



Preceptor Newsletter

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THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Midwifery Program

Department of Family Practice | Faculty of Medicine



The UBC Midwifery clinical placement team is EXPANDING!!



Please join me in welcoming Kayley Redgers, RM to our team as she prepares to assume responsibility for arranging midwifery placements for our students for next year. Many of you will know Kayley as she has worked as a midwife in both Vancouver and Victoria as well as assisting Valerie Simmons with various educational projects for the Island. We are including a word from Kayley about herself here.

For the immediate future, I will serve as a mentoring presence for Kayley as she moves into this new role. Alicia Rebman will continue as an administrative support for both Kayley as overall Placement Lead as well as for myself as I coordinate this summer's Inter-Professional Placements. I will move to focusing on developing the Preceptor Education Program/Workshops as well as participating in many other program activities. WELCOME, KAYLEY!!!

Camille Bush

Lead, Clinical Faculty and Placement Support



My name is Kayley, and I am a settler born of European ancestry. I was born and raised outside of Toronto on the traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Metis. I have called the west coast home since 2004 and currently live in Victoria. I am thrilled to be joining the team at UBC as the new placement coordinator.

I graduated from Laurentian University with a Bachelor of Science in Midwifery in 2015. Since then, I have worked in various communities around BC, and Cambridge Bay, Nunavut.

Prior to midwifery, I completed an undergraduate degree in Environmental and Gender Studies. I have always had a keen interest in health care and felt drawn to midwifery for its perspective on informed choice. Midwifery marries two of my passions: health care and social equity.



When I am not working, you will find me noodling around on the guitar, being too chicken to get in the cold ocean but toying with the idea, cooking feasts, baking intricate pastries, and most commonly, dreaming of my next meal.

If anyone is interested in taking a bridging student this summer, or a student in the fall please email me at kayley.redgers@ubc.ca

Kayley Redgers

UBC Midwifery Clinical Placement Lead

Upcoming Preceptor Workshops

- February 25th, 2022
- March 28th, 2022

SPECIAL NOTE TO PRECEPTORS WHO HAVE PRIVILEGES AT BC WOMEN'S:

As you certainly know (perhaps all too well!), CST is scheduled to be implemented in the coming one to two months at BC C&W. In light of that, your students will be needing this training and access. As neither we nor they have so far been given the exact timing for their trainings, please do support them in taking the needed time to complete the modules portion of this as well as the online training session. And thank you for encouraging them in its applied use for documentation in clinical practice for this coming term.

In the future we are looking at ways to include this training for all students prior to their 2nd year placement as we understand this charting system will eventually be happening province-wide.



From the Director's Desk

Happy new year to all UBC Midwifery preceptors and the members of their practices who support the UBC students! Unimaginably, I write this at the start of the third COVID-19 pandemic year. Everyone involved in midwifery education: students, staff, and faculty, showed signs of coping exhaustion at the end of term 1. We were forgetful, took more time thinking through questions and couldn't remember the day or year. Our faculty and staff took long overdue time away from the office in December. While this put us behind in some routine tasks such as releasing syllabi and schedules, it has recharged us and given us the time to think forward to continued COVID coping.

The Omicron variant will hopefully peak in late January or February. To be as protective as possible, UBC has retreated to all online classes at least until January 24th, 2022. Clinical skills labs and all clinical placements will continue as scheduled using current PPE guidance.

Faculty and staff reviewed the best learning and stress prevention research and have revised our expectations for students in clinical practicums. Students in clinical placement are required to set the following minimum schedule:

- Follow the workload of slightly less than one full time midwife over the course of the term. (based on 4-5 births a month with exceptions for organization of practices: ie call shifts in hospitals; slightly over 4 -5 booked caseload midwifery in a month) If there are questions about schedule and workload please discuss these with your tutor.
- Be off call 12 hours prior, during and for 3 hours following the MIDW 435 tutorials.
- Be off (not available) at least 4 full days (24 hrs) per month and 3 personal flex days (24hrs) per month. This does not include Friday tutorial time.
- Students who have been awake for 24 hours must be off call at the 24th hour. They must be provided adequate time to get home and an additional 8 hours of sleep before taking call again.

While this time off might seem excessive, midwifery programs all over Canada are finding that the constant COVID challenges and other emergencies dealt with this



year including wildfires, floods and the heat dome, have emotionally exhausted all providers and students. The students will do better with the planned rest and need less remediation in the long run and gives preceptors and teams time to practice midwifery without precepting constantly.

Knowing that we are all operating in constantly changing health-related environments should enable you to be less surprised when students act slowly or are forgetful. They may look less knowledgeable than prior students. Be assured, they are mastering the required competencies before graduation. Please remember that if you think a student is not meeting expectations, contact the course tutor early in the term. Many learning needs can be met if tackled openly at midterm.

The clinical teaching you do with the midwifery students is invaluable. Thank you for continuing with UBC in 2022.

Congratulations to Michelle Turner!

