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Information for Authors

Visions: The Journal of Rogerian Nursing Science is the journal of the Society of Rogerian Scholars (SRS). The mission of the SRS is to advance nursing science through an emphasis on the Science of Unitary Human Beings. The focus of the society is education, research, and practice in service to humankind.

The purposes of the SRS are to:
- Advance nursing as a basic science
- Explore the meaning of a philosophy of wholeness for nursing
- Foster the understanding and use of the Science of Unitary Human Beings as a basis for theory development, research, education, and practice
- Provide avenues for dissemination of information related to the Science of Unitary Human Beings
- Create forums for scholarly debate
- Provide educational forums on the Science of Unitary Human Beings

We invite manuscripts related to all aspects of the mission and purposes of the Society, Rogerian nursing science, and related unitary sciences. Manuscripts may address theory and/or theoretical issues, research, methodological topics including instrument development, ethics/ethical issues, practice, education, administration and leadership, and aesthetics. Manuscripts may be accepted for original articles or for one of the columns based on content and recommendations of reviewers. Each manuscript will be reviewed by two-three members of the Review Panel. Final decisions rest with the Editor.

Manuscript submissions:
- Accepted throughout the year
- Must not be under consideration by other publications
- Prepared in Microsoft Word
- Prepared using the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.).

Organization of Manuscripts and Guidelines:
1. Identification Page: Name, professional title/credentials, affiliation, postal address, phone number/fax, email address, and title of the manuscript
2. Title Page: Manuscript title, running header, [No Author Identification]
3. Abstract: followed by 3-4 key words for indexing. Abstract (250 words) and 4-5 key words
4. Body of the Manuscript: 15-20 double-spaced, 1 inch margins, 12 font type plus references. Written permission from copyright holders must be submitted if the manuscript includes figures or tables from another’s work, or quotations of 300 words or more (journals or books), or quotations of any length from newspapers, magazines, poems, songs, or movies. The letter of permission must give Visions: The Journal of Rogerian Nursing Science permission to reproduce the material.
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Editorial

Knowingly Participating in Change: Awareness of Predatory Publishing Practices

In 2015, there has been a concerted effort by editors of nursing journals and the International Nurse Authors and Editors (INANE) Predatory Publishing Practices Collaborative to highlight predatory publishing practices so readers and potential authors have the opportunity to become more aware of the current environment (INANE 2014). Essentially the term “predatory publishers” was coined by Beall (2013) in 2010 as an outgrowth of his study of open access publications; the term refers to publishers with a sole mission of financial gain using means that are inconsistent with publishing standards and practices of other professional and scholarly journals. Several examples of breeches to standards and practices include lack of full disclosure of author fees, lack of transparency, and a lack of integrity. Beall (2015) currently has a 3rd edition publication that addresses criteria for spotting predatory open-access publishers. Many of our readers may receive almost daily emails inviting manuscripts. Some of the emails are obviously suspect due to the inordinate praise and perhaps questionable connection between the journals apparent disciplinary focus and the potential author’s work. Yet other emails include cleverly titled journals that closely resemble the titles of legitimate scholarly journals and seem to have well credentialed editors.

Although you may have read about predatory publishing earlier in the year, it is useful to be reminded and to consider our participation in a changing environment. Environmental changes include growing pressure to publish, an increase in publication fees, and an increase in the number of open access publications. Barrett (2010) includes two series of questions in her power prescriptions when one intends to participate powerfully in situations. The first series of questions relate to the integral power dimensions: what am I aware of; what choices am I making; am I following through on the choices; and what actions am I taking? In an environment manifesting predatory publishing, one may be aware of daily email invitations to submit and publish manuscripts with quick turn-around times. Choices for the email recipient may include ignoring and deleting the emails and/or dialoging with colleagues and students about publishing practices. On the other hand, one might choose to consider the invitation, follow through, and take action like submitting a manuscript. Given this latter option, let’s consider the second series of questions that Barrett (2010) recommends to help guide our actions: do the changes I intend to create a) interfere with another’s freedom, b) attempt to control, dominate, manipulate or bring harm to another, c) harm one’s health or shorten life; and finally, d) does the change violate what I know to be my truth? Barrett indicates that one “yes” answer to any of these questions may suggest one would not be enhancing power-as-freedom. I can see the possibility of multiple “yes” answers for one who might choose to accept the invitation of predatory publishers.

