursing Education: An Assessment of Educational System Capacity to Meet Nurse Workforce Demand. Texas Nurses Foundation (TNF)/Center for Health Economics and Policy (CHEP) Nurse Workforce Data System Initiative. Texas Nurses Foundation grant, 6/5/00 – 12/15/00, Budget $7,600.

Grants and Contracts (cont'd)

Tschirch, P. "RN-BSN Distance Education for Nurses in Rural Texas," HRSA Basic Nursing Education and Practice Grant, 9/1/99-8/31/04, $1,000,000, Approved but not funded.

"Pilot Project: Development of an Inter-School (Allied Health, Medicine & Nursing) Small-Group, Problem-Based Curriculum that Promotes Utilization of Essential Competencies for Interdisciplinary Health Care Delivery," with S. Richmond and A. Payer, 1998, Not funded.

Tschirch, P. "Images of Nurses on Television: CHINA BEACH," Texas Committee for the Humanities, Conference Planning Grant, Funded 1/94-6/94, Budget: $5,475.

"Production of a Commemorative History Publication for the University of Texas Medical Branch School of Nursing, 1890-1990," The Moody Foundation, 1/90-1/91, Budget: $16,000.

Completed an exhibit about Dr. Edward Randall, Sr., at the request of the UTMB Hospitals Centennial Committee, which opened at Moody Medical Library, on November 30, 1990, Budget: $2,800.

"Women"s Work, Nurses" Work: One Hundred Years of Caring," an exhibit on the history of UT-Galveston School of Nursing, Texas Committee for the Humanities, Funded 6/89-12/89, Budget: $4,574.

Doctoral Dissertation

Tschirch, P. (1992). *The caring tradition: Nursing ethics in the United States, 1890 - 1915*. (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). UTMB, Galveston, TX.

Publications

National/International Refereed Journals

Tschirch, P., & Kritek, P. B. (2007). A national telehealth nursing research agenda. *Journal of Telehealth and Telecare*, *13*, 157-158.

Sorrells-Jones J., **Tschirch P.**, & Liong, M. A. (October, 2006). Nursing and telehealth: Opportunities for nurse leaders to shape the future. *Nurse Leader, 4*(5*),* 42-46, 58.

Tschirch P., Walker G., & Calvacca, L. T. (May, 2006). Nursing in tele-mental health. *Journal of Psychosocial Nursing and Mental Health Services, 44*(5), 20-27, 44-45.

Lehna, C., **Tschirch, P.,** Lenahan, K., Thorne, C., & Scott, J. (July 2004). From meeting room to telecommunication studio. *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, *20*(1), 60-62.

Tholcken, M., Clark, M., & **Tschirch, P.** (January, 2004). Case management in the undergraduate curriculum. *Journal of Nursing Education, 43*(1), 1-4.

Tschirch, P. (1997). Lessons from history: Nursing in times of crisis and challenge. *The UTMB Pulse, 4*(1), 1.

Tschirch, P. (1990). Civil War nurses [Review essay of *To bind up the wounds: Catholic sister nurses in the U.S. Civil War* by Sr. Mary Denis Maher]. *Medical Humanities Review, 4*(2), 81-84.

Publications (cont'd)

National/International Refereed Journals (cont'd)

(1990). The University of Texas School of Nursing at Galveston: 1890-1990. *Bulletin of the American Association for the History of Nursing,* 27, 3-5.

Tschirch, P. (1988). Zora McAnelly Fiedler: Pioneer for Texas nurses. *Alumni Newsletter, 1*(6), 12.

Tschirch, P. (1988). American nursing's plight [Review essay of *Ordered to care: The dilemma of American nursing, 1850-1945* by Susan M. Reverby]. *Medical Humanities Review, 2*(2).

Published Proceedings, Monographs, and Columns.

Creating a national telehealth nursing research agenda – an invitational conference funded by the Agency for Health Research and Quality. Conference proceedings. AHRQ R13-HS0115961-01.

Rains, A. P., & **Tschirch, P.** (2001). Nursing education: An assessment of educational system capacity to meet nurse workforce demand. Texas Nurses Foundation (TNF)/ Center for Health Economics and Policy (CHEP) Nurse Workforce Data System Initiative University of Texas Health Science Center: San Antonio.

