



**FRANK WHITE, JR.**  
Jackson County Executive

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 19-12**

**TO: MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE  
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE**

**FROM: FRANK WHITE, JR.  
JACKSON COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

**DATE: March 27, 2019**

**RE: APPOINTMENTS TO THE MID-AMERICA REGIONAL COUNCIL,  
COMMISSION ON AGING**

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2019

MARY JO SPINO  
COUNTY CLERK

*JHK*  
*4:02 pm*

I hereby make the following appointments to the Mid-America Regional Council, Commission on Aging:

Kia L. Walsh and Dr. Joan M. McDowd are appointed for terms to expire March 27, 2021. A copy of the resumes of Ms. Walsh and Ms. McDowd are attached.

  
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Frank White, Jr., County Executive

Date: 3/27/2019



## **Kia L Walsh**

Email: [kia.walsh527@gmail.com](mailto:kia.walsh527@gmail.com)



### **EDUCATION:**

**St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, PA**  
MS, Health Administration

**University of Missouri, Columbia, MO**  
BS, Human Development and Family Studies

### **WORK EXPERIENCE:**

**Kansas City Medicine Partners**  
*Chief Operating Officer*  
*Director of Business Development*  
*Practice Administrator*

**Leawood, KS,**  
*April 2017- Present*  
*January 2016- April 2017*  
*Janurary 2013-December 2017*

### **DUTIES:**

- Plan, organize, develop and direct company operations
- Responsible for the administrative supervision of 100 + administrative, clinical and support staff
- Responsible for initiation, design, development, implantation and training for all team members.
- Collaborate with clients to set and monitor team requirements and performance.
- Develop, implement and maintain policies and procedure for staff development and client product delivery
- Develop plans to Forecast and support growth of the Geriatric practice

**Office of the Public Administrator**

*Team Leader- Skilled Nursing Team*

**Kansas City, MO**

*July 2006 to December 2013*

**DUTIES:**

- Complied with the rules and regulations of the Probate Court and Missouri law to act on behalf of the Jackson County Public Administrator to make ethical decisions
- Responsible for supervision of the Skilled Nursing Team
- Served as the primary for 200+ aging clients within Jackson County, Missouri
- Responsible for resolution of internal and external team conflict
- Evaluation and management of the skilled nursing team including supervision of nursing and case management staff
- Performed audits of client medical records

**Highland Nursing and Rehabilitation Kansas City, MO**

*Director of Social Services*

*September 2005 to July 2006*

**DUTIES:**

- Developed Social Service Programs for direct reports, clinical staff, clients and families, including resource development and care coordination
- Planned and facilitated community educational meetings
- Ensured compliance with charting and other regulatory requirements for Medicare and Medicaid vendor payments
- Coordinated all internal grievance resolution for clients and families
- Performed vendor management
- Developed proposals and participated in monthly and quarterly QA/QI meetings

**Philadelphia Corporation for Aging**  
*Care Manager II*

**Philadelphia PA**  
*February 2003-September 2005*

**DUTIES:**

- Responsible for overseeing administration of long term care needs for ventilator dependent clients
- Recognized, supported and developed informal and formal resources to meet client needs
- Served as primary contact for 100+ long term care clients
- Prepared case management reports
- Budgeted and Forecasting
- Managed resource allocation while controlling costs to arrange for needed services and entitlements

**SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

- Works with highly detailed information independently
- Skilled verbal and written communication skills
- Strong decision-making and problem solving skills
- Training Skills: development, presentation, facilitation, organizational leadership

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:**

**Medical Group Management Association**  
General Member 2014-Present

**AMDA- The Society for Post- Acute and Long Term Care Medicine**  
General Member 2015-Present

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:**

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc**  
1998-Present – Mu Omega Chapter- KC, KS

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: McDowd, Joan M.

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): jmc dowd

POSITION TITLE: Professor of Psychology

EDUCATION/TRAINING (*Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.*)

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Washington University in St. Louis	B.A.	05/1980	Psychology
University of Toronto	M.A.	05/1982	Psychology
University of Toronto	PhD	05/1986	Psychology

**A. Personal Statement**

I have over 30 years experience in the study of cognitive aging, particularly in the laboratory study of attention and aging. More recently, I have become significantly involved in community-based work. I have served on Community Action Board (CAB) providing input and oversight for research activities related to church-based community studies. Together the Board has helped develop religiously-tailored educational information, and Board meetings have provided the opportunity for networking and building collaborations with local churches interested in health-related issues and improving the health of their members.

Over the past several years I also have been involved in a community-based project focused on grandparents raising grandchildren in Jackson County. Primarily African American older adults, these grandparents have taken on parenting for a second time, along with the associated challenges and stressors of parenting today. My project, funded by the Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City, provided information and support to grandparents, and connected them to community resources as needed. We were able to report significant impact in terms of number of grandparents served and an increase in perceived empowerment among grandparents. Partly as a result of this work I was awarded the UM-System President's Award for Community Engagement.