For example, we may envision that manipulation of others might occur. Let’s say a potential author was trying to enhance evidence of publications as part of the tenure and promotion process. Adding publications by way of the invitation of predatory publishers manipulates different groups of reviewers in the vetting process. A dean or chair may see the number of accepted manuscripts and determine the candidate is moving toward tenure or promotion and provide no further guidance in this area. The administrator may be, although perhaps unwittingly, manipulated to feel comfortable about the strength of their faculty candidate’s portfolio and chances for being appointed. The assessment of the chances for tenure or promotion plays a role in decisions regarding requests for faculty lines.
Another group that participates in the process is the tenure and promotion reviewers. Reviewers do a good deal of work to provide an evaluation and may feel there has been an attempt at control or manipulation by the candidate when they identify questionable journals. In terms of one's own health, think about the stress a faculty member might experience if, after a good deal of work and potentially money paid to predatory publishers, the tenure or promotion is denied because the journals lack credibility. In terms of violating one's own truth, the philosophical and ethical questions are many and may include: am I being honest with myself and others; what are my beliefs about scholarly publications; and do I wish to participate with others who may lack integrity?

In conclusion, awareness of topics like predatory publishing practices and the choices we make about publications have implications for the advancement of nursing science and the integrity of our nursing body of literature. Let's work together to enhance power-as-freedom for all potential authors and readers. If you would like more information about open access publishing and how to avoid being duped by predatory practices, you may wish to read the September 2014 issue of Nurse Author & Editor (http://nurseauthoreditorm.com/article.asp?id+261). If you would like to review a list of publishers or single journals that have been determined to meet Beall’s criteria for predatory practices, go to http://scholarlyoa.com.

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Beall, J. (2013). Predatory publishing is just one of the consequences of gold open access. Learned Publishing, 26, 79-84. doi: 10.1087/20130203


SRS News

President’s Message

In 2009 Society of Rogerian Scholars (SRS) Board members worked together to create a Strategic Plan for our organization, which was published in Visions in 2010. Honoring our legacy was one goal in the Strategic Plan. At the annual conferences over the past two years we have celebrated in 2013 the 25th anniversary of the SRS and in 2014 Martha Rogers 100th birthday. The 25th anniversary held in New York City, New York and the 100th Birthday celebration held in Knoxville, Tennessee were genuine tributes to the legacy of Martha Rogers. As an organization and as individuals, we continue to honor her legacy through our fundraising efforts to pay tribute to Martha Rogers in dedicating a study room in her name at New York University where she was both a Professor and a Head of the Division of Nursing.

As we look forward and consider other goals in our Strategic Plan, we recognize this is a special time in nursing. In part, as a result of the influence of the Institute of Medicine Report, The Future of Nursing and the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Magnet Recognition Program®, there has been an increase in the number of nurses prepared at the bachelorette, masters’ and doctoral levels. With this advancement in education there has been an increased awareness of nursing having its own identity in terms of science and knowledge. Nursing theory seems to be making a comeback. For those of us involved in Unitary Science, these are interesting times. In preparing the Strategic Plan we recognized this recommitment to nursing theories and nursing knowledge and acknowledged the need to geographically reach out, collaborate with other organizations and in the process generate new members.

One way we are reaching out to new members is through our website and we can thank Jacqui Fawcett for her efforts in keeping this web page up-to-date as well as she does. We now in addition to the wiki page managed by Howard Butcher, also have a Facebook page created and managed by Pam Reis.

Our Journal Visions is yet another way to reach out to our membership. SRS is most fortunate that Arlene Farren has agreed to be our Editor. In line with many organizations, we have decided to move our Journal to fully on line. Articles will be posted on our website as they are ready and then compiled into an issue as it comes together. For authors and readers alike, this is a wonderful feature as this minimizes the time it takes to have work published. Manuscripts will continue to go through a peer review process and once published, the volumes will be indexed in CINAHL.

