



Name: Olimpia Paun, PhD, PMHCNS-BC

Current Title: Professor

Affiliation: Rush University

Candidate for: MNRS Board Member-at-Large



Personal Statement:

I have joined MNRS in 1996 as a PhD student and have remained an active member ever since. In 2003, I have received the Early Researcher Seed Grant, funding that afforded me the confidence to start my research career investigating the mental health needs of dementia family caregivers. Throughout the almost 25 years as a member, I have served in various capacities and was recognized for my leadership as co-chair of the Qualitative Research Interest Group (RIG) (Distinguished Service Award, 2011-2013) and as chair of the Gerontological Nursing RIG Awards Committee for the past three years.

My work with MNRS aligns well with the *Engagement and Advocacy Goals of the MNRS Strategic Plan*. Examples of my contribution to these goals are membership in the annual conference planning committee when Rush University was a host school, moderating poster discussions, and evaluating student posters entered in the annual competition. Through the years, I have presented my own research and co-authored presentations with students and mentees at the annual meetings. My contributions to the *MNRS Mission* extend beyond the annual conferences. As an active manuscript reviewer for the *Western Journal of Nursing Research* I provide authors with constructive feedback intended to strengthen their scholarly endeavors.

My extensive experience with MNRS prepared me to take on new leadership responsibilities as an at-Large Board member. It would be an honor to serve in this capacity.

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