

Morton College Nursing Program Guidebook



MORTON COLLEGE
NURSING

Fall 2020

Dr. Stan Fields – College Administration

What is your position at Morton College? College President

How long you have been working at Morton? 4 Years

How does your role help students in the nursing program and the college in general? My role as President is to remove as many barriers for our college community to reach academic success. The Nursing program will continue to grow and my goal is to continue to provide the tools for our students to successfully complete our program.

What is your office location/contact info? 219B

What are three fun facts about you?

1. I have two amazing children, Ashton and Cole and a miniature greyhound dog name Jack.
2. I was a National Strength and Conditioning All American Athlete in 1986
3. I have an Affinity for living a healthy lifestyle

What advice do you have for new nursing students?

To take advantage of every opportunity that Morton College provides to further your education and career. Stand tall and proud of their career choice to dedicate your lives for the care and the wellness of your community. As a Morton College alumni always know that we are here to support you and offer assistance well after you graduate.



Dr. Keith McLaughlin – College Administration

What is your position at Morton College? Provost

How long you have been working at Morton? Ten years

How does your role help students in the nursing program and the college in general? As Provost, I serve as the chief academic and chief student services officer of the College. My role is to ensure that the nursing program and other academic programs at the College have all the necessary resources to support student success.

What is your office location/contact info? My office is located in the Administration area, Room 226B. I invite students to stop by my office at any time to share with me any issues or concerns they are facing as they navigate through the nursing program. I am here to help students succeed. My email is keith.mclaughlin@morton.edu



What are three fun facts about you? 1) I am pursuing a personal fitness goal of running/walking at least 12,000 steps every day for 365 consecutive days. I have completed 87 days so far. 2) I have been involved in mission work in a small mountain village in the central part of Haiti for over ten years. We have built houses, medical clinics, schools, orphanages and many other projects. 3) I come from a family of nurses. My grandmother and several of her sisters were nurses. My younger sister was a nurse and I have a cousin who is a nurse. I have great respect for people who work in this extraordinary profession.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Congratulations on choosing a career path that will be filled with amazing rewards and opportunities, but also challenges that will stretch you beyond what you may have thought you were capable of when you first entered the nursing program. You will have breakthrough moments and milestones that will be exhilarating as you progress through your program of study. At times, you may also feel overwhelmed, stressed-out and isolated. All these experiences, combined, will prepare you for an amazing future. It is important for you to stay close to and lean on your family, friends, fellow students, instructors and staff as you journey through the nursing program, not only for when times are tough, but also to celebrate your successes and accomplishments along the way. Finally, fully utilize the support services we have for our nursing students – tutoring, retention specialists, and, of course, the nursing faculty and staff. We are all working together to help you succeed.



Dr. Lydia Falbo – Health Sciences Administration

What is your position at Morton College? Dean of Nursing and Health Science

How long you have been working at Morton? 6 years as faculty and 3 years as Dean

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience?
Medical Surgical Nursing

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I

listen to what students needs are and I always do what is best for our students and program.

What is your office location/contact info? 302C

What are three fun facts about you? My husband is an RN/Paramedic. I have 2 children Lola and Giuseppe. I love to travel and my favorite TV show is *Law and Order SVU*.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Work hard and it will pay off when you graduate. Ask for help if you need it we are all here for you! We want you to be successful!



Dr. Alison Gehrke – Health Sciences Administration

What is your position at Morton College? Associate Dean of Health Sciences and Director of Physical Therapist Assistant Program

How long you have been working at Morton? 8 Months

What are your areas of clinical interest/experience? Physical therapy

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with?

I am here to provide students with the guidance and listening skills they need in order for them to succeed professionally and to do what is best for them and the program.

What is your office location/contact info? 302B

What are three fun facts about you? I have a large tight-knit Italian family and my favorite thing in the world is to spend time with them. I am engaged to be married this summer and will welcome in his tight-knit Irish family! My passion is in the Physical Therapy profession and education; I love to help others and learn new things. I love to travel, watch HGTV, and take Spin & Orange Theory classes.



Ms. Malisa Avila – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College? Faculty Instructor

How long have been working at Morton? I have been working at Morton College for two semesters.

What courses do you teach? The courses I teach include Mental Health Nursing, Foundations II (Nur 108), Foundations lab, and Med Surg Clinicals

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? My nursing interests include creating knowledge based learning information and helping disseminate the information to nursing students.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I listen attentively to each individual question and try to provide the most appropriate answer.