Another goal in our Strategic Plan was to support developing scholars who are doing research utilizing Rogerian Science. The SRS Scholars Fund has undergone some changes in the past year. Three scholarships are now available! I wish to thank Sarah Gueldner for her past service as President of the SRS Fund, Tina Reinckens for her ongoing service as Treasurer and Dottie Jones and Barbara Wright for their willingness to serve as President and Secretary respectively as well as the Founders of SRS who have continued to serve on the Scholars Fund over the years including Violet Malinski, John Phillips, and Elizabeth Barrett.
Other goals we are addressing are expanding our reach as an organization. I am excited that our 2015 Conference - *Provocative Ideas and Innovations in Unitary Nursing Science* was hosted by the Lewis University at the Oak Brook Campus in Oak Brook, Illinois just outside Chicago on Thursday, October 8 through Saturday, October 10, 2015. This was the first time SRS will meet in Chicago. I am grateful to Michele Kramer, Pam Reis, Joyce Perkins, Patty Bartzak and Arlene Farren for their tireless effort in making this happen.

Lastly, in our Strategic Plan we acknowledged the importance of work in partnership with other like-minded organizations. Although details are still pending, I am excited to announce that we will be working collaboratively with the International Association of Human Caring (IAHC) to have a conference together in Boston, Massachusetts on June 8-11, 2016 entitled, “*Advancing the Unitary Science of Caring for Nursing Praxis*”. Having this conference in Boston and in conjunction with IAHC is also a first for SRS. I am grateful to the planning committee for Boston 2016 including Dottie Jones and Jacqui Fawcett for assisting me in this process.

In closing, as we have so beautifully glanced toward our past and honored it over the last two years, it is now time for us to consider the endless possibilities as we spiral ahead. We are a most fortunate organization in that we have very dedicated members so willing to serve on so many important committees. Their willingness to do so allows us to continue to meet our goals as an organization. I am grateful for the many wonderful people in this organization who allow us to thrive. I welcome others who want to join us on this journey.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Flanagan, PhD, ANP-BC

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Many thanks to those who are completing their terms in 2015 and best wishes to those who are new to the board or serving another term in 2016!

Jacqueline Fawcett, PhD, ScD (hon), FAAN

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Abstract: The purpose of this paper, presented at the 2014 meeting of the Society of Rogerian Scholars, is to acknowledge the impressive evolution of the Science of Unitary Human Beings. The content of this address, which is offered in celebration of the 100th year since Martha E. Rogers’ birth, is a story of the outstanding contributions made by Rogers to the advancement of nursing knowledge and by all Rogerian scholars who have translated the Science of Unitary Human Beings into service to human beings. The story focuses on the changes Rogers made in the terminology of her Conceptual System over time; the work by Rogers and many Rogerian scholars to derive grand, middle-range, and situation-specific theories from the Science of Unitary Human Beings; the evolution of what constitutes Science of Unitary Human Beings-based research; and the evolution of practice methodologies that operationalize the Science of Unitary Human Beings.

Keywords: Keynote Address, Practice Methodologies, Research Methodologies, Science of Unitary Human Beings, Theory Development


INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper, presented at the 2014 meeting of the Society of Rogerian Scholars, is to acknowledge the impressive evolution of the Science of Unitary Human Beings. I offer this paper in celebration of the 100th year since Martha E. Rogers’ birth. Martha was born on May 12, 1914, the same month and day of Florence Nightingale’s birthday; Martha died on March 13, 1994.

In 1966, Martha Rogers told us:

Nursing’s story is a magnificent epic of service to [human beings]. It is about people: how they are born and live and die; in health and in sickness; in joy and in sorrow. Its mission is the translation of [nursing] knowledge into human service. Nursing is compassionate concern for human beings. It is the heart that understands and the hand that soothes. It is the intellect that synthesizes many learnings into meaningful [ministrations].

Martha’s words serve as the organizing framework for my presentation. I will begin with nursing knowledge in the form of a discussion of highlights of the evolution of the conceptual system. I will continue with the intellectual synthesis of learnings in the form of evolution of theory development guided by the conceptual system. Then, I will discuss meaningful ministrations of the conceptual system, in the form of evolution of research and practice methodologies.

