

Editorial

Place Represented in the Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care

Pamela Stewart Fahs, PhD, RN, Editor

Rural is represented in this journal from a variety of places and perspectives. Just perusing the articles for the May 2018 issue, I found place represented as rural central Appalachia, southeastern KY, AL, western states such as CO and Canada and over the years we have published articles from all over the US as well as globally. Of course, just because research occurs in a specific place or has a rural sample does not make the research rural in and of itself. That said, I personally believe that rural nurses can benefit from research that is inclusive of rural populations even if the topic itself is not rural specific. A case may also be made for including research done in none rural venues if the application to rural health, populations or health policy can be made. However, I find there are a variety of opinions on how an argument for including research inclusive of place should be made if the study could have been completed anywhere and “just happens” to have a rural site or rural sample. The authors that are most successful in making this case clearly delineate how they are defining rural and how the research will influence rural health care, rural nursing or rural policy throughout the article, not just in the title, key words or sample. The focus of this journal is rural nursing and all that goes along with that focus. Authors should be reading the author guideline prior to submission and writing to the rural nurse audience to make their case of how rural place matters in the work they are disseminating through the Online Journal of Rural Nursing and Health Care.

Rural places will be amply represented at the 2018 International Rural Nursing Conference co-sponsored by the RNO in Nashville, TN from July 23-26, 2018 <http://www.rno.org/events/international-rural-nursing-conference-2018-2/> . See you there!