

Dr. Karen Reesman

Karen Reesman, Ph.D., of Mountain City, Tenn., is an associate professor at Appalachian State University's Department of Nursing.

Reesman earned a PhD in philosophy with a major in nursing, specializing in child and family studies, at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. She received a Master of Arts degree with a major in nursing and a focus in education from New York University and a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in nursing from Rutgers University.

Prior to joining the faculty at Appalachian, Reesman was an assistant professor in East Tennessee State University's Department of Professional Roles and Mental Health Nursing for the past year and in ETSU's Department of Family/Community Nursing since 1993.

She also has served as a director at Johnson City Medical Center; director of women and children for Doylestown Hospital in Doylestown, Penn.; a consultant and staff educator for Planned Parenthood in Washington, N.J.; associate nursing administrator for Warren Hospital in Phillipsburg, N.J.; obstetrics/gynecology nurse manager at Hahnemann Hospital in Worcester, Mass.; nursing and therapeutics coordinator at Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge, Mass.; administrator for Superior Care Inc. in Lowell/Worcester, Mass.; director of nursing for Eugenia Hospital in Lafayette Hills, Penn.; and a mental health specialist at St. Joseph Riverside Hospital in Warren, Ohio.

The co-founder, president and domestic violence group facilitator of Johnson County's Safe Haven in Mountain City, Reesman has served as a facilitator for grief support groups at Johnson City Medical Center since 1992. She also has served as an adjunct professor since 1994 at Winston-Salem State University.

The recipient of numerous honors, Reesman is a delegate from District V for the Tennessee Nurses Association Convention in Nashville, Tenn., and served as the delegate for the Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Biennial Convention in Toronto, Canada. She also was elected to represent all nurses in Tennessee on a State of Tennessee Interdisciplinary Task Force for Complimentary Alternative and Integrative Medicine.

She received the 2001 East Tennessee State University Distinguished Faculty Award for Service and the 2000 East Tennessee State University College of Nursing Nurse of the Year Award for Service.

Reesman has given numerous presentations outside the classroom, most notably a variety of discussions based on her dissertation, "The point of no return: Women's experience of staying out of the abusive relationship." She also has secured and administered various grants and research projects and served on many boards, committees and coalitions in the community. She currently is a member of the Johnson County Kellogg Advisory Board (New Century Council), the Mountain States Health Alliance Parish Nursing Steering

Committee, the American Cancer Society Relay for Life Team and the Tennessee Task Force Against Sexual and Domestic Assault.