



faculty of health sciences

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FHS Faculty Council,  
Faculty of Health Sciences,  
Blusson Hall,  
Simon Fraser University,  
8888 University Drive,  
Burnaby, BC V5A 1S6

September 5, 2020

Dear Faculty Council,

Re: Adjunct Faculty Appointment in the Faculty of Health Sciences

I am pleased to nominate Dr. Nancy Clark for the position of an adjunct faculty member within FHS. Dr. Clark is an Assistant Professor in the Human and Social Development Faculty at the University of Victoria. She is a community engaged researcher with a specific interest in immigrant and refugee mental health. She has an excellent track record of providing contributions to our MPH capstone program and has a keen interest in continuing to provide mentorship to our graduate students.

Dr. Clark is well connected with immigrant service organizations throughout the lower mainland, including MOSAIC, DIVERSEcity, OPTIONS and the Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria. In 2019, Dr. Clark taught a graduate FHS course in health promotion entitled a catalyst for change (HSCI-830). Through this sessional appointment she was able to build collaborations with our students and faculty wishing to conduct community engaged research and scholarship with immigrant and refugee communities in BC.

At the request of students, Dr. Clark has served as a second reader and/or co supervisor on two capstone projects. The first was an MPH capstone by Maryam Dehnadi entitled "Examining Barriers to Accessing Primary Care Services for Refugees in British Columbia Through an Equity Lens". She worked closely with me on this capstone which was completed on July 30, 2019. The second was with Paola Ardiles in supervising our MPH student Zarghoon Wakil for her capstone "Integrated Mental Health Services for Immigrants and Refugees in Canada" which was successfully completed on August 24, 2020.

In addition to mentorship and guidance for student capstone projects, Dr. Clark has provided opportunities for research work and publications for one of our graduates. She accepted Maryam Dehanadi as a research assistant (RA) within her research project "Patient, Family, Caregiver and Public Engagement Measurement and Evaluation Project (PEMEP)" This is funded by the British Columbia Ministry of Health's Patients as Partners Initiative (PEMEP).

Through Dr. Clark's mentorship, our former student, Ms. Dehanadi was included as a contributor to a paper by Hamilton C, Snow M.E., Clark N., Gibson S., Dehnadi M., Lui M., Koster A., McLean J., Li LC entitled: "Quality of patient, family, caregiver and public



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engagement in decision-making in healthcare systems: a scoping review” (protocolBMJ Open 2019;9:e032788. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2019-032788).

Dr. Clark has also provided additional research experience for Ms. Dehanadi as an RA on the “Diverse Communities Facing Multiple Barriers to Engagement in Patient Oriented Research Study”. Dr. Clark is currently working Paola Ardiles on publishing Zarghoona Wakil’s capstone project to be submitted this fall to the *International Journal of Integrated Care*. Dr. Clark is also collaborating with Zarghoona on future community-based research initiatives with MOSAIC.

Dr. Clark is an early career researcher wishing to build her own program of research in immigrant and refugee mental health. She is highly motivated to provide mentorship and collaboration with our faculty in the area of immigrant health, health policy and equity. Given her past support for our students I am confident that she will be prepared to continue to contribute to the faculty as an advisor, guest lecturer, research grant collaborator and supporter of RA’s for FHS students. The focus of her research on the health needs of marginalized people and her extensive work with refugees and immigrant organizations makes her an excellent fit with the priorities of our faculty.

On a personal note, I found working with Dr. Clark on Ms. Dehanadi’s capstone a very positive experience and I think she has an excellent rapport with our students. Given Dr. Clark’s interests and commitment I am happy to nominate her as adjunct faculty in FHS.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John R. Calvert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. John Calvert