Goals
My primary goal for this research leave is to write a manuscript on publishing literacy for nurses and submit it to a peer reviewed nursing journal. I will be co-authoring this manuscript with Dr. Robin Buccheri. Dr. Buccheri is a full professor in the School of Nursing and Health Professions and teaches, among other courses, Scholarly Communication (Nurs705a) and Evidence Based Practice (Nurs705b), both in the doctoral program. Dr. Buccheri and I successfully collaborated on an article titled Critical Appraisal Tools and Reporting Guidelines for Evidence-Based Practice, recently accepted for publication by the journal Worldviews on Evidence Based Nursing.

I am requesting a 7 week leave to work on a project that will serve as a guide and resource for novice nurse authors. The article will discuss the publishing ecosystem and help nurses make informed decisions about where to publish. Specifically, we plan to provide:

- an overview of the academic publishing environment, including the various publishing models (subscription based, open access, and subscription open access hybrids) and institutional and subject based repositories.
- strategies for identifying and selecting a journal
- simple strategies that make the submission process less frustrating and more likely to lead to an acceptance letter
- an overview of copyright ownership and publisher contract negotiations
- a decision tree for making publishing decisions based on professional setting, position, and goals. For instance, there would be one path for nurses working in a magnet hospital, another path for nurse educators working in an academic institution, etc.

The manuscript will provide plain language explanations of concepts we know are confusing and intimidating to novice authors, and it will provide a tool that can be used to make informed publishing decisions. This project is already in progress-- we have collaborated on an outline and completed the search portion of our literature review. We are not as far along as we would like because we both are struggling to set aside time for research and writing.

Value
There are two things we would want to accomplish with this article: we want to publish an article that will serve as a general resource, and we want to strengthen our expertise and ability to support our USF students who are new to publishing. Dr.
Buccheri and I decided to write our previous article because we both struggled with helping doctoral students identify appropriate critical appraisal tools. Through the process of researching and writing, we strengthened our expertise and are now able to provide a significantly greater level of service to our students. We plan on achieving similar outcomes with an article that directly addresses scholarly publishing for novice nurse authors. Through our work with students we have identified an information need not currently satisfied by the existing literature. We plan to write a manuscript that will fill that need, and at the same time we will strengthen our knowledge and ability to directly support students.

On a more general note, this research leave will result in a manuscript that will be submitted to a peer reviewed nursing journal. I will be the primary author on this publication.

**Outcome & Assessment**

The primary outcome of this project is to improve new doctoral nursing students’ ability to understand the scholarly publishing ecosystem. Specifically, this project will create a tool that will assist nurses and nursing students in:

- Identifying the primary nursing and health science journals for their specialty or area of interest
- Describing the various publishing models (subscription based, open access, hybrid, etc.)
- Applying the steps outlined in the tool in order to maximize the likelihood of having their article published

This project addresses a known need and will be assessed with an in-class assignment. First semester DNP students enrolled in Nursing705a: Introduction to Scholarly Publishing, taught by my co-author Dr. Robin Buccheri, will be required to complete an assignment that asks them to first identify journals relevant to their area of interest or specialty. They are then asked to come up with an idea for an article they would like to author during their DNP education, develop a title, define the article type (review, primary research, etc) and draft an abstract (not an entire manuscript). Then, from their collection of identified journals, they are to select one to submit their hypothetical article to. They will then investigate the journal’s author guidelines, accepted article types, formatting requirements, etc. Students will then format the abstract according to the journal’s requirements, and submit that formatted abstract, along with information about the journal, as a graded assignment.

This assignment will allow us to evaluate the efficacy of our tool, and the experience of working with the students as they use the tool will allow us to fine-tune and improve the tool prior to submitting it, in article form, for publication.

**Funding**

If any funding is required I will apply for Librarian Development Funds.
**Timeline (35 days total)**

Days 1-20  
Dates: 12/14/17 through 12/21/17; 1/2/18 through 1/22/18  
I would like to take the first portion of my leave during December of 2017 and January of 2018, interrupted by vacation time during the winter holidays. During this time my co-author and I will write the bulk of the article.

Days 21-35  
Dates: TBD  
I would like to take the remainder of the leave at a time to be determined. The final two weeks of my leave will be spent working on revisions and edits that come about as a result of conversations with my co-author, revisions suggested by peer reviewers after the article has been submitted, and edits/corrections suggested by journal editors.