

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2025 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 5

RESOLUTION NO. 666 - 2025

Introduced by: Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment- Dr. Brittany Francine Burch- Commission on Aging

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Dr. Brittany Francine Burch to the Commission on Aging.

Introduced and read first time on April 7, 2025.

By order

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on April 21, 2025.

By order

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted ☒, Adopted with amendments __, Failed __, Withdrawn __ by the County Council on May 5, 2025.

Certified by

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALLCAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

WHEREAS, Section 404 of the Howard County Charter and Section 6.300 of the Howard County Code provide for the County Executive to appoint and for the County Council to confirm nominees to Howard County Boards and Commissions created by law; and

WHEREAS, Sections 6.313 and 12.501 of the Howard County Code provide for a Commission on Aging in Howard County; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive has proposed the appointment of Dr. Brittany Francine Burch as a member of the Commission on Aging; and

WHEREAS, the County Council ratifies the County Executive's special trust and confidence in the abilities of the nominee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland this 5 day of May, 2025 that the following person is appointed as a member of the Commission on Aging to serve from the passage of this Resolution to May 5, 2028 or until a successor is appointed and confirmed:

Dr. Brittany Francine Burch
Columbia, MD

BRITTANY BURCH (FORMERLY DRAZICH), PHD, MSN, RN

NURSE. RESEARCHER. TEACHER.

Dr. Drazich is an assistant professor at the University of Maryland Baltimore, School of Nursing. With a clinical background in oncology home care, Dr. Drazich has a passion for using fun and innovative approaches to increase the physical activity of older adults, with the goal of maintained physical function. She is the developer of the **Motivating Older Adults Through Immersive Virtual Exercise**, or MOTIVE, intervention. Dr. Drazich has taught across a variety of subjects from nursing philosophy to interdisciplinary clinical care of older adults.

EDUCATION

Johns Hopkins University, School of Nursing Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)	Baltimore, MD GPA 3.99, 2021
Johns Hopkins University, School of Nursing Masters in Public Health Nursing (MSN)	Baltimore, MD GPA 3.98, 2017
University of Delaware, School of Nursing Bachelors of Science in Nursing (BSN) Honors Program	Newark, DE GPA 3.7, 2013

LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATIONS

Nursing License R259012 Maryland Board of Nursing	State of Maryland Expiration 11/28/24
Johns Hopkins University, School of Nursing Teaching Institute Certificate	Baltimore, MD 2020

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor University of Maryland Baltimore, Organizational Systems and Adult Health	Baltimore, MD 2023-Current
Post-Doctoral Fellow University of Maryland Baltimore, Organizational Systems and Adult Health	Baltimore, MD 2021-2023
Oncology Home Care Nurse Christiana Care Visiting Nurses Association	New Castle, DE 2016-2018

Medical-Surgical Nurse
Christiana Care, Floor 6E

Newark, DE
2013-2016

Intern, Delaware Legislature
Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long

Newark, DE
2011-2013

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Mather Institute Innovative Research on Aging Bronze Award 2024
- CARTI Training Track Scholar 2023-2024
- Robert Wood Johnson Future of Nursing Scholar 2019-Present
- Nurses' Alumni Association Award, Johns Hopkins University 2017
- School of Nursing Award, University of Delaware 2013
- Selected Speaker for Graduation, University of Delaware 2013
- Outstanding Senior Nominee, University of Delaware 2013
- Honors Award, University of Delaware 2012
- Women of Promise Award, University of Delaware 2012
- Jeanne K. Buxbaum Scholar, University of Delaware 2011-2013

SPONSORED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Research Education Core Scholar Position \$50,000
University of Maryland Baltimore, PEPPER Center 2024

Facilitation Award \$1,000
Biology and Behavior Across the Lifespan Research Center 2023

MOTIVE - Motivating Older Adults Through Immersive Virtual Exercise \$5,000
Sigma Theta Tau, Southern Nursing Research Society 2022-2023

Physical Activity Among Recently Hospitalized Older Adults with Dementia Receiving a Function Focused Care Intervention \$50,000
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2021-2023

Exploring Older Adults' Well-being Through Exergaming \$5,000
Johns Hopkins School of Engineering and Nursing Interdisciplinary Grant 2019-2021

PUBLICATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIP

- **Drazich, B.F., Kim, N., Gurlu, M., Boltz, M., Kuzmik, A., Galik, E., Resnick, B.** *(in press)*. Examining the association of physical activity and mortality among recently discharged older adults with dementia. *Geriatric Nursing*.

