

Elizabeth French

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Education:

MA, English, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 1994
BA, English and History (*Magna Cum Laude*), West Virginia University 1986

Professional Experience:

Gillings School of Global Public Health University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health is the top *public* school of public health in the nation and #2 overall (*U.S. News & World Report, 2021*). With over 240 faculty, ~350 staff members, and ~2,260 students, the Gillings School offers 50+ academic and professional degrees across 8 academic units; our researchers work in all 100 NC counties and in 60 countries; and grants and contracts awarded to Gillings School faculty in 2022-23 totaled almost \$281 million. Reporting directly to the dean and directly overseeing a staff of 5 in three Gillings units (15 total), this position helps plan, launch, evaluate, improve and sustain energy for, cross-cutting strategic initiatives that help position the Gillings School for maximum public health impact.

Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives

2020-present

Gillings Strategy, Innovation and Implementation

- ◆ Provides administrative leadership for three key Gillings central units: Strategic Analysis and Business Intelligence; Research, Innovation and Global Solutions; and the Gillings School Dean's Office.

Schoolwide strategic planning

- ◆ Oversees design, implementation and evaluation of major, cross-cutting, schoolwide initiatives, including efforts to: a) strengthen processes and infrastructure for practice, inclusive excellence, global research, teaching, and outreach; and b) develop partnerships with UNC and external stakeholders to support the Gillings School mission and have an impact on the health of the public.
- ◆ Drives action on all parts of Gillings School's strategic plans.
- ◆ Partners closely with Gillings School's accreditation and evaluation teams to support alignment of strategy and plans; continuous quality improvement; and effective implementation of needed changes in processes/approaches.

Change management

- ◆ Works with deans and directors on strategic positioning of new ideas, building the case for proposed changes; sustaining dialogue and continuous feedback to ensure authentic stakeholder input; and developing high-quality plans and deliverables.
- ◆ Establishes frameworks for, and then initiates implementation of, cross-cutting change initiatives.
- ◆ Conducts needs assessments and special evaluations within the Gillings.
- ◆ Collaborates with Gillings Communications team and key internal and external partners to amplify impact.

Problem solving and crisis management

- ◆ Provides guidance to, and collaborates with, stakeholders from across Gillings School, in issues management. Leads crisis management efforts, as needed.

Interim Communications Director May 2018-June 2019

Oversaw highly accomplished four-person communications staff to execute broad communications mission for the Gillings School. This included media relations to promote world class research of more than 230 faculty and 1,700 students; marketing for academic programs; management of social media platforms; publication of the award-winning *Carolina Public Health Magazine* twice annually; planning and execution of communications strategies to engage alumni and donors; and crisis communications. U.S. News and World Report ranked Gillings as top *public* school of public health, and second overall, in March 2019.

Assistant Dean for Strategic Initiatives

2014-2020

- ◆ Co-led schoolwide strategic planning efforts, including development of Gillings School's Inclusive Excellence Action Plan.

- ◆ Facilitated change management for key initiatives.
- ◆ Oversaw key leadership groups such as Dean's Council and Operations Committee.
- ◆ Engaged in crisis management, as needed.
- ◆ Oversaw Dean's Office staff.

Dean's Liaison for Strategic Initiatives

2012 to 2014

- ◆ Planned and administered new strategic initiatives for the School (e.g., SPH2020) in collaboration with key internal and external stakeholders.
- ◆ Conducted special evaluations and projects for Gillings School, as needed.
- ◆ Designed and executed internal and external communications plans, as needed.

Assistant Director, Academic Affairs, Department of Health Behavior

2008-2012

- ◆ Liaised from chair's office to support academic endeavors of a department with 23 faculty, 50+ doctoral students, and 100+ MPH students. Duties included collaborating with academic program leaders to develop, and implement guidelines and practices related to academic affairs. Served on curriculum change committees for both the HB master's and doctoral programs.
- ◆ Served on Master's Advisory Committee and Doctoral Advisory Committee. Served on committees to reshape curriculum for both programs.
- ◆ Oversaw development of successful Graduate Program Review (2008).
- ◆ Oversaw special projects, including evaluations of teaching programs.

Adjunct Instructor, Department of Health Behavior

2008 to present

- ◆ Co-instructor, SPHG 690, Public Health Implications for COVID-19 (Fall 2020; Spring 2021)
- ◆ Co-Instructor, HBHE 727, Patient Advocacy (2007-2014). This cross-disciplinary course focused on health advocacy across the health care continuum. Sessions focused on ethics, health policy, advocacy for vulnerable populations, and skills building in media and legislative advocacy.
- ◆ Instructor, HBHE 812, Professional Issues (2007-2012).
- ◆ Guest lecturer, HBEH 746, MPH Capstone; HBEH 860, Research Proposal Development.
- ◆ Practicum preceptor, course instructor, guest lecturer (as requested).

