

WINTER 2016

# NURSING MATTERS

**M** | SCHOOL OF NURSING  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Registration Open for 125th Anniversary **p. 4**

Meet the Sim Family **p. 14**

The Potempa Decade **p. 18**

Alumna Earns a University's Top Spot **p. 28**



## YEARS OF NURSING EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

2015-16 represents a year like no other as UMSN leadership, alumni, students, staff and supporters come together to celebrate cornerstones, milestones, and a bright future.

# THE POTEMPA DECADE

## IN THIS ISSUE

14

### MEET THE SIM FAMILY

Learn how new simulation manikins are advancing education for UMSN students.

26

### CHILDBIRTH AS SPORTS MEDICINE

At-risk mothers may have greater challenges while recovering.

31

### LEADERS AND BEST

Jade Curl, a UMSN junior, shares how donor support is making a difference in her education.

## NURSING MATTERS

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## MESSAGE FROM THE **DEAN**

What a wonderful tenth autumn I enjoyed as dean for the University of Michigan School of Nursing. I saw it through the rosiest-hued glass imaginable: the floor-to-ceiling windows of our stunning new academic building. It was readied in time for the start of a new semester in September 2015 as the first building designed specifically for nursing education in 124 years at Michigan.

We will celebrate our school's 125 Years of Research and Impact at a three-day global health symposium in early April, and I hope you will join us. You will find more information on the following pages about this event, which includes my farewell celebration on April 6.

I was privileged to share gratitude on December 1, 2015, for record-setting Giving Blueday donations to U-M, including an anonymous \$1 million gift for nursing student support. Inside this issue you'll find an update on philanthropic progress in the U-M School of Nursing's "Victors for Michigan, Champions for All" campaign. Generous support from so many of you is both humbling and inspiring. You will also see photos and information on the advanced technology in our new building, and the donor support that makes it all possible.

Now is a good time for us to think about the future. I believe the school is in an excellent position to recruit an outstanding new dean. In addition to the building, we have unparalleled research activity (over \$9 million for 2015) that promises to escalate, a strong cadre of faculty, robust clinical education with excellent student outcomes,

and innovations in doctoral programs that include a new BSN-to-DNP option. Applicant quality and interest in the undergraduate and graduate master's specialties are at an all-time high. Even more, momentum is building in interprofessional education across U-M health science schools, with future nurses, physicians, pharmacists, dentists, and other health professional students learning to work together now for the benefit of patients in decades to come.

Michigan is the third school for which I have been honored to have been dean, and it is here that I reached the pinnacle of my career. I have the greatest respect for my colleagues, the students we mentor, and the alumni and donors committed to keeping our enterprise forever strong.

As I continue my own scholarly work in the years to come, I am proud to be connected worldwide with thousands of truly the leaders and best.

Now and forever, Go Blue!

Kathleen Potempa  
Dean and Professor

### **From the UMSN offices of Development, External Relations, Marketing and Communications:**

On behalf of our staff, we take this moment to recognize Dean Potempa's decade of contributions to the University of Michigan School of Nursing. You will read about them inside this issue, and you'll see heartfelt tributes from many influential administrators, educators, clinicians, scientists and alumni.

To these, we add our own. Working with a visionary leader creates high expectations but the experiences are inspiring. For all the good news she gave us to share and in recognition of a decade of leaders she helped prepare, we say thank you, Dean Potempa. Thanks for all you've done at Michigan, for the health of all. And best wishes for your next chapter.



## Symposium on Global Health: 125 Years of Research and Impact

Nursing continuing education units available at most events.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Annual Research Day 3.5 Nursing CEUs

Tuesday, April 5  
(12:00 - 4:30 pm)

Suzanne Brouse Endowed Lecture: *Nurses Hold up Half the Sky*  
**Tonda L. Hughes**

Poster Session, Awards, Research Presentations and Panel Discussion

*Reception to follow*

#### The Global Impact of Philanthropy Brunch

Wednesday, April 6  
(10:30 - 12:00 pm)

#### Innovations in Global Health Conference

*Keynotes, Panels, and Expos*

#### Nurses as Global Leaders 4.5 Nursing CEUs

Wednesday, April 6  
(12:30 - 4:10 PM)