- Kuzmik, A., Boltz, M., Resnick, B., McPherson, R., Rodriguez M., **Drazich, B.F.**, Galik, E. (2024). Delirium severity and physical function in hospitalized persons living with dementia: moderation by age, sex, and race. *Alzheimer Dis Assoc Disord.* 38(1):28-33.
- Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Galik, E., Wells, C., Kuzmik, A., McPherson, R., **Drazich, B.F.**, Zhu, Shijun (*in press*). Measurement of physical activity among hospitalized older adults living with dementia. *Rehabilitation Nursing*.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Anokye, D., Zhu, S., Taleb, J., Galik, E., Colloca, L., Resnick, B. (2023). Motivating older adults through immersive virtual exercise (MOTIVE): A randomized pilot study. *Geriatric Nursing.* 54:229-236.
- Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Galik, E., Kuzmik, A., McPherson, R., **Drazich, B.F.**, Kim, N., Zhu, S., Wells, C. (2023, *online ahead of print*). Differences in medication use by gender and race in hospitalized persons living with dementia. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*.
- Kuzmik, A., Boltz, M., Resnick, B. **Drazich, B.F.**, Galvin, G.E. (2023). Gender, pain, and function associated with physical activity after hospitalization in persons living with dementia. *Alzheimer Disease & Associated Disorders - An International Journal.* 37(4):357-362.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, McPherson, R., Gorman, E., Chan, T., Taleb, J., Galik, E., Resnick, B. (2023). In too deep? A systematic review of fully-immersive virtual reality and cybersickness among older adults. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society.* 71(12):3906-3915.
- Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Galik, E., Kuzmik, A., **Drazich, B.F.**, McPherson, R., Kim, N., Wells, C., Zhu, Shijun (2023). Psychotropic medication use and changes during hospitalization for older adults living with dementia. *Clin Nurs Res.* 32(5):865-872.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Zeiler, S., Abshire, M., Bahouth, M. (2023). Providers' perceptions of neurology care delivered through telemedicine technology. *Telemedicine and e-Health*, 29:5.
- Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Kuzmik, A., Galik, E., **Drazich, B.F.**, McPherson, R., Wells, C. (2023). Factors associated with Function Focused Care among hospitalized older adults living with dementia. *American Journal of Critical Care*, 32:4.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Boltz, M., Kuzmik, A., Galik, E., Kim, N., McPherson, R., Holmes, S., Resnick, B. (2023). The association of physical activity and behavioral and psychological symptoms among a sample of hospitalized older adults living with dementia. *International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*, 38(2):e5885.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Crane, B.M., Taylor, J.L., Szanton, S.L., Moored, K.D., Eldreth, D., Ahmad, O., Krakauer, J.W., Resnick, B., Carlson, M.C. (2023). Older adults' subjective well-being experiencing the exergame "I Am Dolphin." *International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health & Well-being*, 18:1.
- Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Galik, E., Ellis, J., Kuzmik, A., **Drazich, B.F.**, McPherson, R., Kim, N. (2023). A descriptive study of treatment of pain in acute care for patients living with dementia. *Pain Management Nursing*, 24:3.

- Crane, B.M., **Drazich, B.F.**, Moored, K.D., Eldreth, D., Krakauer, J.W., Taylor, J.L., Carlson, M.C. (2023). Older adults and three-dimensional exergaming: Motivators and barriers to participation and retention. *Games for Health*, 12:2(150-157).
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Galik, E., Kim, N., McPherson, R., Ellis, J., Kuzmik, A. (2023). Factors associated with physical activity in hospitalized patients with dementia. *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity*, 6:1-8.
- Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Galik, E., Ellis, J., Kuzmik, A., **Drazich, B.F.** (2023). Optimal approach for assessing evidence of dementia for research studies. *Western Journal of Nursing Research*, 45(3):254-261.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Li, J-W., Bowles, K.H., Taylor, J.L., Shah, S., Resnick, B., Kim, N., Szanton, S.L. (2023). Pandemic-related changes in technology use among a sample of previously hospitalized older adults New Yorkers: Observational Study. *JMIR Aging*, 6:e41692.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Li, Q., Perrin, N.A., Taylor, J.L., Lee, J-W., Huang, C-M., Carlson, M.C., Samuel, L.J., Regier, N.G., Rebok, G.W., Szanton, S.L., (2023). The relationship between older adults' technology use, in-person engagement, and pandemic-related mental health. *Aging and Mental Health*, 27 (1): 156-165.
- Samuel, L.J., Dwivedi, P., Hladek, M., Cudjoe, TKM., **Drazich, B.F.**, Li, Q., Szanton, S.L. (2022). The effect of COVID-19 pandemic-related financial challenges on mental health and well-being among U.S. older adults. *Journal of the American Geriatric Society*, 70(6):1629-1641.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Jenkins, E., Nkimbeng, M., Saylor, M.A., Szanton, S.L., Wright, R., Beach, M.C., Taylor, J.L. (2022). Exploring the experiences of co-morbid pain and depression in older African American women and their preferred management strategies. *Frontiers in Pain Research*, 28(3):845513.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Nyikadzino, Y., Gleason, K.T. (2021) A program to increase digital access and literacy among community stakeholders: Lessons learned. *JMIR Formative Research*, 5(11).
- LaFave, S., **Drazich, B.F.**, Sheehan, O., Leff, B., Szanton, S., Schuchman, M. (2021). The value of home-based primary care: A qualitative exploration of homebound patient and caregiver perspective. *Journal of Applied Gerontology*, 40(11):1611-1616.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, LaFave, S., Crane, B., Szanton, S.L., Carlson, M., Budhathoki, C., Taylor, J.L. (2020). Exergames and depressive symptoms in older adults: A systematic review. *Games for Health Journal*, 9(5):339-345.
- Taylor, J.L., **Drazich, B.F.**, Roberts, L., Okoye, S., Rivers, E., Wenzel, J., Wright, R. Beach, MC., & Szanton, S.L. (2020). Pain in low-income older women with disabilities: A qualitative descriptive study. *Journal of Women and Aging*, 32(4):402-423.
- Orsega-Smith, E., Kalksma, P., Harris, W., **Drazich, B.** (2020). Older adults and exergames Olympics: Feasibility and fun. *Activities, Adaptation & Aging*, 45(2):118-134.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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- **Drazich, B.F.** (2019, Dec.31). CAPABLE Can Save State Money, Help Older Adults Age At Place. News Journal, Delaware Online. **Op-Ed** from