What is your office location/contact info? Office location 310 C. Due to remote learning virtual office hours are available via blackboard collaborate.

What are three fun facts about you? Three fun facts about me are I enjoy traveling, learning about cultural diversity, and spending my free time gardening and running.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Advice that I would give to a new nursing student would include having patience, asking questions, and thinking about why they have chosen to become a nurse. No question is a bad question. Asking questions and using critical thinking promotes safe patient care.



Ms. Alicia Cardona – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College?

Nursing Faculty

How long you have been working at Morton? I

have been at Morton for one year.

What courses do you teach? I teach med/surg and foundations, lecture, clinical, and lab, and whatever else I can help out with.

What are your areas of nursing

interest/experience? I have worked in tele, med/surg, stroke, step-down, long term care, and I currently work in the float pool at the VA.

What do you do to help students/what can

students come to you for help with? I try to be open, honest, caring, nonjudgmental, and understanding. We are all different and have different needs, including learning needs. I try to help each individual student in specific ways that meets their needs.

What is your office location/contact info? My office is in 331B and my extension is 2392

What are three fun facts about you? I am married and we have two children. I have a 60 lb. goldendoodle that thinks he is a person. I was an F100 jet engine mechanic in the Air Force.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Enjoy every moment. The bad is temporary and so is the good. If you are at school focus on school home will be there when you get there. If you are with family and friends enjoy it, your books will not grow legs while you are gone. If you are in clinical take advantage to learn and experience every skill you can, with your instructor's approval. You have to take care of yourself or you cannot care for anyone else. All of the nursing faculty has been where you are. We are here to support you, we all care and are invested in your future.



Ms. Lauren Caruso, MSN, RN, CNL – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College? Nursing Instructor

How long you have been working at Morton? 1 year

What courses do you teach? Fundamentals, Clinical Instructor for Med Surg

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? Medical/Surgical, Home Health

What is your office location/contact info? 331B

What are three fun facts about you? I have 3 kids, an orange tabby cat, and I like to go bike riding.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Work hard, manage your time, get a good support system, and don't give up!



Ms. Geana Chapp – Nursing Faculty

How long you have been working at Morton? 1 year

What courses do you teach? Foundations lecture and lab. Med-surg. clinical.

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? My background is Pediatrics and Home Health nursing for pediatrics and adults.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I've had the opportunity to help students with study habits, care plans and just being a listening ear. Feel free to come to me for anything, I'm happy to help!

What is your office location/contact info? My office is 314C, and my email is geanabelle.chapp@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you?

- 1- I have a tiny toy poodle that is a therapy dog and my home health patients love him!
- 2- I like vampire sitcoms and cooking shows.
- 3- My favorite movie is *Gone in 60 Seconds*.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Self-care is key, schedule time for fun. DON'T CHANGE YOUR ANSWER ON A TEST. Take your clinical rotation experience as if it was a job interview, who knows, they might be your future employer.



Mrs. Amy Green – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College? Full time Faculty, Faculty Representation of the Nursing Club, and Mentor.

How long you have been working at Morton? I began working at Morton College the Fall of 2017. I just completed my third fiscal year at Morton College.

What courses do you teach? Nursing of the Childbearing Family (OB), Foundations Lab instructor, and I teach BLS courses.

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? I have worked on multi service units before, caring for a variety of patients, but my home is the Labor and Delivery unit. I have Post-Partum, Perioperative, Operative, and Post-Operative experience. I'm currently in the Navy Reserves and work as a Maternal Newborn and Child RN.



What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I can listen to the students questions and concerns, help the best I possibly can. If I am not able to help I will find someone who can.

What is your office location/contact info? 329B, my office hours change per semester. My email is amy.green@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about? I'm pretty boring, if I had to list something it would be; I just completed my 10th year in the Navy Reserves and promoted to a LCDR, I am a Grandmother of 8 total grandchildren, and I need a hobby that will get me out of the house.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Understand that Nursing school is not easy for a reason, not everyone is cut out to be a Nurse. Accept the fact that you will not have a social life during school, but understand that it will be worth it. Read all the material prior to class and notate what you instructor stresses for you to know, no one can every know everything it is a material of critically thinking using what you do know, remember and retain. Stay calm and together we will make it through.



