

College of Nursing



Laura O. Smith, PhD, FNP-C, RN

A full-time faculty member of the graduate nursing program in Tampa, Dr. Smith joined NSU in December 2016. Dr. Smith has been a nurse since 1983 and has practiced in acute and public health care in a variety of practice settings. She graduated from Loyola University of Chicago with a BSN, the University of South Florida with a MSN, and University of Florida with a PhD. Her dissertation study investigated coping mechanisms of neuro-typical, adolescent siblings of persons with an autism spectrum disorder. She has a passion for adolescent health and continues to practice as a certified family nurse practitioner in a high school based health center (SBHC) as an employee of the Florida Department of Health. Her recent scholarly work considered the SBHC process for case management of obese students. Currently, Dr. Smith is a regional leader for Florida Action Coalition, a workgroup member for improvement of absenteeism for the American Academy of Pediatrics, and participates on the research advisory team for the National Association of County and City Health Officials. In addition, she is a current member of the Tampa Bay Area Nurse Practitioner Network, Southern Nursing Research Society and National Association of School Nurses.