*Remarks by UMSN Dean Kathleen Potempa*  
*Promoting Work Force Development:*  
*The Importance of Nurses and Midwives*  
**Vanessa Kerry**

*Women's Health and Women's Rights*  
**Siriorn Sindhu**

*UMSN Students Past and Present:*  
*Making a Global Impact*  
**Kristen Choi**, Hillman Scholar, UMSN PhD student, (BSN '14)  
**Clara Julien**, MS, Peace Corps Coverdell Fellow, UMSN alumna (BSN '10, MS '14)  
**Belinda Fish**, UMSN alumna (MS '14)  
**Nthabiseng Phaladze**, UMSN alumna (MS '95, PhD '99)

*The CDC: Serving on the Front Lines of Global Health Care*

**Michelle Dynes**

*Innovations in Global Health Expo*

#### Universal Health Care in the Pan American Region 3 Nursing CEUs

Thursday, April 7  
(9:00 - 12:30 pm)

*The Work of a World Health Organization Collaborating Center*

**Jody Lori**

*Remarks*

**Silvia Cassiani**

*WHO Advocacy for Universal Health Care Access*

**Annette Mwansa Nkowane**

*Panel Showcasing UMSN Work in PAHO Region*

*Universal Health Care Access in the Americas: The Role of Nurses and Midwives*  
**Rosemarie Josey**

### Gala Celebration of 125 Years and Farewell to Dean Potempa

#### Cocktails and Strolling Dinner

Wednesday, April 6

6:00 - 9:00 pm

*Cocktail attire; 21 and older only, please*

*Times subject to change. Please check:*  
[nursing.umich.edu/umsn125](http://nursing.umich.edu/umsn125)

## REGISTER NOW

For more information and to register, visit [nursing.umich.edu/umsn125](http://nursing.umich.edu/umsn125). Early bird registration fee is \$200. Price increases to \$250 after March 1, 2016.

University of Michigan Health System Professional Development & Education (OH-423, 03/01/16) is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the Ohio Nurses Association (OBN-001-91), an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's commission on Accreditation.

# 125 YEARS

**M** SCHOOL OF NURSING  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN



LEADERSHIP



GLOBAL



DISCOVERY



IMPACT

## SPEAKERS INCLUDE:



**SILVIA CASSIANI**, PhD, MSc, BSN, is the Regional Advisor on Nursing and Allied Health Personnel, Health Systems and Services in the PAHO/WHO Regional Office for the Americas. She received degrees from the College of Nursing at Ribeirao Preto-University of Sao Paulo in Brazil, where she also served as dean and department chair. Her publications have focused upon patient safety.



**MICHELLE DYNES**, PhD, MPH, MSN, CNM, RN, is a nurse epidemiologist with the CDC Division of Reproductive Health Field Support Branch. She designs, implements, and evaluates research and programmatic activities related to global maternal, newborn, and child health. She also worked with the Division of Global HIV & TB as a Senior Global Nursing Advisor on the African Regulatory Collaborative for Nurses and Midwives and was a nurse-midwife at Mayo Clinic and Yale Midwifery Faculty Practice.



**TONDA L. HUGHES**, PhD, RN, FAAN, is a professor and associate dean for Global Health at University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing, and co-director of Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health. She has focused on women's mental health and substance use (with funding exceeding \$20 million), with groundbreaking work related to chemically dependent nurses. Her studies on predictors and consequences of alcohol use among sexual minority women have received continuous funding since 1999 from the NIH and other sources.



**ROSEMARIE L. JOSEY**, MSN, MPA, RN, serves as the Atlantic Region director of the Commonwealth Nurses and Midwives Federation (CNMF). She worked as a nurse in the Bahamas Ministry of Health, then earned an MBA in public administration and a clinical nurse specialist master's. She has taken increasing roles of responsibility in global health organizations. She completed two terms as secretary of the Caribbean Nursing Organization and is still CNO nominating chair. She was the first Bahamian nurse elected in London to the CNMF board, and now represents Canada and 13 other countries.