EVOLUTION OF THE CONCEPTUAL SYSTEM

Rogers was a pioneer in the development of unique nursing knowledge. Newman (1972) pointed out that Rogers was one of the first modern nurse scholars to explicitly identify man as the central phenomenon of interest to the discipline of nursing. Moreover, Rogers focused attention on the environment as an equally important phenomenon of study. Rogers (1978a, 1992a) traced the dual concern with people and their environments to Nightingale. In 1992(a), she explained, "Rogerian science of irreducible human beings provides a framework rooted in a new reality..."
and directed toward moving us from what might be called a prescientific era to a scientific era. Certainly Nightingale laid a firm foundation for this kind of an approach to nursing knowledge and its use” (p. 61).

In 1978(a), Rogers stated that she directed her efforts “to evolve a conceptual system that would give identity to nursing as a knowledgeable endeavor.” She added that she deliberately set out to develop a conceptual system when she realized that “there had to be a body of knowledge that was specific to and unique to nursing, or there was no need for higher education in nursing at all” (Rogers, 1978b). Rogers’ recognition of the need for an organized body of unique nursing knowledge was evident in her early writings on nursing education, especially in her 1961 book, *Educational Revolution in Nursing* and her 1964 book, *Reveille in Nursing*.

As many, if not all, of us who know about the Science of Unitary Human Beings know that Rogers was never satisfied with her conceptual system and, therefore, revised the wording, if not the intent, many times. Rogers’ conceptual system currently is referred to as the Science of Unitary Human Beings. She first presented her conceptual system, known then as the Life Process Model, in her 1970 book, *An Introduction to the Theoretical Basis of Nursing*. Further development and refinement of the conceptual system, then called the Science of Unitary Man, was presented by Rogers in 1978(a) at the Second Annual Nurse Educator Conference. That presentation, with additional refinements, was later published in Riehl and Roy’s 1980 book, *Conceptual Models for Nursing Practice* (Rogers, 1980a). The latter two papers also introduced theoretical formulations derived from the conceptual model. In a series of 1980 audiotapes and videotapes, Rogers (1980b–g) presented an expanded explanation of the conceptual system, as well as a comprehensive discussion of three grand theories that she derived from the conceptual system. Further refinements in the conceptual system were published in a chapter in Malinski’s 1986(a) book, *Explorations on Martha Rogers’ Science of Unitary Human Beings* (Rogers, 1986). By 1986, the conceptual system was referred to as the Science of Unitary Human Beings. Still further refinements were published in a chapter in Barrett’s 1990 book, *Visions of Rogers’ Science-Based Nursing* (Rogers, 1990a), and in Rogers’ 1992(b) journal article. Despite many refinements, the label for the conceptual system has not changed since 1986.

Several changes were made in the conceptual system as it evolved from the Life Process Model to the Science of Unitary Man to the Science of Unitary Human Beings. The term for human beings evolved from man (Rogers, 1970) to unitary man (Rogers, 1980a) and later to unitary human beings (Rogers, 1986). Furthermore, the word, development, was dropped inasmuch as this word tends to denote linearity (Rogers, as cited in Malinski, 1986b).

The concepts or basic building blocks of the Rogerian conceptual system evolved from energy field, wholeness, openness, unidirectional, pattern and organization, and sentience and thought (Rogers, 1970) to energy field, openness, pattern, and four-dimensional (Rogers, 1980a) to energy field, openness, pattern, and multidimensional (Rogers, 1990a), and finally to energy field, openness, pattern, and pandimensional (Rogers, 1992b). Rogers eliminated the term unidirectional as it led to the false interpretation of human development as linear. Multidimensional replaced four-dimensional in an effort “to select words best suited to portray one’s thought... Multidimensional provides for an infinite domain without limit” (Rogers, 1990a, p. 7). Pandimensional replaced ultidimensional for the same reason. Rogers (1992b) explained...
that despite the changes in the actual word used, the definition has remained the same.

The principles of homeodynamics evolved from reciprocity, synchrony, helicy, and resonancy (Rogers, 1970) to helicy, resonancy, and complementarity (Rogers, 1980a) to helicy, resonancy, and integrality (Rogers, 1986). Reciprocity and synchrony were eliminated and complementarity was replaced by integrality inasmuch as the terms reciprocity, synchrony, and complementarity led to the false interpretation of separation between the human and environmental energy fields. Furthermore, the notion of mutual and simultaneous interaction (Rogers, 1970), with its false connotation of separate human and environmental fields, evolved into complementarity and then to integrality. A change also was made in the definition of helicy—the term, probabilistic, used in the definition was replaced by the term, unpredictable; as Rogers (1990a) explained, “the literature now points up that unpredictability transcends probability” (p. 7).