Tschirch, P. (1997). Lessons from history: Nursing in times of crisis and challenge. *The UTMB Pulse, 4*(1), 1.

Tschirch, P. (1987-1988). The history of the John Sealy Hospital Training School for Nurses [Four-part series]. *The UTMB Alumni Newsletter, 1*(1-4).

Book Chapters

Clark, M. C., & **Tschirch, P.** (1998). Community-based care. In J. M. Leahy & P. E. Kezilay (Eds.), *Foundations of nursing practice: A nursing process approach* (pp. 1214-1233). Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders.

Tschirch, P. (1997). Nightingale on healing. In P. Kritek (Ed.), *Reflections on healing: A central nursing construct* (pp. 43-55). New York: National League for Nursing Press.

Tschirch, P., & Crowder, E. (1996). Nursing. In C. Burns (Ed.), *The new handbook of Texas* (Vol. 4, pp. 1079-1082). Austin: The Texas State Historical Association.

McKay, B., Schwab, N., & **Tschirch, P.** (1990). Sensory deprivation, sensory overload, and sleep disorders. In P. Beare & J. Myers (Eds.), *Principles and practice of adult health nursing* (pp. 385-397). St. Louis: C.V. Mosby.

Academic Presentations (peer reviewed and invited)

Tschirch, P., Land, S., From, A., & Thompson, J. Innovations in Clinical Learning: Introducing Perioperative Nursing as a Foundation for Clinical Practice. Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses, 60th Annual AORN Congress, San Diego, CA, March 6, 2013.

Academic Presentations (peer reviewed and invited)(cont'd)

Tschirch, P. Panelist, Teaching Online, Center for Faculty Excellence *Let's Talk Teaching* Series University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX, February 14, 2013.

Tschirch, P. Nightingale on Healing. National Nurses Week. Harris County Hospital District, Houston, TX, May 11, 2011.

Tschirch, P. Florence Nightingale: Mystic, Visionary, Healer. 3rd Annual Zambosco-Thomas Colloquium: "In Dialogue with St. Catherine of Siena and Florence Nightingale." University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX, February 21, 2011.

Tschirch, P. Building a Federal Health Board: Impact on Texas. Guest Panelist. Texas Health Institute Forum, Houston, TX, July 22, 2009.

Tschirch, P. Implementing a Clinical Documentation Project Plan: Mid-Point Evaluation. Epic Users Group Meeting, Madison, WI, September 19, 2007.

Hilt, T., & **Tschirch, P.** Evaluation of an Epic Rx and eMAR Implementation. Epic Users Group Meeting, Madison, WI, September 18, 2007.

Tschirch, P. Leading the Change Management Message. Epic Nursing Advisory Council, Madison, WI, March 20, 2007.

Tschirch, P., & Hilt, T. Implementing the Change Process: A Clinical Documentation Project Plan. Epic Users Group Meeting, Madison, WI, September 20, 2006.

Tschirch, P. Creating a National Telehealth Nursing Research Agenda. 2006 American Telemedicine Association Conference, San Diego, CA, April 10, 2006.

Tschirch, P., & Bulik, R. "Video-Datacasting: An Emerging Educational Technology," 21st Annual Distance Learning Conference, Madison, WI, August 4, 2004.

Tschirch, P. "Using the Internet to Provide Expert Clinical Consultation," American Telemedicine Association 2005 Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, April 17, 2005.

Tschirch, P. "Addressing Key Challenges in Rural School Nursing Practice: A Partnership Model," Arkansas State Nurses Association Annual Convention, Hot Springs, AR, October 14, 2004.

Tschirch, P. "Nursing and Telehealth: Creating Opportunities for Clinical Leadership, with Dr. Jean Sorrells-Jones at the American Nurses Association Biennial Conference, June 25-30, 2004, Minneapolis.

Tschirch, P. "Creating a Model for Rural Telehealth Network Development" with Louise Whitson, Trauma Coordinator at Kimble Hospital, at the American Telemedicine Association Ninth Annual Meeting and Exposition, Tampa, FL, May 2-5, 2004.