<https://www.delawareonline.com/story/opinion/readers/2019/12/31/letters-okboomer-202-traffic-nightmare-state-needs-capable/2774730001/>.

- **Drazich, B.F.** & Taylor, J.L. (2019, May 21). Don't Fall For the Red Herring: Nurse Detectives Discover Mental Illness in Older Adults. Johns Hopkins Nursing Magazine. Blog Post from <https://magazine.nursing.jhu.edu/2019/05/dont-fall-for-the-red-herring-nurse-detectives-discover-mental-illness-in-older-adults/>.

PRESENTATIONS

- **Drazich, B.F.**, Boltz, M., Galik, E., McPherson, R., Kuzmik, A., Resnick, B. (2023). The association of physical activity and behavioral and psychological symptoms among a sample of hospitalized older adults living with dementia [symposium conference session]. The 2023 Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Tampa, FL.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Galik, E., Kim, N., McPherson, R., Ellis, J., Phun, J., Kuzmik, A. (2022). Factors associated with physical activity in hospitalized patients with dementia [symposium conference session]. The 2022 Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, Indianapolis, IN.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Resnick, B., Boltz, M., Galik, E., Kim, N., McPherson, R., Ellis, J., Phun, J., Kuzmik, A. (2022). Factors associated with physical activity in hospitalized patients with dementia [poster conference session]. The 2022 American Geriatric Society Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL.
- **Drazich, B.F.**, Crane, B., Moored, K., Shieh, K., Taylor, J.T., Carlson, M. (2020). Older adults' mood following an exergame intervention "Bandit the Dolphin"- Focus group findings [poster conference session]. The 2020 Gerontological Society of America Annual Scientific Meeting, virtual.
- Rivers, E., **Drazich, B.**, Szanton, S., Nkimbeng, M., & Taylor, J. (2019). Beliefs Surrounding The Pain And Depression Cycle Among Older African American Women: Findings From Focus Groups. *Innovation in Aging*, 3(Supplement 1).
- Schuchman, M., LaFave, S., **Drazich, B.F.** (2019). Patient and caregiver preference on optimal home-based primary care design. [Oral Presentation]. Geriatric Grand Rounds: Clinical, Social, and Scientific Foundations of Geriatric Medicine – May 16, 2019. Johns Hopkins Bayview Campus.

INTERVIEWS

- **Larkin, M.** (in press). Virtual reality: A fun way to motivate older adults to move. *Journal on Active Aging*. "Hot Topic" Column.
- **Exploring the Impact of VR Fitness with HOLOFIT: The MOTIVE Study (2024)**. Holodia, Health & Wellness. Blog from: <https://www.holodia.com/vr-fitness-blog/exploring-the-impact-of-vr-fitness-with-holofit-the-motive-study/>

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

- Interprofessional Care in Geriatrics, Teaching Faculty 2021-2022
- Philosophical Perspectives in Health, Teaching Assistant 2021

- Promoting Health in Older Adults, Teaching Assistant 2020
- The Research Process and Evidenced Based Practice, Teaching Assistant 2019

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND SERVICE

Journal of the American Medical Directors Association (JAMDA) 2022-Present
Associate Editor

Gerontological Society of America 2024-Present
Fitness, Exercise, and Wellness Convener Group Leadership

American College of Sports Medicine 2024-Present
Exercise is Medicine Older Adult Committee Leadership

Sigma Theta Tau 2021-Present
Member