

## Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing's Future – AACN Fall 2013 Minority Nurse Faculty Scholars



**Deidre Bales-Poirot, MSN, APRN-CPN, CPNP-PC**, is a fourth year PhD student at the University of Missouri-Columbia (UMC). She is a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and received both her MSN and BSN from UMC. Prior to pursuing her PhD, Ms. Bales-Poirot worked as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner caring for Native American children and adolescents in primary care settings for the Indian Health Service. Her research interests include Native American adolescents, adolescent motherhood and parenthood, and adolescent risk taking behaviors. Ms. Bales-Poirot is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and the Association of Faculties of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners. She is a NAPNAP Fellow and a Pediatric Nursing Certification

Board Item Writer. She is a member of both the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma and the Cherokee Nation.

**Hershaw Davis, Jr., MSN, RN**, is a first year PhD student at the University of Virginia. After receiving his BSN from the University of Maryland in 2009, he practiced emergency nursing at the Johns Hopkins Hospital Adult Emergency Department. In the emergency department, he served in various clinical leadership roles and precepted new staff members. He continued his education at the University of Virginia and obtained a MSN with an emphasis in Health Systems in 2012. Over the past year, he has served as an adjunct clinical instructor in an undergraduate medical/surgical course. His research interests are healthcare delivery and health disparities among vulnerable populations. His leadership activities include governmental affairs committees' chair of the Emergency Nurses Association and Maryland Emergency Nurses Association.



**Paule V. Joseph, MSN, RN, CRNP**, is a third year PhD student at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her BSN at the College of New Rochelle and an MSN as an Advance Practice Nurse at Pace University. Ms. Joseph has practiced nursing in the areas of Rehabilitation Medicine and Gastrointestinal Medicine and Surgery. She serves as co-chair for the metabolic special interest group of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics, and the student representative of the Latin American Affairs Section of The Obesity Society. Ms. Joseph's developing program of research is supported by interdisciplinary mentorship from nursing, nutrition, neuroscience, and genomics faculty. Her goal is to become an

educator and nurse scientist focused on improving the health of minority and underserved populations.

**Melody Norris Waller, MSN, RN**, is a second year PhD student at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC). She received her BSN from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and her MSN from the University of Memphis. Her nursing experience includes work in obstetrical nursing, women's health and maternal-fetal research, and undergraduate education. Ms. Waller is an instructor in the BSN/MSN program at UTHSC providing instruction in Reproductive Health, Medication Safety, Nursing Skills, and Simulation. Her most recent research has focused on investigating HIV/AIDS prevention for African American women. She is a proud member of Sigma Theta Tau and AWHONN, and also serves as a faculty mentor for the Nursing chapter of UTHSC's Black Student Association.



**Yenupini Joyce Tonlaar, BSN, RN**, is starting her second year of the BSN-PhD program at Michigan State University. She received her BSN from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI in 2012. Ms. Tonlaar has a passion for improving maternal health and promoting safe motherhood. Her research will focus on helping low-income women to have healthy pregnancies and deliveries both in the United States and internationally. Her goal is to develop a program of research that will deliver effective interventions to decrease maternal mortality and morbidity. By linking her research and teaching, she hopes to instill in

students the desire to grow professionally, and give back to their communities and the nursing profession. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and the Midwest Nursing Research Society.