**VANESSA KERRY**, MD, MSc, is CEO and co-founder of Seed Global Health, a non-profit that deploys U.S. health professionals to serve as faculty in resource-limited countries to build a pipeline of future in-country providers and educators, and strengthen health care delivery capacity. She helped Seed Global Health establish the Global Health Service Partnership (GHSP), a public-private partnership with the Peace Corps, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the countries. Since 2013, GHSP has sent almost 100 volunteers to Uganda, Malawi and Tanzania and trained over 7,200 doctors, nurses, midwives and students. She works as a physician at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and Harvard Medical School, where she has focused on links between security and health.



**JODY LORI**, PhD, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, is Associate Dean for Global Affairs at UMSN and directs the school's PAHO/WHO Collaborating Center. She takes a human rights approach to reducing maternal mortality disparities globally. Her research centers on community-based interventions to address maternal and neonatal mortality in sub-Saharan Africa. She has done fieldwork in Ghana, Guatemala, Ethiopia, Liberia, Mexico and Zambia.



**ANNETTE MWANSA NKOWANE**, MA, BSc, RN, is a technical officer for WHO Health Workforce Department, with a focus on nursing and midwifery. She also worked in WHO departments of Mental Health and Substance Dependence and Gender and Women's Health on training, material and program development, evaluation, and operational research, and at the International Federation of the Red Cross in Geneva. She has worked as a registered nurse-midwife in Zambia, and in the U.S. (Georgia and Illinois). Her publication topics range from alcohol and other substance use, to contribution of nurses and midwives to global initiatives such as polio eradication, to integrated management of childhood illness and HIV/AIDS.



**SIRIORN SINDHU**, DNSc, is an Associate Professor of Surgical Nursing with Mahidol University faculty of nursing, in Bangkok, Thailand. In addition to her doctorate, she holds certificates in midwifery and adult surgical nursing. Her areas and focus include women's health and rights and systems research.





# 124 YEARS IN THE MAKING

## BUILT FOR THE FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE

A splendid celebration was in order when UMSN officially opened the first building designed for nursing education in the school's nearly 125 year history. Even the weather cooperated when rainy skies cleared out for the kick-off festivities. U-M President Mark Schlissel was the first guest speaker at the ribbon-cutting, which was well attended by students, alumni, faculty, staff and nursing supporters. Shauna Ryder Diggs spoke on behalf of the U-M Board of Regents and praised nursing faculty for the ongoing excellence of the "Michigan nurses" that they prepare. Also speaking at the grand opening were U-M Provost Martha Pollack, UMSN alumna Deborah Gross (currently an endowed chair in psychiatric and mental health nursing at Johns Hopkins), UMSN senior Chris Plampin, and Dean Kathleen Potempa. Guests were then invited to an open house to explore the building.





# THE GRAND OPENING



1 The crowd celebrates with "Hail to the Victors."  
2 President Schlissel meets with students. 3 U-M alumna Deborah Gross gives remarks during the ceremony.  
4 The Men's Glee Club performs.





## THE GALA

There were no signs of nursing scrubs when alumni and donors attended the grand opening gala. The formal event was another opportunity to share the celebration with our alumni and to thank the generous donors who recognize the value of top-level nursing education through their support of UMSN.



**5** Julie Rothschild was caught by surprise when a simulation manikin spoke to her. **6** Dean Potempa greets Anthony Denton, Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of UMHS, and Lori Pierce, U-M Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs. **7** Scrubs were on before the end of the night for nursing senior Elizabeth (Lizzy) Benedetto. She is a third-generation UMSN student pictured with her mother, Sara Benedetto ('89) and grandmother Carole Briggs ('60) standing on the plinth of the new building that overlooks Ann Arbor. Lizzy had to leave the gala for a late night shift at the hospital. **8** UMSN supporter Kevin Eckhart strikes a pose on the gala's red carpet.

## LOST AND FOUND

A piece of jewelry was found during the Grand Opening. If it belongs to you, please call (734) 763-9710 with a description.



## INTERACTIVE SPACES

Collaboration with fellow nursing students and interdisciplinary peers is an essential part of a UMSN education. The building features spaces for students to work together on assignments and study for exams.