Moreover, Rogers (1983) and Fawcett (1975) both modified the conceptual system for the family. Furthermore, Leddy (2004) based her Human Energy Model on the basic ideas of Rogers’ Science of Unitary Human Beings.

**EVOLUTION OF THEORY DEVELOPMENT**

Although the findings of all research and many “thought experiments” are theories (Fawcett & Downs, 1986, p. 61; Fawcett & Garity, 2009), most of us regard as theories only those formulations that are explicitly labeled as such. Thus, the starting point for evolution of theory development guided by the Science of Unitary Human Beings most likely is Rogers’ three grand theories—the Theory of Accelerating Evolution (Rogers, 1980a, 1986, 1992b); the Theory of Rhythmical Correlates of Change (Rogers, 1980a, 1986, 1992b), which Butcher and Malinski (2010) called the Theory of Manifestations of Field Patterning in Unitary Human Beings; and the Theory of Paranormal Phenomena (Rogers, 1980a, 1986, 1992b), which Butcher and Malinski (2010) called the Theory of Emergence of Paranormal Phenomena.


Many explicit middle-range theories that have been derived from the Science of Unitary Human Beings. Those that I have identified are:

- Health Empowerment Theory (Shearer, 2009)
- Power as Knowing Participation in Change (Barrett, 1986; Caroselli & Barrett, 1998)
- *Theory of Aging as Emerging Brilliance (Butcher, 2003)*
- Theory of the Art of Professional Nursing (Alligood, 2002), also referred to as the Theory of the Art of Nursing (Alligood, 2010)
- Theory of Creativity, Actualization, and Empathy (Alligood, 1991)
- Theory of Diversity of Human Field Pattern (Hastings-Tolsma, 2006)
- Theory of Enlightenment (Hills & Hanchett, 2001)
- Theory of Healthiness (Leddy & Fawcett, 1997)
- Theory of Human Field Motion (Ference, 1986b, 1989)
• Theory of Kaleidoscoping in Life’s Turbulence (Butcher, 1993)
• Theory of Pattern (Alligood, 2010; Alligood & Fawcett, 2004)
• Theory of Perceived Dissonance (Bultemeier, 1997a)
• Theory of Sentience Evolution (Parker, 1989)
• Theory of Pandimensional Awareness-Integral Presence (Phillips, 2014)

Three other middle-range theories have been derived from Leddy (2004)—the Theory of Healthiness (Leddy & Fawcett, 1997), the Theory of Participation, and the Theory of Energetic Patterning.

At least one explicit situation-specific theory has been derived from the Science of Unitary Human Beings. Willis, DeSanto-Madeya, and Fawcett (2015) identified concepts and propositions of the Theory of Men’s Healing from Childhood Maltreatment by means of a secondary analysis of data from Willis’ study of childhood maltreatment.

EVOLUTION OF RESEARCH METHODOLOGIES

Much of the early research done by doctoral students who were interested in Rogerian science has been dismissed as not being consistent with the Science of Unitary Human Beings. Ference (1986a) claimed that Rawnsley’s 1977 study was the first “true” Rogerian research, and that her own study of human field motion was the first investigation of correlates of unitary human development. Although I certainly acknowledge that there has been an impressive evolution in Rogerian research, I do not agree with Ference that earlier studies were not guided by the then-current version of Rogerian science. To her credit, Ference acknowledged that earlier studies had focused on “some of the variables . . . [that] were relevant for study [of the Science of Unitary Human Beings]” (Ference, 1986a, p. 39).


The purpose of Science of Unitary Human Beings–based *basic* research is to develop new theoretical knowledge about unitary human energy fields in mutual process with environmental energy fields. The goal of basic nursing research is pattern seeing. The purpose of Science of Unitary Human Beings–based *applied* research is to test already available knowledge in practice situations. The term applied research is used instead of the term *clinical* research inasmuch as “clinical” refers to investigation of a disease in the living being by observation, or it refers to something done at the bedside. The term clinical research, therefore, is inappropriate and inadequate for the scope and purposes of Science of Unitary Human Beings-guided nursing research.