Ms. Julianne Herrmann, MSN, RN – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College? Full time nursing faculty

How long you have been working at Morton? 9 years

What courses do you teach? Med/Surg primarily, Funds Labs from time to time

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience?
Adult health and community, med/surg general float, Stroke/Neuro, Infectious disease and palliative/hospice experience

What is your office location/contact info?

Email: julianne.herrmann@morton.edu

Office 332B Ext. 2361



What are three fun facts about you?

1. Family: 2 Kiddos (Claudia 4, Christopher 1), Husband is a Fire Fighter
2. I devour anything fantasy (books/movies/shows)
3. I love to crochet for fun and have an Etsy shop!

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Take it day by day! You made it into this program because we believed you could do it. Therefore, with patience, practice and perseverance you will reach your goal to become a nurse. Your instructors are always here to support you. Only your achievements can reflect whether we have done our job successfully. You GOT this!



Dr. Toula Kelikian – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College? Nursing Instructor

How long you have been working at Morton? 15 years

What courses do you teach? Nursing Foundations, Pediatrics, Clinical Judgement

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? Pediatrics, Community Health

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I try to develop an authentic relationship with each student. This allows me to coach students holistically since I have a better understanding of their strengths and challenges.

What are three fun facts about you? I like rollerblading, boxing, and house music!

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Every time you enter your patient's space, from your first clinical until your last day practicing as an RN, LOOK into your patient's eyes. The eyes will let you know what your patient's present mindset is and will guide your clinical judgement in what to do for them!!!



Ms. Chrissy Kubelka – Nursing Faculty

How long you have been working at Morton? This will be my first year teaching at Morton

What courses do you teach? Maybe Funds or Medsurg

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? I have dabbled in Peds as a school nurse; for 2 years prior to that I have 3 years in home health specializing in wound care and ortho post surgical. I have spent the last 5 years mastering the OB arena mainly concentrating on Labor and Delivery and mother baby. I have spent the past year teaching OB clinicals.

What are three fun facts about you? I am a 3rd generation nurse Prior to being a nurse, I aspired to owning a food truck with my best friends.

Hobbies include yoga, reading a good James Patterson book or binge watching dramatic TV series. I have attempted crocheting, but have failed miserably

What advice do you have for new nursing students? My best advice is to enjoy the next two years. They will be the most exciting, stressful and eye opening experience that you'll ever be exposed to. It will test you on all levels. This journey will open a world of opportunities for you that will leave you feeling fulfilled. Also get sleep now! There will be long nights of studying and note taking.



Ms. Katherine Skurski, DNPc, APRN, MSN, FNP-BC, RN – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College?

Nursing Instructor

How long you have been working at Morton?

2 years

What courses do you teach?

Adult Health and Clinical Judgement in Nursing

What are your areas of nursing

interest/experience? Nursing Experience:

Med/Surg, Cardiac/Telemetry, and Oncology

APRN Experience: Family Practice, Addiction,
Women's Health, and Peds

What is your office location/contact info?

Office Location: 332B

Office Phone: 708-656-8000 ext. 1361

Email Address: Katherine.Skurski@morton.edu



What are three fun facts about you? I am fluent

in Polish. I have two little boys that keep me busy. I

taught middle school Math before switching careers and pursuing nursing.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? “Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all LOVE of what you are doing.”



Ms. Meredith Watkins, MSN, RN, CEN – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College? Nursing faculty

How long you have been working at Morton? This is my first year as a full-time instructor, I've taught part-time since 2016

What courses do you teach? I know I'm teaching fundamentals, but not sure if there is anything else.

What are your areas of nursing interest/ experience?
I've been an ER nurse for 12 years and a Forensic nurse for 4 years. I've been an ER nurse educator at a local hospital for the past 8 years and have helped train over 50 new grads to be ER nurses!

What are three fun facts about you?

- My husband and I both graduated from the Morton College nursing program.
- I have 2 kids, an 80lb. goldendoodle (who thinks he's a lap dog), and 3 guinea pigs.
- I love to cook and to garden.
- I can say the alphabet backwards.



What advice do you have for new nursing students? As a Morton College Nursing alum, I know the amount of work and sacrifice it takes to get through this program. Keep focused and be "all in" with your studies. This means saying "no" to a lot of other things. But it's only temporary. Keep focused on your end goal. It will be worth it!



