Since 1974 students have come to the doctoral program at The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing from all over the nation and the world to acquire the knowledge and skills to advance nursing practice, education and research. The School's long history as a top PhD program is reflected in its strong national rankings in NIH funding and the many successes of graduates. The more than 600 PhD alumni of The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing include active faculty, researchers, Deans and organizational leaders at the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and major health care organizations.

Choosing a doctoral program represents a major investment in your future and your career. As you consider various options, we encourage you to review the Indicators of Quality in Research-Focused Doctoral Programs in Nursing (American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 2011 http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/pdf/PhDPosition.pdf). The AACN Quality Indicators highlighted below represent the essential factors that you should consider when selecting a research-focused doctoral program in nursing.

Faculty at research-focused doctoral programs should be leaders with established highly productive programs of research.

UT Austin School of Nursing faculty have strong well-established programs of research, most funded by the National Institutes of Health. Average research awards during the last five years total more than $19 million dollars. Our faculty are highly productive scholars with more than 275 refereed publications and over 300 scholarly presentations over the last three years. UT Austin faculty actively participate in peer-review and serve on more than 120 journal review panels or editorial boards. Eighteen of the faculty are Fellows of the prestigious American Academy of Nursing.

Faculty create an environment for mentoring and role socialization while assisting students to understand the value of research and scholarship over time.

Each student works closely with an advisor from admission to graduation to plan an individualized program of research training that will prepare them for a successful and productive career. Each doctoral student participates in three mentored research practicums to gain direct 'hands on' experience in research and publication. Many students are able to work as research assistants on funded grants. The majority of doctoral students (73%) have submitted manuscripts to peer-reviewed journals prior to graduation and over 80% have participated in presentations of research at professional conferences.

Programs of study are consistent with the mission of the parent institution, the discipline of nursing, and the faculty's areas of expertise and scholarship.

Students at The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing complete an individualized program of study that includes 30 semester hours of core courses related to theory and research as well as a minimum of 18 hours of courses specifically related to the student's area of research interest. We strongly believe that development of scholarship occurs best in a setting where students and faculty frequently engage, leading to innovation, discovery, and learning. Our commitment to web enhanced courses and flexible scheduling facilitates high quality doctoral education for students commuting from other locations.

Resources reflect the research mission of the parent institution and technical support for research/scholarship for both faculty and students.

With over 3,500 active research projects, 100 organized research units and annual research funding exceeding $400 million, The University of Texas at Austin is one of the nation's leading public research universities. There are numerous opportunities for doctoral students to collaborate with research faculty in the 17 colleges and schools across the campus. The University has abundant academic resources for both faculty and students including the fifth largest academic library in the nation. The faculty at the University includes Nobel Laureates, Pulitzer Prize winners and MacArthur Fellows.

Within the School of Nursing, the Cain Center for Research provides resources to support research and scholarship among faculty and students including editorial assistance, a computer lab for data analysis, on-site statistical assistance, peer review, and consultation with grant development and submission. The St. David's Center for Health Promotion & Disease Prevention Research in Underserved Populations provides faculty and graduate student support for pilot studies as well as ongoing training symposia.

The AACN distinguishes schools of exceptional quality as those with centers of research excellence, endowed professorships, and mechanisms for financial support of students – all features of The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing.

The Cain Center for Nursing Research and the St. David's Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Research in Underserved Populations distinguish the UT Austin School of Nursing as an institution of exceptional quality. UT Austin School of Nursing has two endowed chairs, six endowed professorships, and three endowed fellowships to support outstanding faculty. In addition to the University's Graduate School Fellowships, the School of Nursing has more than 50 endowments reserved for student support, with a market value of more than $8.5 million dollars. Doctoral students at the School of Nursing are supported through fellowships and scholarships, as well as teaching assistant, research assistant, and assistant instructor positions.
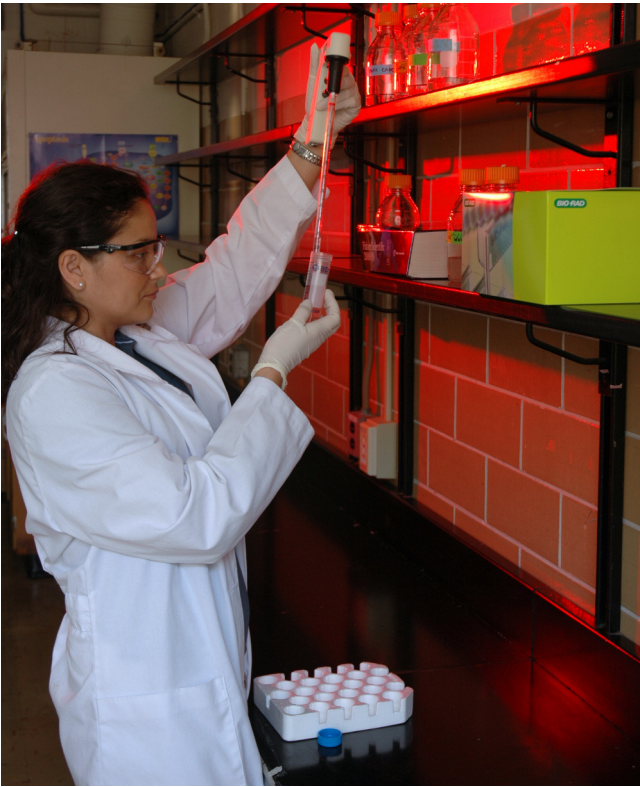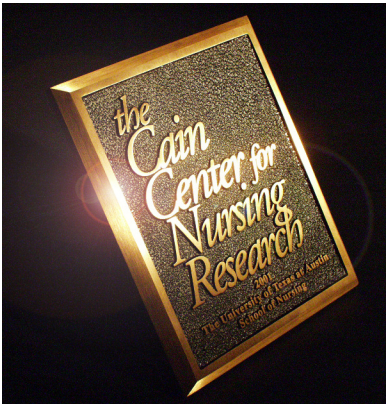
UT School of Nursing PhD students.

Choosing the right doctoral program is critical for future success. We encourage you to go to the UT Austin School of Nursing web site, http://www.utexas.edu/nursing for more information about the School of Nursing faculty, resources and programs of study. Applications are due December 1st for admission the following fall.

If you need additional information please call or email the Graduate Advisor at 512-232-4784 (ctaxis@mail.nur.utexas.edu).

UT School of Nursing PhD student Silvia Muñoz working in Dr. Jeanne Ruiz's lab.

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PhD in Nursing

The University of Texas at Austin

Excellence   Tradition   Innovation