**9** The first floor offers a variety of open work spaces. **10** Comfortable chairs are a must for those extended work sessions. **11** The lower level features the Thompson Collaboration Space near the Clinical Learning Center. **12** Floor to ceiling windows provide natural light to many of the interactive areas.





## MEDIA LEARNING CENTER

The 102-seat Media Learning Center is a visible example of UMSN's commitment to "flipping the classroom." Students are grouped together in pods for team-oriented projects. Collaborative software allows each group's work to be shared on the big screen and with the other pods.

## STUDENT NOOKS

To balance the high-tech, often intense learning process, plentiful student nooks were incorporated into the building. Cozy seats in light-filled spaces give students a peaceful place to read, study, and decompress.



## LECTURE HALLS

When lectures are necessary, nursing students no longer have to trek across campus to other buildings for rooms big enough to accommodate large lectures. UMSN's 200-seat lecture hall features tiered seating, fixed row tables and impressive video monitors.

*Photo credit: Curt Clayton*





# THANK YOU

## TO OUR DONORS FOR HELPING MAKE THIS ALL POSSIBLE.

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### NEW BUILDING DONOR LIST

Sara Hoopengardner Rothschild, BSN '65,  
and Robert Rothschild and Family

McLelland Family

Shirley Walter Dunbar, BSN '57

Joan M., BSN '57, and  
Ronald P. Nordgren, BSE '57, MSE '58

James G. Fausone, BSE '76 and  
Carol Anne Fausone, BSN '75

Thompson Family - Margaret,  
David, Sarah and Stephanie, BSN '15

Ruth Brown Shoemaker, BSN '65

Janeth McKay Turner, BSN '67  
and Amherst H. Turner, AB '61, EDU '61

Helen E. Whitmore Brender, RN '41

Donna Eckhart, BSN '53 and  
Frank Eckhart, BSE Aero '53

Loretta Hanson Prentice, BSN '57

Mulshine Family

Sue Fink, BSN '61, MS '79, PhD '92

Lila Lepperd Vincent, Nursing Diploma '51

Linda Grissim, BSN '83 and  
John Grissim MBA '86

Marilyn D. Milko, BSN '63  
and David A. Milko MD '66

Margaret Finnegan Gainer, BSN '70, MSN '77 and  
Edward J. Gainer, BSE '60, MSE '71 and PhD '75

Heid Family: Ellen Heid Elpern, BSN '69, Ralph C.  
Heid, BA Econ '70, and John Heid, MBA '97

Sigma Theta Tau International - Rho Chapter, 2015

Anne Vansteenkist Quinn, BSN '63,  
and Leon J. Quinn, BS '59, MD '63





## CLINICAL LEARNING CENTER

The CLC was designed down to the smallest detail to mimic authentic practice environments. The expansive space features the most advanced nursing technology in the country. From simulation rooms with high-fidelity manikins that can replicate countless patient scenarios to skills labs for practicing basic and advanced skills, students learn to apply their knowledge of nursing theory in an interactive and challenging yet safe and supportive environment. The space also includes debriefing rooms where students can watch their peers during simulations, then come together to discuss each scenario which promotes engaged, active learning.



## ANATOMAGE TABLE

This technologically advanced system offers students the best for visualizing the gross and regional anatomies of the human body. This table displays the male and female human body in 3D ranging from the skeletal level to the epidermal level with an anatomy library of over 120 pathological cases. Images are from real patients. The world's leading medical institutions are implementing this table into their educational programs. UMSN and the Taubman Health Sciences Library are the only units at U-M that have this unique tool.

## BLUE GOES GREEN FOR SILVER

A green "living" roof, automatic lighting and high-efficiency equipment are a few of the environmentally friendly features that make the new School of Nursing eligible for Silver LEED certification, a measure of environmentally conscious construction and usage. Other examples include above-grade insulation and reduced water-flow plumbing fixtures. The location also features highly efficient irrigation and storm water management, plus native shrubs and trees to enhance and protect the surrounding environment. During the construction process, crews diverted 180 tons of material for recycling.