The phenomena to be studied are those that are central to nursing—irreducible unitary human beings and their environments. More specifically, the phenomena to be studied are manifestations of human and environmental energy field mutual process in the form of perceptions, expressions, and experiences.
Nursing research should not focus on other fields of study or theories derived from other fields, nor should it focus on nurses and what they do.

The problems to be studied are the manifestations of human energy field patterns and environmental energy field patterns, especially pattern profiles, which are clusters of related pattern manifestations. Inasmuch as nursing is a service to all people, wherever they may be, virtually any human being or group in its natural setting would be appropriate for study, with the proviso that both human being or group and environment are taken into account.

A variety of qualitative and quantitative research designs currently are regarded as appropriate for Science of Unitary Human Beings–based research, although qualitative methods are more congruent with the Science of Unitary Human Beings than quantitative methods. Although descriptive and correlational designs are regarded as consistent with the Science of Unitary Human Beings, strict experimental designs are of questionable value due to Rogers’ rejection of the notion of causality. Specific existing methodologies that are used across disciplines but currently are regarded as appropriate include Husserlian phenomenology; existentialism; rational interpretive hermeneutics; interpretive evaluation methods, such as Fourth Generation Evaluation; participatory action and cooperative inquiry; focus groups; ecological thinking; dialectical thinking; and historical inquiries; as well as methods that focus on the uniqueness of each human being, such as imagery, direct questioning, personal structural analysis, and the Q-sort.

Science of Unitary Human Beings–specific methodologies include the unitary pattern appreciation case method, unitary appreciative inquiry, the Rogerian process of inquiry method, the unitary field pattern portrait research method, and the photo-disclosure methodology.

Case studies and longitudinal research designs that focus on identification of manifestations of human and environmental energy field patterns are more appropriate than cross-sectional designs, given the emphasis in the Science of Unitary Human Beings on the uniqueness of the unitary human being. Hypotheses should not be stated in causal language, in recognition of the unitary nature of the problem to be studied and Rogers’ rejection of the notion of causality. Purposive sampling is appropriate, so that study participants who manifest the phenomenon of interest may be included. Research instruments that are directly derived from the Science of Unitary Human Beings should be used. Researchers are the primary pattern-apprehending instrument, as they are the only instrument sensitive to and able to interpret and understand pandimensional potentialities in manifestations of human and environmental energy field patterns. The researcher may use tacit and mystical intuition and all forms of sensory knowing to apprehend pattern manifestations. Inclusion of study participants in the process of inquiry enhances mutual exploration, discovery, and knowing participation in change.

Synthesis rather than an analysis that separates parts is the goal of data analysis. Data analysis techniques must take the unitary nature of human beings and the integrality of the human and environmental energy fields into account. Consequently, the use of standard data analysis techniques that employ the components of variance model of statistics is precluded, as this statistical model is logically inconsistent with the assumption of holism stating that the whole is greater than the sum of parts. Multivariate analysis procedures, particularly canonical correlation, are useful techniques for generating a constellation of variables representing human field pattern properties.
However, canonical correlation is a component of variance procedure, as are all parametric correlational techniques.

New data analysis techniques that permit examination of the integrality of human and environmental energy fields must be developed so that the ongoing testing of the Science of Unitary Human Beings does not have to be done through the logical empiricist criterion of meaning, testing the hypoductive system for consistency, and then testing correspondence to the world. Data should be interpreted within the context of the concepts and propositions of the Science of Unitary Human Beings. Bracketing and objectivity are not possible given the integral nature of the researcher and the study participants as energy fields in mutual process.

Science of Unitary Human Beings–based research enhances understanding of the continuous mutual process of human and environmental energy fields and manifestations of changes in energy field patterns. Ultimately, Science of Unitary Human Beings–based research will yield a body of nursing-discipline specific knowledge.

Despite these guidelines, quantitative research continues. For example, since July 2012, seven experimental studies and two correlation studies have been published. Only one descriptive qualitative study has been published since that time.

