Debi Sampsel, DNP, RN

Chief Officer of Innovation and Entrepreneurship
University of Cincinnati, College of Nursing
Director of Research and Innovation Daniel Drake Center for Post-Acute Care

Brief Biography

Debi Sampsel, DNP, RN, is the Chief Officer of Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of Cincinnati, College of Nursing in Ohio and Director of Research and Innovation at the Daniel Drake Center for Post-Acute Care. She has worked on various engineering team partnership for several years in academic settings and at Wright Brothers Institute Tec^Edge Innovation and Collaboration Center, Dayton, Ohio. Sampsel received her Doctorate of Nursing Practice at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee, her Master of Science from the former Medical College of Ohio, her Bachelor of Arts and Associate Degree in Nursing from the University of Toledo. She is known for her visionary leadership, creativity with technology, and design of experiential learning environments. She has completed numerous research projects and initiatives involving telemedicine, simulators, sensors, and internet based programming. She was the first nursing researcher in the world to evaluate the use of the remote telepresence robot in an academic setting. In the 80s, her first innovative home and community based design was a “Home Stabilization” project that included the co-authorship of an electronic community based case management system. As a corporate health care vice president of clinical and quality improvement, she co-led a team that developed a nursing home electronic touch screen charting system. In 2009, she designed and implemented the “Living Laboratory Smart Technology House.” In the fall of 2012, she created the Intraprofessional Innovation Collaboratory located in the University of Cincinnati College of Nursing and opened the UC Innovation Collaboratory house, located on a continuum of care retirement community. In 2013, Sampsel’s and a colleague’s systems and methods for remotely community with patients in the home invention was awarded a patent by the US Patent and Trademark office. Sampsel serves on the Washington D.C. based LeadingAge Center for Aging Services Technology (CAST) Commission and the National LeadingAge CAST Telehealth Committee.

Advancing the use of robotic devices through Intraprofessional Academic and Healthcare Collaborations

The University of Cincinnati College of Nursing and the College of Engineering faculty and students have been collaborating to advance the use of robotics, both telehealth presence robots and assistive robotics in the health care arena. This work has been taking place in two settings; the Intraprofessional Innovation Collaboratory in the College of Nursing and the Innovation Collaboratory Smart House located on a continuum of care retirement community. The results of the work have advanced the use of the robots along with other smart devices.