Ms. Cynthia Young – Nursing Faculty

What is your position at Morton College?

Simulation Coordinator

How long you have been working at Morton?

Since 2014

What courses do you teach? Simulation, Clinical Faculty for Funds, Med/Surg

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? Telemetry, Medical/Cardiac ICU, Pre-op/Post-Op Recovery

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I try to build up a student's confidence through hands-on training.

What is your office location/contact info?

Office is in the Simulation Lab 3rd floor

Email: cynthia.young@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you? I have 2 dogs I rescued, Keekee a boxer and Chester, an English bulldog. I love making recipes found on YouTube videos. Favorite show is the Handmaid's Tale on Hulu.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Practice, practice, and practice again to build up your confidence. Never be afraid to ask questions. You are appreciated more than you think or have been told.



Ms. Irene Mulvey – CNA Faculty

What is your position at Morton College?

Coordinator, Instructor and Chair for the basic nursing assistant training program (BNATP)

How long you have been working at Morton?

I started in Jan 2018.

What courses do you teach? I teach NUR-105 courses for theory, lab, and clinical.

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? My interest and work experiences are in the fields of psychiatry, substance use disorders, and crisis intervention.



What is your office location/contact info? 310C
irene.mulvey@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you? I am a first generation American and college graduate in my family! I love to be involved in physical activities such as marathon races, biking and rock climbing. My hobbies are cooking and gardening.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? As Yoda says, "Do or do not. There is no try." Do not *try* to be a good student and a good nurse, make the decision to BE one! You will be amazing!



Mr. Francisco Hernandez – Nursing Staff

What is your position at Morton College? I am the nursing tutor and a clinical instructor.

How long you have been working at Morton? I have been at Morton since April 2018.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I help students with nursing topics they don't understand. Sometimes students don't know what they need help in and feel lost, so I point them in the right direction. I also help students plan and prepare for the NCLEX after they graduate.



What is your office location/contact info? My office is on the third floor next to the elevator, room 321B. My email is francisco.hernandez@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you? My wife and I have been together for 8 years, we have one little guy who is 2 years old. In my spare time I binge watch Netflix and play the guitar. I still have homework since I'm still in school for my MSN program.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? I know and understand the struggle you will go through in nursing school, it was hard for me, it will be hard for you, never give up, my instructors told me I wouldn't make it to college, that I wasn't cut out for nursing, and I proved them wrong, if this is what you want then never give up.



Mrs. Nancy Jeffries – Nursing Staff

What is your position at Morton College?
Administrative Assistant

How long you have been working at Morton? 6 years

What courses do you teach?
I'm not a Nursing instructor but I do teach the CPR class here on campus.

What are your areas of nursing interest/experience? I love helping to take care of my family. I worked in the hospital for 5 years as a Dietitian Assistant, I have done home healthcare, and PA.



What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? Students can come and see me about any and everything. If I don't have the answer, I can definitely direct them in the right direction. I can assist students with ExamSoft, Uworld, Kaplan, Pinning Ceremony, Honor Society, Nursing club as well as castle branch, enrolling for HESI exam, iPad, scheduling appointment to see Dr. Falbo etc...

What is your office location/contact info? 303C; 708-656-8000*2265

What are three fun facts about you? I enjoy hanging out with my family and friends, I love bowling, I'm an advocate for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, and I love action movies.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Stay focused and don't give up.



Ms. Amy Kinney – Nursing Staff

What is your position at Morton College?

I am the Service Aide for the Nursing Program.

How long have you been working at Morton? I recently started in June, 2020.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I am here to assist students with any questions regarding their iPads, using Black Board, or Exemplify. I will also assist with health requirements and utilizing Castle Branch as well as scheduling of clinical rotations. Students can come to me for anything and if I don't have the ability to assist them, I will point them in the right direction.

What is your office location/contact info? Office: 331B (as of now)
email: amy.kinney@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you? I graduated with my Associate's Degree from Morton College. I also played basketball and volleyball while I was here. I love to travel!

What advice do you have for new nursing students? If there is no struggle, there is no progress. You got this.



