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A New Rodeo Comes to Town

CEDARVILLE, OHIO – The Cedarville University School of Nursing will launch a research initiative to help its faculty intentionally focus on increasing scholarly endeavors while influencing their profession. The announcement will be communicated Friday, January 20, during a special Western-style faculty meeting called, “The Research Rodeo.”

Dr. Rachel Parrill, associate professor of nursing and coordinator of the global public health nursing Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) track, will be the new director of research. Her initial focus will be to motivate faculty members in the school of nursing to participate in scholarship activities.

Through the initiative, every faculty member will be part of a team based on research interests. Each team will set goals for publishing or presenting academic research by 2020. Parrill plans on instituting the team approach by designating team leaders, implementing bi-weekly meetings and offering training opportunities covering how to write effective scholarly pieces.

“This position is about providing some encouragement, structure and leadership for an expectation of scholarship that’s already there for Cedarville faculty,” said Parrill. “The school of nursing already has a strong reputation for educating quality nursing students, but we’d like to raise our awareness by being more involved in research and scholarly activities in the nursing profession.”

M.S.N. students will benefit from the initiative as they will have opportunities to collaborate in research projects with faculty. This will give the students additional experiences that will provide a higher level of expertise as they work in the profession.

“This initiative is a way we can help strengthen the graduate culture at Cedarville,” said Dr. Angelia Mickle, dean of the school of nursing. “It will also help us further establish an already-solid foundation for our undergrads in research.”

Parrill’s vision can be summed in three words: engage, collaborate and influence.

“I want to see the school of nursing faculty engaged in scholarship, building collaborative relationships across campus and using nursing as an influential ministry for Christ,” Parrill said.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 3,760 undergraduate, graduate, and online students in more than 100 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings, and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.