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**Research in Caring Science:
Measurement and Meaning**

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Purpose

- The purpose of this web based presentation is to engage in discussion and dialogue on research on caring science.
 - We posted a power point on the ABI Website
 - We distributed selected provocative articles
 - We updated references
 - And here we are...

- Caring Science, in the discipline of nursing, is the body of knowledge, arrived at through intentional research and theory development, focused on the relationship of caring to health, healing and well-being of the whole person within the context of the family, community, society and within the global environment (FAU, CON, 2016).

Thinking About Research

- The question guides the method
- The theoretical approach guides the method
- The hoped for outcomes guide the method:
 - Meaning
 - Understanding
 - Wisdom
 - Knowledge Generation and Utilization

Outcomes Assessment/Measurement

- Banta (1988)
 - “collecting evidence of (1) student performance on specified measures of development, (2) program strength and weakness, and (3) institutional effectiveness” (p. 1)
- Mayhew & Simmons (1990)
 - “ a process by which evidence for congruence between an institutions stated mission, goals and objectives, and the actual outcomes of its program and activities, is assembled and analyzed in order to improve teaching and learning” (p. 376)
- Boyer & Ewell (1998)
 - “the assessments of the results of undergraduate education” (p. 5)

Question: Can caring be measured?

**Caring is a soft phenomena (Watson,
2009, p. 4)**

Caring is viewed as
an ethical worldview
an ontology
an intentionality
a consciousness
a way of being

**Morse, Botorff, Neander, & Solberg
(1991)**

Caring :

A human trait

A moral imperative

An affect

An interpersonal interaction

A therapeutic intervention

Purpose in Measuring Caring

- Continuous improvement of caring via outcomes and interventions
 - Benchmarking of caring most beneficial (settings, environment)
 - Tracking of models of caring versus routine care practices
 - Evaluation of consequences of caring versus non-caring for patient and nurse
 - Creation of report of caring
 - Identification of weakness and strength for caring processes
 - Empirical validation of extant caring
 - Stimulation of new direction for curriculum and pedagogies
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- Watson, 2009, p. 7

Measurement of Caring

- Qualitative:
 - Ethno Nursing
 - Aesthetic Inquiry
 - Heideggerian Hermeneutics
 - Phenomenology
 - Content Analysis
 - Grounded Theory
 - Mixed Methods

Measurement of Caring: Quantitative

- CARE-Q by Larson, Larson, & Ferketich
 - Caring Behaviors Inventory by Wolf
 - Professional Caring Behaviors by Horner
 - Caring Ability Inventory by Nkongho
 - Caring Assessment Tools an CAT admin by Duffy
 - Peer Group Caring Interaction Scale by Hughes
 - Caring Efficacy Scale by Coates
 - Caring Professional Scale by Swanson
 - Relational Caring Questionnaire by Ray & Turkel
 - Caring Factor Survey by Nelson, Watson and InvaHealth
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