Mrs. Debra Kupec – Nursing Staff

What is your position at Morton College? Health Careers Support Specialist

How long you have been working at Morton? 11 years

What courses do you teach? CPR

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I assist students with a wide variety of items, all of which would be impossible to put in this document. A few select items I specifically deal with are: Clinical requirements, Castlebranch, clinical schedules, theory schedules, providing required documentation to clinical sites, maintaining student files & databases, flu vaccine clinic, policy distribution, CPR instruction, Honor Society, Pinning Ceremony, readmission assistance, generalized questions and generalized assistance to students and also the Dean of Nursing. There are many more things I assist students with that I cannot list here, however, students are always welcome to come to me for anything. If I do not have the ability to assist them, I will find the correct resource to provide them in order to secure the assistance they need.



What is your office location/contact info? Room # 331B, 708-656-8000 ext. 2388, debra.kupec@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you (family, pets, hobbies, unique experiences, favorite book, movie, TV show, etc.)? 1. I graduated from Morton College in the early 1980's. 2. I have two lovely daughters and a puppy named Wrigley (yes, I love the Cubs!). 3. I would move to Italy tomorrow if given the opportunity. It is my favorite place in the world!

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Have confidence in yourself. Utilize a daily planner and allow a little time each day for self-care. If you are unsure of something go to the correct source to get the answer. Students love to help each other, but at times may have inaccurate information. Always be proud of who you are and what you accomplish. Lastly, remember this little saying: Good, better, best, never let it rest, until your good gets better, and your better gets best.



Mr. Itri Papanikolla – Nursing Staff

What is your position at Morton College?

I am the Educational/Retention Specialist for the Nursing and the Health Science Department

How long you have been working at

Morton? I just started working at Morton this June, but I have worked in the environment of higher education and the community college for the past 15 years.

What do you do to help

students/what can students come to you for help with? As a retention specialist, I

work closely with students, either on a one to one basis or in groups, to make sure that they have all the tools they need to be

successful in this very prestigious program. I will make sure that the students understand the material they are studying for; they know how to apply the knowledge, and become very successful in the near future. Some of my methods of helping is through mentoring/tutoring, advising, coaching, test taking strategies, and most importantly organizational skills and executive function.



What are three fun facts about you?

1. My favorite subject is Mathematics – I won a Gold Medal in the 1999 Math Olympiad
2. My favorite sport is Soccer – I played soccer growing up in Greece and now I coach my daughter's youth girls soccer team for the Lombard Park District
3. I speak 7 different foreign languages – I grew up in a multilingual diverse family, and now I have one of my own. My wife is Italian, so she is also bilingual. My two beautiful daughters also speak different languages. It is so fun!

What advice do you have for new nursing students? My advice to you is to never give up. My favorite quote is "Failure is not an option." Try to do your best, work hard, stay motivated, be practical, be smart, and if you ever need help do not hesitate to find me, call me, text me. I will be here to help and guide you through this amazing journey you have decided to start with us.



Ms. Carolyn Markel – Nursing Staff

What is your position at Morton College?

Educational/Retention Specialist

How long you have been working at Morton? 2½ years

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with?

It is my full-time job to ensure that students feel supported and have the resources they need to be successful in the program. I am not a nurse, but I have a background in teaching and learning. I provide supplemental sessions, individual coaching, and study materials for students. I also monitor student progress and create success plans for students who need them. You can come to me with any concern at all – if I cannot address it, I will do my best to point you in the right direction.



What is your office location/contact info? Office 356B, office phone 708-656-8000 ext. 2334, email: carolyn.markel@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you? I absolutely adore cats, and I have three of them – Tessa, Talia, and Teagan. I recently have become very interested in wildlife photography. I love language and linguistics, and I have studied Spanish, French, Russian, and Arabic.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Take advantage of all the resources we have! The Morton Nursing Program is unique to have so many resources available, so use them! Also, if there is something going on in school or your life that is affecting your performance – tell a faculty or staff member. We may be able to help. Remember, it is a sign of strength and not weakness to ask for help.



Ms. Blanca Jara – College Administration

What is your position at Morton College? I am the Executive Director of Institutional Advancement and FOIA Officer

How long you have been working at Morton? I've worked at Morton College for 3.5 years. I also attended Morton College and graduated in 2002.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? The students can stop by my office anytime and ask for any type of assistance. Students are the #1 reason I am at MC. I have a responsibility to them, and mission will always be to help them to remove barriers to achieve their academic goals and beyond.