Tschirch, P. "The Nurse Case Manager: A Key to Successful Telemedicine Programs" at the American Telemedicine Association Ninth Annual Meeting and Exposition, Tampa, FL, May 2-5, 2004.

Academic Presentations (peer reviewed and invited) (cont'd)

Tschirch, P. "Nursing and Telehealth: The Power of a Connected" Model of Patient Care Delivery", with Dr. **Jean Sorrells-Jones at the American Organization of Nurse Executives Annual Meeting a**nd Exposition – *Nursing Leadership: Rising on the Wings of Change*, Phoenix, AZ, April 16-21, 2004.

Tschirch, P. "Datacasting: A Powerful New Distance Learning Resource" with Deanna Collingwood, KERA, and Eleanor Latimer, The Digital Network, at the Texas Distance Learning Association Conference, April 1, 2004.

Tschirch, P. "A Distance Learning Partnership for Nursing Professional Development" with Jane Gonzalez, UTMB Nursing Services, at the Texas Distance Learning Association Conference, March 30, 2004.

Tschirch, P., & Gonzalez, J. (2003,September).*Reaching Out to Our Colleagues: The State of the Art in Distance Learning for Nursing Professional Development*, for the "Bridging the Gap from Research to Practice" series, UTMB Nursing Services, Galveston, TX.

Tschirch, P., & Gonzalez, J. (2003,September).*Reaching Out to Our Colleagues: The State of the Art in Distance Learning for Nursing Professional Development*, for the "Bridging the Gap from Research to Practice" series, UTMB Nursing Services, Galveston, TX.

Tschirch, P. (2003, August). *Addressing Key Challenges in Rural School Nursing: A Partnership Model*, Texas Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Austin, TX.

Walker, G., **Tschirch, P.**, & Moore, L. (August, 2003). *Effectiveness of a Tele-Mental Health Program with Victims of Violence*, Texas Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Austin, TX.

Tschirch, P., & Gonzalez, J. (July, 2003). *The Use of Interactive Video to share Educational Programming*, National Nursing Staff Development Organization Conference: Staff Development, Gateway to Excellence, Arlington, VA.

Tschirch, P., & Gonzalez, J. *The Use of Interactive Video to share Educational Programming*, Poster presentation, UTMB Nurses Week Poster Competition, May 2003. Second prize awarded.

Tschirch, P. (March, 2003). *Interactive Videoconferencing for Faculty Development*, Texas Distance Learning Association, Austin, TX.

Tschirch, P. (September, 2002). *Rural Telemedicine Applications*, Texas Rural Health Association Annual Conference, Lubbock, TX.

SERVICE

Community Service

2012 – Present Institute for Spirituality and Health
Board of Directors
Houston, TX

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

UTMB Undergraduate

1994 - 2002 Taught critical thinking, nursing history, nursing ethics in both generic and RN-BSN courses. Served as course team member for N4450 Nursing: Rehabilitation Home Health, N4702 Nursing: The Community for RN-BSN track, N3620 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Concepts and N3808 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Concepts for RNs. Developed and implemented N3808 as an interactive broadcast and a web-based course.

1994 – 2002 Taught critical thinking, nursing history, nursing ethics in both generic and RN-BSN courses. Served as course team member for N4450 Nursing: Rehabilitation Home Health, N4702 Nursing: The Community for RN-BSN track, N3620 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Concepts and N3808 Nursing: Introduction to Clinical Concepts for RNs. Developed and implemented N3808 as an interactive broadcast and a web-based course.

1984 – 1994 Baccalaureate Program: Teaching in Adult Health Baccalaureate Courses in Semester I and II, and Professional Role in Semester I and IV. Served as Lead Teacher for Level I Clinical Course, 1991 – 1994. Responsible for clinical supervision of groups of up to ten students in the adult acute care area, lecture, and evaluation of student learning in classroom and clinical settings Taught a Baccalaureate elective in Nursing History and the Advanced Clinical Concepts course in the Flexible Option RN-BSN Track.

Graduate

UTMB MSN Program

1994 - 2001 Course Coordinator, GNRS 5346 Public Policy in Nursing, taught in both classroom and interactive broadcast format. Guest Lectures on nursing ethics and historical research in nursing in master's program courses. Assisted with course conversion to web-based format.