Michelle Turner was promoted to Clinical Assistant Professor in December 2021. Michelle, who practices in Vancouver, is doing doctoral studies at UBC with a research focus of integrating childbirth education into elementary school curriculum to reduce adult tocophobia. Michelle is adapting this program used in Germany for use in British Columbia. Michelle has also been a tutor in Midwifery courses and is the first year course lead this year, while Allison Campbell is on leave.





Where is the Accreditation Report?

Many of you participated in the accreditation review done by the Accreditation Council of the Canadian Association of Midwifery Educators in November. Like everything during the pandemic, the final report is taking the reviewers longer than usual to complete. We are hoping to receive the initial report soon. UBC Midwifery was fortunate to have Dr. Karline Wilson-Mitchell, Midwifery Education Program Director at Ryerson University, do a parallel review on our program's equity, diversity and inclusion practices. Dr. Wilson's report was submitted to the ACCAMed reviewers. Once both reports are received, the Program Director will review them and send any misinterpretations and error corrections back to the reviewers. The reports and Director's comments will be circulated to Faculty of Medicine Administration. The two ACCAMed reviewers will submit their report to the ACCAMed Board of Directors. This Board will review the report and issue accreditation status and recommendations in spring 2022. The full reports will be released to faculty, who will form an improvement action plan that will be published in future clinical preceptor newsletters.



Your participation in the accreditation process will be essential in improving our support of your work in 2022 and beyond.

Continuity of Care Definition

The COVID pandemic has placed many limitations on clinical placement learning opportunities: many clinic visits became virtual interviews followed by limited physical exams, the numbers of prenatal visits was reduced and home births decreased across British Columbia last year as ambulance services suffered staffing shortages. UBC Midwifery strives to assure that students have well-rounded clinical experience at graduation; however, the pandemic makes this difficult for many students. Prior to the pandemic, at least 30% of clerks entering their final term already had sufficient birth numbers for graduation. This year, several clerks will struggle to have adequate home birth experience both as the primary





midwife and the second midwife.

The faculty understand the limitations on numbers of experiences. The Midwifery Bachelor Degree is a competency-based program. Please notify course tutors if your student is having difficulty participating in prenatal visits or births.

The largest change to clinical expectations is our revision of UBC's definition of continuity of care. **Applicants have provided continuity of care to a single client, if they have met with the client prior to the birth.** This change is partially due to the shift from small teams of midwives to larger group practices with less continuity in their caseloads. While the faculty value continuity of care and the research that demonstrates how continuity of care improves physiologic birth outcomes and reduces surgical births, we must support student practice in the current environment and facilitate their graduation into practice. We hope most students will be able to enjoy forming relationships that are the heart of continuity in care but will support those whose births meet the minimum definition of continuity.

Clerks As Seconds At Birth and Post-graduation Employment

Clerks may be employed as seconds at home births and paid for their work. We encourage preceptors to give clerks this experience. With the drop in home births, some students may lack experience as second midwives. Faculty suggest that if this is the case, preceptors ask hospital nurses if the midwifery student can take the place of the RN and be the second midwife.



Preceptors are reminded that clerks should not be approached for post-graduation employment until after midterm in their final term. Clerks need to concentrate on solidifying their skills and studying for the Canadian Midwifery Regulators Council national exam. They don't need the pressure of job interviews and preparing for practice until their clinical work is almost complete.

Cecilia Jevitt, RM PhD
UBC Midwifery Director



New Indigenous Learning Initiative!

Through support from the Strategic Investment Fund, UBC Midwifery has been creating a series of unique learning opportunities for Indigenous midwifery students in the program. This year we started the annual Fall Virtual Indigenous Midwifery Learning Series, where Indigenous students are sitting down virtually with Indigenous midwives and Elders to learn and share Indigenous perspectives and teachings on sexual and reproductive health and wellness. This five-part series will be followed up by a land-based intensive in the spring, also led by Indigenous midwives and Elders.



This work centers the importance of reconciliation through:

- Restoring Indigenous knowledge to Indigenous people and communities
- Providing opportunities for Indigenous midwifery students to attain Indigenous midwifery core competencies
- Grounding Indigenous midwifery learning on the land and within Indigenous worldviews
- Providing safe spaces for Indigenous students to expand their knowledge and fluency on issues that are significant for Indigenous people and communities
- Increasing retention and graduation
- Improving the likelihood of successful professional integration into an Indigenous community or Nation following graduation

All of these support NACM's vision of Indigenous Midwives Working in Every Indigenous Community.

As preceptors, you can enhance the success of this initiative by supporting your Indigenous students in blocking off adequate time from clinical responsibilities to attend, including time ahead to prepare, and time after to process. Preceptors of Indigenous students who are participating in this semester's activities have already been notified and we thank you sincerely for your support. These workshops represent important clinical learning for the students and will enhance their overall capacities as future midwives.