What is your office location/contact info? My office is located in the President's Administrative Area, 224B.

What are three fun facts about you? 1. I've completed four Chicago Marathons. 2. I own a low rider car, 1979 Chevy Monte Carlo. 3. I am a professional make-up artist.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? The sacrifice that they are making in educating themselves in a field in which you will be responsible for the health and care of another human life is selfless. It may be a hard 2+ years of work, but they will never be alone in the journey. Focus, decompress when needed and always remember it's okay to ask for help. We at MC will be there to support all students in every single way!



Mr. Ruben Ruiz – College Administration

What is your position at Morton College? Currently I am the Chief Information Officer.

How long you have been working at Morton? I been employed at Morton College for 24 years.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? My departments are responsible for all the technology, and multimedia across campus, some of the resources that we provide to students are, any issues with student portal, email, Blackboard, IPad, apps, passwords.



What is your office location/contact info?

We are located in Building B office 204
My direct number is (708) 656-8000 ext. 2471
My Email address is ruben.ruiz@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you?

I like spending time with family. I love collecting The Simpsons paraphernalia.
My favorite TV shows are *The Office*, and *Parks and Recreations*. Reading some of my favorite books are: *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *The Labyrinth of Solitude* by Octavio Paz, and *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho.

What advice do you have for new nursing students?

Just be yourself, you are already taking a big step into a demanding career, a career that will be hard, but at the same time rewarding, and never forget why you chose this career.



Mr. Ronald A. Lullo – College Administration

What is your position at Morton College? Director of Human Resources / Title IX Coordinator / Chief Diversity Officer

How long you have been working at Morton? 2 years at Morton; 34 years in the field

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? Student Aide positions around campus are administered by my staff

What is your office location/contact info? 211B;
human.resources@morton.edu

What are three fun facts about you? I have been a Police officer for 30 years, and a High School Math Teacher. We have three terriers: Isabel, Henry and Stella

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Stay on top of your assignments, ask for help, keep asking questions; this is a life lesson



Ms. Carissa Davis – College Administration

What is your position at Morton College? Director of Financial Aid

How long you have been working at Morton?
11 Months

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I assist students with obtaining Financial Assistance for school.

What is your office location/contact info? 232B

What are three fun facts about you ?

1. I love to bake cakes and cupcakes
2. I appeared on a national television show
3. I love to watch *Modern Family*

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Don't tackle your courses alone. Get with a small study group to keep you grounded in your studies and help you develop study habits and techniques. Also, start reading your books early each semester to stay ahead of the game.



Ms. Michelle Herrera – College Staff

What is your position at Morton College? Academic Advisor

How long you have been working at Morton?
15 years

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? Making sure students have all the credits they need to graduate

What is your office location/contact info?
Academic Advising Office 1st Floor Building B

What are three fun facts about you? I have 3 children 19, 17, and 10, and a chihuahua named Rizzo. I love everything Disney especially going to Disney World. I am a diehard New Kids on the Block Fan.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Study hard, see your advisor every semester even while in the program, check your Morton email regularly, and don't be afraid to ask for help.



Ms. Evelyn Jaquez – College Staff

What is your position at Morton College? Health Careers Recruitment Specialist

How long you have been working at Morton? 8 years and 9 months

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with (staff)? I am a part of the group that provides nursing information sessions. I attend a lot of recruitment events in the community, and students can tag along with me to get volunteer hours. Additionally, I manage the social media pages for Nursing on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter where I share updates and showcase our students.

What is your office location/contact info? 1st Floor Building B, Office of Admission and Records

What are three fun facts about you? I have two cats, love watching horror movies and documentaries and Halloween is my favorite holiday!

What advice do you have for new nursing students? No matter how difficult it may seem, remember that it will all be worth it in the end!



Ms. Jennifer Iniquez – College Staff

What is your position at Morton College? Mental Health Counselor, LCSW

How long you have been working at Morton? 4 years

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I provide short-term therapy and resources for students who may be experiencing stressors related to school or personal life.

What is your office location/contact info?

My office is located in 239C.

jennifer.iniquez@morton.edu

708-656-8000 ext. 2297



What are three fun facts about you ?

1. I have a 3 yr old grandson who lives with me.
2. My hobby is yoga.
3. I have two dogs, English Bulldog and American Bulldog.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? You are about to embark on the biggest challenge you've probably ever had to experience so far in your life. It's going to be tough and it's going to be stressful. Take advantage of the many resources Morton College has to offer you. We are all here to help you succeed up to the very end.