UTMB PhD Program

2004 - 2007 Served on one doctoral dissertation committee, chaired one comprehensive qualifying exam committee, provided guest lectures

2000 - 2004 Doctoral Program courses
- GNRS 6213 Health Policy in Nursing: Implications for Healing
- GNRX 6000 329 Historical Inquiry in Nursing
- GNRX 6088 302 Distance Learning in Nursing
- GNRX 6088 304 Developing Community in Web-based Nursing Education.

1996 Summer Doctoral Program: Course Leader, MEHU 6308 Multidisciplinary Approaches to Health care Ethics and Jurisprudence, a multidisciplinary elective offered through the UTMB Institute for the Humanities to graduate students, medical students, and students in the University of Houston Law School Health Law program.

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

10/03/05 – 05/20/09 Director of Nursing Informatics, UTMB Hospitals and Clinics Nursing Department

Served as Nurse Champion for the enterprise-wide electronic medical record implementation. Provided leadership for development and oversight of nursing information systems. Led initiative to create effective nursing information management program for Inpatient Nursing Services including: current state assessment of information management in nursing, desired state description and gap analysis, development of a nursing minimum data set, a data dictionary and set specifications for a nursing management dashboard.

09/01/02 – 10/02/05 Director of Distance Education, UTMB Telehealth Center

Responsible for leading Center efforts to create and maintain distance education initiatives that met the needs of UTMB's academic progams and community partners. Facilitated programs in continuing education for health professionals and health education programs for patients and the public using distance methods, including video-teleconference and online learning modalities. Participated in telemedicine clinics as nurse presenter at the emote clinic site, providing ambulatory nursing services for clients in the Telehealth Center indigent care programs for Brazoria and Liberty counties.

1988 – 1993 Faculty Practice – Educational Consultant to UTMB Nursing Services (10% time)

Provided educational consultation to clinical educators and Nursing Staff Development Department for educational programs including: nurse preceptor development and mentoring, critical thinking workshops for nurse preceptors in Surgical Critical Care, assisted with competency-based orientation tool development for the Performance-based Development system.

1980 – 1984 Training Specialist III – PR Education Lab, UTMB Hospitals

Provided ACLS and BCLS training for all clinicians and health professions students.

1980 – 1984 Nurse Clinician, UTMB Surgical ICU and Surgical Intermediate Care (Per diem)

1979 – 1980 Nurse Manager, UTMB Dept. of Surgical Nursing, Neurosurgery

1978 – 1979 Training Specialist Surgical Nursing, UTMB Nursing Staff Development

1977 – 1978 Nurse Clinician
Neshaminy Manor (Long Term Care)
Doylestown, PA

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE (cont'd)

1974 – 1975	Nurse Clinician Warminster General Hospital Warminister, PA
07/74 – 11/74	Nurse Clinician Philadelphia VA Medical Center Philadelphia, PA

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

2007 - 2011	American Nurses Association Committee on Nursing Practice Information Infrastructure
1986 – 2006	Texas Nurses Association Vice-President, 2002–2004, 2004–2006 Council on Education Articulation Subcommittee, 1995–2001 Council on Education, Member, 1997–1998; Co-Chair, 1998-2001 Vice President, District 6, 1986-1988
1990 – 1995	American Association for Nursing History Long Range Planning Committee
1983 - 1994	Sigma Theta Tau, Alpha Delta Chapter Member Scholarship Committee, 1994 Chairman, Awards Committee, 03/83-9/86 Member, Executive Committee 1983-1984
1991 – 1996	UTMB School of Nursing Alumni Association President, 1991-1995 Past President, 1995-1996
1994 – 1995 2000 - 2002	UTMB Development Board

Regional and State Level Boards Committees, and Task Forces

2012 – Present	Institute for Spirituality and Health Board of Directors Houston, TX
2010 – Present	Chair, Texas Board of Nursing Deferred Discipline Pilot Advisory Committee
2007 – Present	Texas Board of Nursing Licensure, Eligibility, and Disciplinary Rules & Policies Task Force (Board Appointment) Chair, 2007–2010 Member, 2010-Present