With respect,
Evelyn George, RM (non-practicing)
Indigenous Student Coordinator, UBC Midwifery



JOB POSTING! Part-time Instructor

Interested midwives should forward a letter of interest and an updated CV to Cecilia.jevitt@ubc.ca

BUSINESS TITLE: Midwifery Simulation and Clinical Skills Instructor

BUSINESS TITLE: Midwifery Clinical Faculty

JOB SUMMARY

Effective September 1, 2021, the UBC Midwifery Program will have part-time Clinical Skills Instructors (.2 FTE/averages one day per week) located in Vancouver and Victoria. Each site has separate clinical skills facilities and supply storage. Midwifery Clinical Skills Instructors will communicate with each other about best practices in inventory procurement and storage and the management of clinical skills experiences.

For details pertaining to the work performed and responsibilities please see the detailed job description here [Simulation and Clinical Skills Instructor](#)

QUALIFICATIONS

Registration as a midwife in British Columbia or related experience. Midwifery Clinical Faculty members will be given preference. Computer experience required (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, and virtual meeting platforms). Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing. Ability to deal with a diversity of people in a calm, courteous, and effective manner. Ability to prioritize and work effectively under pressure to meet deadlines. Ability to effectively manage multiple tasks and priorities. Ability to exercise tact and discretion. Ability to maintain accuracy and attention to detail. Ability to work effectively independently and in a team environment. Ability to exercise initiative, organizational skills, and diplomacy.

The paid orientation for this position will start during February if the applicant is available. The full position will be assumed at the end of March 2022.



Covid Protection Update - 2022

IMPORTANT UPDATES:

[29, November 2021](#)

UBC follows health directives from the BC Ministry of Health, which are additionally vetted by Worksafe BC. As the 4th wave of COVID, largely the delta variant, spreads, UBC has updated instructions for the return to classes in September 2021. As of the 24th of August, here are specifics:

- Faculty, including clinical preceptors, may not ask students about their vaccine status. This is protected health information.
- UBC will require [vaccine cards](#) for class enrollment and participation in group events. These details are still being completed. This should assure clinical preceptors that students have been vaccinated.
- UBC will require masks in all indoor spaces.
- Students will need to follow Ministry of Health guidelines when in outpatient clinical spaces and follow any additional hospital authority guidelines when working in hospitals.

Measures to protect the health of students, preceptors, faculty and clients change to meet provincial and local health needs. Any changes will be broadcast to clinical preceptors and students as soon as they are received. UBC also regularly updates its [COVID management website](#).



Why become Clinical Faculty?

BENEFITS & RESOURCES

All UBC preceptors **must** have clinical faculty status with the Faculty of Medicine to be fully covered by UBC insurance **and to receive stipend** for their precepting. There are a number of advantages to having your clinical faculty appointment which can be found listed in the [Faculty of Medicine Services and Perks](#) page as well as in this [PDF](#).



Please also see the [clinical faculty policy](#) if you want a deeper dive into UBC's regulations.

Friendly reminder, if you need to update your name clinical faculty members can login into Workday and change it themselves.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

[Midwifery Best Practices in Materials Management :](#)

New course offered through UBC CPD. This self-paced course is offered free of charge to midwives. Completion time is approximately one hour. The production of this course was supported by the MABC, the BCCNM, UBC CPD and the Ministry of Health. Thanks to Kim Campbell, UBC CPD Lead, for project oversight.



[Cultural Safety and Humility - Midwifery Resource Hub :](#)

Browse this resource hub to view current and reliable resources on cultural safety and humility being offered by various education providers and organizations. Find guidelines, self-paced courses, toolkits, informational readings, and more on how to integrate cultural safety into your midwifery practice.



2021 Highlights

Here are a few brighter moments for midwifery around the globe.

- WHO/Europe [launches new roadmap](#) to strengthen nursing and midwifery in the region.
- NY Governor Hochul [signed legislation](#) to enhance the patient experience in Midwifery birth centres.
- Midwifery has become a [licensed profession](#) in Illinois
- In Hamilton, Ontario, the YWCA [opens weekly midwifery clinic](#) for pregnant homeless women.
- Nigerian medical student and illustrator Chidiebere Ibe [made waves with a beautiful illustration \[shown on this page\] of a pregnant Black woman and a Black fetus](#). Due attention to the white centredness of bodies in the medical textbook and course materials and the need for skin tone diversity.

Image shared with permission





PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

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The UBC Midwifery Program manages subscriber information for the UBC Midwifery Clinical Faculty Preceptor mailing list and is an announcement only, opt-in mailing list. You have been added to this list if you have received your Clinical Faculty Appointment (CFA).

The Mailing List Service is provided by UBC and your contact information is not stored outside of Canada at any time. UBC is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA), which is the privacy law that governs all government bodies in British Columbia. This law protects personal information (recorded information about an identifiable individual). It only allows UBC to collect and use personal information for purposes connected with its programs or activities, and it requires UBC to keep this information secure and confidential.

If you need to update your email address, or remove your email address, please email alicia.rebman@ubc.ca.





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