Lecturer, Editorial Associate

2002-2008

Editorial Assistant

1999-2002

Mathematics and Science Education Network (MSEN)

1995-1999

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Coordinator, Eisenhower Professional Development Program for Math and Science Education

- ◆ Led and managed day-to-day operations of \$1.5 million competitive grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Education for faculty in NC colleges and universities offering professional development to K-12 mathematics and science teachers.
- ◆ Developed strategy for using funding to improve K-12 math and science education across North Carolina, focusing in particular on underserved schools and school systems.
- ◆ Developed annual RFPs for Eisenhower Program; developed assessment materials for proposal review process; oversaw grant review process for 40-50 competitive grant submissions each year; oversaw evaluation and continuous improvement process for grant program.
- ◆ Led annual statewide advisory board meetings related to Eisenhower Program.
- ◆ Offered technical assistance in grant development and implementation to PIs.

Department of English, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Senior Teaching Fellow

1998-1999

Teaching Fellow

1995-1998

Independently developed syllabus for, and taught all courses below, receiving course evaluations averaging 4.5 or above across most items for all courses taught.

- ◆ English 20, Survey of British Literature: Beowulf to Dryden, Fall 1997 and 1998.
- ◆ English 12, Freshman Composition, Biology Link (Spring 1998 and 1999).
- ◆ English 11 and 12, Freshman Composition, 1995-1997.
- ◆ English 40, Twentieth-Century Drama, Spring 1997.

Publications:

Books and Chapters:

Linnan, L; French, E; Landfried, M; and Moracco, B (2019). Group-based service learning teaching approaches.

Teaching Public Health, Lisa M. Sullivan and Sandro Galea, eds. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP.

Earp, J, French, E and Gilkey, M (2008); *Patient Advocacy for Health Care Quality*. Sudbury, MA: Jones & Bartlett.

Gilkey, M; Earp, J; and French, E (2007). What is patient advocacy? *Patient Advocacy for Health Care Quality*. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett: 3-28.

Earp, J; Emmett, K; and French, E (2007). Patient advocacy: A bridge to improving health care quality. *Patient Advocacy for Health Care Quality*. Sudbury, MA: Jones and Bartlett: 569-602.

Articles:

Linnan, L, Brooks, A, Haws, S, Benedict, S, Birken, B, French, EA, Gizlice, Z. (2010). Community colleges as settings for promoting employee health. *Am J Health Studies*. 25(2): 86-91.

Linnan, L; Steckler, A; Maman, S; Ellenson, M; French, E; et al. (2010). Engaging key stakeholders to assess and improve the professional preparation of MPH health educators. *American Journal of Public Health*. First look.

French, EA; Gilkey, MB; and Earp JA (2009). Issue Brief: Patient advocacy: Putting the vocabulary of patient-centered care into action. *NCMJ*. 70(2): 114-120.

Gilkey, MB, Earp, JA, and French, EA (2008). Applying health education theory to patient safety programs: Three case studies. *Health Promotion Practice*. 9(2), 123-129.

Perry, M; Zakocs, R.C.; Earp, JA; and French, EA (2006). Community coalition project directors: What makes them effective leaders? *Journal of Health Management and Practice*. 12(2): 201-209.

Sample Committees and Task Forces:

UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

- ◆ Gillings Research Strategic Planning Task Force, 2023-present
- ◆ Gillings Practice Strategic Planning Task Force, 2021-22
- ◆ Gillings Strategic Planning Committee (co-chair), 2021-present
- ◆ Gillings COVID-19 Working Group (chair), 2020-present
- ◆ Gillings School Inclusive Excellence Council (Co-chair), 2019-present
- ◆ Gillings School Website Task Force (chair), 2018-2019
- ◆ Gillings/RTI IMPACT Advisory Committee 2017-present
- ◆ Going Viral Symposium Planning Committee (chair, working group), (2017-2018)
- ◆ Practice Advisory Committee, 2017 to present
- ◆ CEPH Executive Committee, 2015-2017; 2022-present
- ◆ Gillings MPH Core Planning (2015-16) and Implementation Committees, 2016-2017
- ◆ Gillings Diversity and Inclusion Working Group (chair), 2016-2018
- ◆ External Advisory Committee, 2016-present
- ◆ National Health Equity Research Webcast, 2016-present
- ◆ Research Strategy Working Group, 2015
- ◆ Gillings Global Gateway Implementation Task Force, 2013-14

Key skills:

- ◆ Highly skilled strategic planner, problem-solver, crisis manager, and team lead
- ◆ Experienced and effective communicator across audiences, purposes and platforms
- ◆ Extensive experience in curriculum development
- ◆ Award winning instructor with consistently outstanding course evaluations
- ◆ Strong track record of leveraging resources and leading collaboration with faculty and staff across ranks to develop goals for, and then catalyze development of, groundbreaking initiatives across all four Gillings School goals (education, research, practice and inclusive excellence)
- ◆ Effective manager, able to motivate staff to meet personal and professional goals
- ◆ Mission driven, highly adaptive and resourceful, able to translate high-level ideas into action