Ms. Ashanta Marshall – College Staff

What is your position at Morton College? Coordinator of Student Disability Services

How long you have been working at Morton? 1 year

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I provide accommodations for students with disabilities. I also provide services for students who think they may have a disability but do not have documentation.

What is your office location/contact info? I am located in room 217C, my extension is 2433, and my email is ashanta.marshall@morton.edu



What are three fun facts about you? I am a woodworker and I love power tools. I build furniture from scratch and I love to paint!

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Take your program one day at a time. Things may get overwhelming but always remember that you will make it through to the end!



Mr. Thomas Mantzakides – College Staff

What is your position at Morton College? My title is Circulation Librarian. I oversee the circulation of library materials to members of both the Morton College community and other libraries via Interlibrary Loan. I also handle collection development duties, answer reference questions, and teach instruction sessions that introduce students to the Library.

How long you have been working at Morton? I started working part-time at Morton in November 2014, and have been working full time since November 2017.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? We help students with:

- Locating library materials (books, journals, stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs, etc.),
- Navigating databases (to find the most relevant, scholarly articles for assignments)
- Citing their sources (assisting with in-text citations and properly formatting *Works Cited* pages).



What is your office location/contact info? I am usually found at the Circulation Desk of the Morton College Library (1st floor, Building B). My work schedule is 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

What are three fun facts about you (family, pets, hobbies, unique experiences, favorite book, movie, TV show, etc.)?

- 1). I was a member of a Greek dance troupe for 5 years and had a chance to perform in various cities around the country.
- 2). I shook hands with Will Ferrell and said hi to Dustin Hoffman when they filmed scenes of "Stranger than Fiction" at the University of Illinois at Chicago campus.
- 3). I have won tickets to see the Rolling Stones in concert - twice!

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Take advantage of all the resources available to you! Morton College Librarians are available to guide you in finding and using the highest quality information. We know that many of you have a lot on your plate, and we're here to ease some of that pressure with meeting deadlines to complete assignments. Just know this: We're here to help!



Ms. Julie Steinhaus – College Staff

What is your position at Morton College? I am a full-time professional Writing Tutor.

How long you have been working at Morton? I started working as a Morton tutor in 2003.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I tutor students on writing projects at every level and for every subject, not just English classes. I can help students with brainstorming, planning, organization, format guidelines, writing, research, reading comprehension, and test taking skills.

What is your office location/contact info? The writing office of the Tutoring Center is 201C. My email is Julie.Steinhaus@Morton.edu.

What are three fun facts about you? I love to crochet, even though I am not very good at it – yet! I am a huge Harry Potter fan, and when my daughter was growing up, I read all the books to her; over one million words. Like you, I am a student, currently working on my second master's degree.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Stress management is something you must develop for yourself as quickly as possible, both for school and your future career. It is a very individual process, so try everything that sounds like it might work for you. Discard what doesn't work, then make what *does* work a permanent part of your routine. Some simple ideas to try:

- daily 20-minute exercise like yoga or walking
- 10 minute morning and evening guided meditation
- careful evaluation and adjustment of your diet and nutrition
- time management tools both for scheduling and goal setting

It may not seem important right now but managing your stress will increase your resiliency and your chances of success in the nursing program.



Ms. Gina Torres – College Staff

What is your position at Morton College? Career Services Coordinator

How long you have been working at Morton? 16 years, experience in admissions, advising and career services.

What do you do to help students/what can students come to you for help with? I help students develop and prepare for their future careers by assisting them to build strong resume, cover letter and personal branding. Learn techniques to job searching, interviewing in person or virtual. Also I can help with creating LinkedIn profiles. Student are better prepared for the workforce when they graduate, if they have all these skills in place during their education with Morton College.



What is your office location/contact info? Building C, room 243C E-mail: gina.torres@morton.edu phone # 708-656-8000 Ext. 2157

What are three fun facts about you? I love to spend time with my family. One of my favorite movie is The Breakfast Club, I feel it's timeless. I also enjoy trying new restaurants.

What advice do you have for new nursing students? Set a timeline for yourself to meet with all the resources you are provided each semester, to help you succeed with your personal educational goals. You're not alone in this!