## B. Positions and Honors

### Positions

- 1986-1993 Assistant Professor, University of Southern California  
1993-1994 Research Associate, Pomona College  
1994-2003 Associate Professor, Department of Occupational Therapy Education  
University of Kansas Medical Center  
2003-2010 Professor, Department of Occupational Therapy Education  
University of Kansas Medical Center  
2004-2010 Associate Director for Research, Landon Center on Aging  
University of Kansas Medical Center  
2011 - Professor, Department of Psychology  
University of Missouri – Kansas City

### Honors

- 1980 Magna Cum Laude & Phi Beta Kappa, Washington University  
1987-1990 Brookdale National Fellowship  
2017 University of Missouri System President's Award for Community Engagement

### Editorial Boards

- Psychology and Aging* (1997-2005)  
*Journal of Gerontology* (2012-2018)

### Federal Review Panels

- Regular member, NIH BPPP-4 (1999- 2003)

## C. Contribution to Science

### **Research on cognitive abilities in neurological populations**

At various points in my career I have engaged in work involving older adults with neurological disorders, primarily Alzheimer's disease and stroke. Although these studies did not involve screening for dementia, they do illustrate my experience with the population, and interest in cognitive function in these conditions. The work contributes knowledge related to various aspects of function: attention, learning, cognitive training, mobility function, and psychosocial needs.

- Liu, C., McDowd, J., & Lin, K. (2004). Visuospatial inattention and daily life performance in people with Alzheimer's Disease. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 58, 202-210.
- Pohl, P. S., McDowd, J. M., Filion, D., Richards, L. G., & Stiers, W. (2006). Implicit learning of a motor skill after mild and moderate stroke. *Clinical Rehabilitation*, 20, 246-253.
- Kanaan SF, McDowd JM, Colgrove Y, Burns JM, Gajewski B, Pohl PS. (2014). Feasibility and efficacy of intensive cognitive training in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. *Am J Alzheimers Dis Other Demen.* 29(2):150-8. doi: 10.1177/1533317513506775.
- Gras, L.Z., Kanaan, S.F., McDowd, J.M., Colgrove, Y.M., Burns, J., & Pohl, P.S. (2015). Balance and gait of adults with very mild Alzheimer disease. *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy*, 38(1), 1 – 7. doi: 10.1519/JPT.0000000000000020.
- Han, A., Radel, J., McDowd, J., & Sabata, D. (2016). The benefits of individualized leisure and social activity interventions for people with dementia: A systematic review. *Activities, Adaptation, and Aging*, 40(3), 219-265.

## Understanding selective attention and inhibitory function in aging

Early in my career I investigated the role of inhibitory function in selective attention and aging. The inhibitory deficit hypothesis proposed that much of the inefficiency in information processing that characterized older adults was due to the fact that older adults fail to inhibit processing of irrelevant information, instead of focusing solely on the information most relevant to the task at hand. This hypothesis has undergone a variety of revisions to circumscribe its applicability, and my work has contributed to that effort. My interest in attention as a fundamental process determining much of higher order cognition motivated this work, and helped shape the approach to selective attention taken by others in the field.

- McDowd, J.M. & Filion, D.L. (1992). Aging, selective attention, and inhibitory processes: a psychophysiological approach. *Psychology and Aging, 7*, 65-71.
- McDowd JM, Filion DL. (1995). Aging and negative priming in a location suppression task: the long and the short of it. *Psychology and Aging, 10(1)*:34-47. PMID: 7779315
- McDowd, J.M. (1997). Inhibition in attention and aging. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences, 52B*, P265-P273.
- Murphy, D.R, McDowd, J.M. & Wilcox, K.A. (1999). Inhibition and aging: similarities between younger and older adults as revealed by the processing of unattended auditory information. *Psychology and Aging, 14(1)*: 44-59.

## Relating attention to everyday functions

In addition to my work with laboratory tasks assessing basic attentional abilities, I have also examined attention and cognition as they relate to more complex tasks of daily living. This work follows from my belief that attention is a fundamental ability that has a role in most higher-order tasks, including daily living tasks such as meal planning, medication management, and driving. In addition, this work has identified certain cognitive processes as potential targets for intervention, to improve quality of life among older adults. And finally, the work with Liu et al. represents an integration of my interest in attention and everyday tasks using eye-tracking methodology. In that work, we assessed information processing of health-related texts that did or did not have accompanying illustrations. Surprisingly, we found that illustrations more often interfered with comprehension than supported it, and that older adults had a difficult time combining both text and pictorial information in their understanding of the health materials. In this case, eye-tracking methodology was instrumental in understanding the attributes of text information that best supported older adults' comprehension.

- McDowd, J., Filion, D., Pohl, P., Richards, L., & Stiers, W. (2003). Attentional abilities and functional outcomes following stroke. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences, 58B*, P45-P53.
- Hoffman, L., McDowd, J., Atchley, P., & Dubinsky, R. (2005). The role of visual attention in predicting driving impairment in older adults. *Psychology and Aging, 20*, 610-622.
- Liu CJ, Kemper S, McDowd J. (2009). The use of illustration to improve older adults' comprehension of health-related information: is it helpful? *Patient Education and Counseling, 76(2)*:283-8.

## Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/joan.mcdowd.1/bibliography/47977653/public/?sort=date&direction=ascending>