**EVOLUTION OF PRACTICE METHODOLOGIES**

Similar to the evolution of research methodologies, the evolution of practice methodologies for the Science of Unitary Human Beings reflects modifications in what “counts” as Rogerian practice based on evolution of the conceptual system. The current guidelines evolved from Rogers’ early ideas, which were published in her 1970 book and reflect the generic nursing process of assessment, planning based on goal setting, intervention, and evaluation, to ideas put forth by Malinski in 1986(c) and Rogers in 1992(b). The current guidelines, which are published in Fawcett and DeSanto-Madeya’s (2013) book, are:

The primary purpose of Science of Unitary Human Beings–based nursing practice is to promote well-being for all human beings, wherever they are. Another purpose of Science of Unitary Human Beings–based nursing practice is to assist both client and nurse to increase their awareness of their own rhythms and to make choices among a range of options congruent with their perceptions of well-being.

Practice problems of interest are those manifestations of human and environmental field patterns that nursing as a discipline and society as a whole deem relevant for nursing. Nursing may be and has been practiced in any setting in which nurses encounter people, ranging from hospitals to the community, although we have not yet practiced in outer space. Legitimate participants in nursing practice encompass all people of all ages, both as individual human energy fields and as group energy fields.

Following Rogers’ generic nursing process, Barrett (1988) and Cowling (1990) developed the pattern manifestations practice method. The three components are pattern manifestation appraisal-assessment, deliberative mutual patterning, and pattern manifestation appraisal-evaluation. The current nursing process for the Science of Unitary Human Beings is the Health Patterning Practice Method. The components of the method are pattern manifestation knowing and appreciation—assessment, voluntary mutual patterning, and pattern manifestation knowing and appreciation—evaluation (Fawcett & DeSanto-Madeya, 2013).
Science of Unitary Human Beings–based nursing practice contributes to human betterment, however that might be defined by a society. Furthermore, Science of Unitary Human Beings–based nursing practice leads to acceptance of diversity as the norm and of the integral connectedness of human beings and their environments, as well as to viewing change as positive.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I apologize to all Rogerian scholars whose wonderful contributions to the evolution of the Science of Unitary Human Beings I did not cite. I hope you agree that evolution of the Science of Unitary Human Beings has been impressive, and that the contributions to the advancement of nursing knowledge made by Rogers and by all Rogerian scholars who have translated the Science of Unitary Human Beings into service to human beings have been outstanding.

Martha would, I believe, be very disappointed if we did not continue to evolve the conceptual system, which we have been reluctant to do. Yet Martha insisted that the conceptual system must continue to be revised. She stated:

The development of a science of unitary human beings is a never-ending process. This abstract system first presented some years ago has continued to gain substance. Concomitantly, early errors have undergone correction; definitions have been revised for greater clarity and accuracy, and updating of content is ongoing (Rogers, 1992b, p. 28).

So much knowledge of human beings and the universe has been developed since Martha’s death 20 years ago! How much of that knowledge might be relevant to the continued evolution of the Science of Unitary Human Beings?

In contrast, I believe that Martha would be very pleased with the evolution of the research and practice methodologies. However, we should not be satisfied with the current guidelines for research and practice. For example, we have not yet determined whether quantitative research should be accepted as “legitimate” for the Science of Unitary Human Beings. Furthermore, we have not yet identified all possible ways to practice from a unitary perspective. As Martha Alligood noted in 2004,

Martha Rogers’ ideas have challenged nurses worldwide for many years. She challenged us to understand nursing as knowing rather than doing and as human service based on knowing rather than isolated functional activities. She challenged us to view nursing as understanding and caring for human beings in the wholeness and mutuality of the person-environment process rather than as isolated actions and responses in a limited cause and effect manner. (p. 8)

We have yet to meet those challenges in a completely satisfactory way. So much remains to be done. Are we willing to accept these and other challenges to facilitate the continued evolution of the conceptual system known as the Science of Unitary Human Beings and its associated research and practice methodologies?

In closing, I hope you will be as inspired as I am by Martha’s words to nursing students, which I have revised slightly for all nurses: “[Ours] is a rich repository of far flung opportunities—around this planet and toward the further reaches of [our] explorations of new worlds and new ideas. [Ours] is the promise of deep satisfaction in a field long dedicated to serving the health needs of people” (Rogers, 1966).

Thank you very much for this opportunity to share the marvelous benchmarks in the evolution of the Science of Unitary Human Beings and its applications for theory development, research, and practice.
CONFLICT OF INTEREST
The author has declared no conflicts.

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Footnote


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