

ABIGAIL SMETANA

SUMMARY

Doctorate-prepared leader with more than 15 years of experience advancing education, clinical training, and workforce development across complex academic and healthcare environments. Brings extensive experience in clinical placement operations, academic-practice partnerships, preceptor engagement and development, program management, and clinical education infrastructure. Demonstrated success designing and implementing systems and processes that expand clinical education capacity, strengthen learner and preceptor experiences, and support organizational and academic priorities. Skilled in cultivating collaborative partnerships across academic institutions, healthcare organizations, and interdisciplinary teams to address complex clinical education challenges and strengthen the healthcare workforce pipeline. A strategic and collaborative leader committed to innovation, continuous improvement, and the development of sustainable approaches to clinical education and experiential learning.

EDUCATION

Edd	Nebraska Methodist College, Healthcare Leadership	Aug 2025
MSN	Duke University, Nursing and Healthcare Leadership	Aug 2013
BSN	Saint Joseph College, Nursing	May 2004

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Northeastern University , Boston, MA Associate Clinical Faculty Director of Graduate Clinical Education	Aug 2026-Present
MaineHealth-Maine Medical Center , Portland, ME Advanced Practice Provider Education Office Program Manager	Aug 2024-Jul 2026
MaineHealth-Maine Medical Center , Portland, ME Interprofessional Education Program Manager	Sept 2023-Aug 2024
University of New Hampshire , Durham, NH Graduate Program Clinical Placement Coordinator	Jan 2022 to Aug 2023
University of North Carolina , Chapel Hill, NC Training Program and Accreditation Manager, Carolina Global Breastfeeding Institute	Dec 2020 to June 2021
University of North Carolina , Chapel Hill, NC Project Assistant, Carolina Global Breastfeeding Institute	Aug 2014 to Dec 2020
United States Air Force Nurse Corps , Lackland AFB, TX Dedicated Preceptor, Nurse Transition Program	Jun 2008-Jan 2010

United States Air Force Nurse Corps, Lackland AFB, TX
Clinical Nurse, General Medicine Inpatient Flight

Jan 2006-Jun 2008

Saint Francis Hospital, Hartford, CT
Clinical Nurse, Medical Unit

Jun 2004-Oct 2005

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Oral Presentation: Clinical Placement Professionals: Innovating, Collaborating, and Advancing Practice Education. Society of Clinical Placement Professionals 2nd Annual Summit. April 24, 2026. Panel Co-Presenter.

Oral Presentation: “Strengthening Clinical Capacity,” National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, April 17, 2026. Panel Presenter.

Oral Presentation: “Expanding the APP Workforce: Innovative Strategies for Preceptor Recruitment and Retention,” Nebraska Methodist College Research Day, July 30, 2025. Presenter.

Breastfeeding Oral Session: Services to Support Breastfeeding: “RISE: Lactation Training Model (Reclaiming, Improving and Sustaining Equity),” American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo, November 10-14, 2018. Co-presenter.

Oral Presentation: “Preparing IBLCE Exam Candidates for Success: Lessons Learned from the First CAAHEP Accredited Pathway 2 Program,” International Lactation Consultant Association Annual International Meeting, July 18-21, 2018. Co-presenter.

Breakfast Table Talk: “The Mary Rose Tully Training Initiative: Lessons Learned on the Road to Accreditation” United States Lactation Consultant Association Annual Meeting, May 3-6, 2017. Co-presenter.

Oral Presentation: “Developing a Pathway 2 Lactation Training Program to Meet Community Needs,” American Public Health Association Annual Meeting and Expo, November 2, 2015. Co-presenter.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

McCamey, D, Novak, K, Pasquale, C, Blount, T, **Smetana, A**, Kent, E, Reyes, I, D’Aoust, R. The critical role of clinical placement professionals in academic-practice partnerships for nurse education. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 2025; 60; 67-70;
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.profnurs.2025.06.008>.

Palmquist AEL, Parry KC, Wouk K, Lawless GC, Smith JL, **Smetana AR**, Bourg JF, Hendricks MJ, and Sullivan CS. Ready, Set, BABY live! Virtual prenatal breastfeeding education for COVID-19. *Journal of Human Lactation*, 2020; 36(4); 614-618.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0890334420959292>

Wouk K, Parry K, Bridgman J, Palmquist AEL, Perkins M, **Smetana A**, Woods-Barr A, and Sullivan C. Evaluation of an evidence-based prenatal breastfeeding education curriculum adapted for the COVID-19 pandemic: Ready, Set, Baby Live COVID-19 Edition. *Journal of Perinatal Education*, 2022; 32(1); 48-66. [10.1891/JPE-2021-0035](https://doi.org/10.1891/JPE-2021-0035)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Society of Clinical Placement Professionals: Co-Founder, Current President 2022 - Present
Mission: To advance the clinical placement profession through education, networking, strategic innovations, and advocacy.
Vision: Transforming the clinical placement profession and cultivating collaboration to grow academic-practice partnerships and a sustainable future healthcare workforce.