# 2015 CLASS REUNION



## 2016 Homecoming Reunion Weekend

FRIDAY, OCT. 21 - SUNDAY, OCT. 23

We hope you'll join us for U-M's 2016 Homecoming Reunion Weekend! UMSN activities include an all-class luncheon and tours of the new School of Nursing building. Other highlights include the Go Blue Homecoming Tailgate and the Michigan vs. Illinois football game. Plus, there will be special events for the Milestone Reunions classes of 1956, 1966, 1976, 1986, 1996, 2006 and UMSN PhD alumni. Registration opens in early July. If you have questions, please email the Alumni and Development Office at [nursingalum@umich.edu](mailto:nursingalum@umich.edu) or call (734) 763-9710.





## Meet the Sim Family

Here's the story,  
of a manikin family,  
who is changing up the way our students learn.  
All of them have special skills,  
like the teachers,  
and confidence is earned.

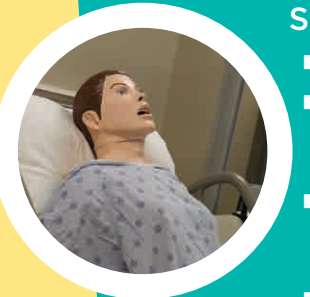


## SimMan 3G



- Can display neurological and physiological symptoms
- Pupils react to light; eyes can blink at different rates or stay closed
- Drug Recognition System registers the amount, speed and type of drug automatically and applies the appropriate physiological responses
- Students can perform a needle thoracentesis and insert a chest drain bi-laterally

## Sim Mom



- Can give birth every 7 minutes
- Simulations can include eclampsia, sepsis, uterine ruptures and more
- Functions as birthing mom and traditional high-fidelity sim model
- Used for pre- and post-natal care

## Newborn Hal



- Arms and legs fully movable to allow all maneuvers required during deliveries
- Multiple heart rate options: normal, bradycardia and tachycardia
- Breathing, pulses, color and vital signs are responsive to interventions
- Realistically modeled head can be easily manipulated and flexes naturally as it is pushed through the birth canal
- Baby is weighted to feel like a real newborn

## Victoria



- Can give birth every 10-15 minutes, including breech positioning, shoulder dystocia, and c-sections
- Fetus dips, dawns and rotates in a natural way
- Anatomically correct birth canal complete with a dilating cervix and pelvic landmarks
- Can simulate hemorrhages and other complications
- Includes realistic placenta, amniotic bag and umbilical cord
- Students can practice episiotomy repair

## Pediatric Hal

- Can produce bodily fluids including blood, urine, and sweat
- Oral and nasal intubation, chest rise and lung sounds are synchronized with breathing patterns
- Blood pressure can be taken using a cuff, palpation, or auscultation
- Pulse strengths vary with blood pressure and pulses synchronized with ECG

- Can "hear" and respond to voices
- Can simulate seizures, reactive pupils
- Used for skills such as cricothyrotomies (emergency airway puncture)
- Gives real-time updates to instructor on student actions including where they felt for pulse and for how long, and amount and type of medication given



## Mid-fidelity Manikins

- Have heart, lung and bowel sounds
- Blood pressure and pulses
- Skill training includes tracheotomies, IVs, urinary catheterization



## Low-fidelity "Task Trainers"

- First manikins used by freshmen
- Used for skills such as head-to-toe assessments, foley insertion and other repetitive training exercises



# CAREER LESSONS

Simulations and the exact real life experience don't usually happen in the same day, but it did for senior Samantha Olmstead. She was in a Clinical Learning Center simulation led by UMSN's Betsy Cambridge, focused on whether family members should be allowed to stay in the room when a patient codes. She sent the following e-mail to Cambridge later that night.

You wouldn't believe what happened when I got back on my unit (PICU) after simulation this morning.

There was a code that started on a new patient who was just brought in from EMS. The code lasted 45 minutes before we had to call time of death. Before I returned from sim the patient was coded a first time and brought back, but during a line placement his HR spiked and then dropped significantly. I was able to watch the entire process and see everybody's role being played out, just like simulation. It was EXTREMELY stressful and the mom was in the room the entire time. It was like simulation was happening again—this time with real people.

It was horrible to hear the mom's reaction to the doctor calling time of death and the entire code team stood in disbelief for what seemed like a lifetime. The simulation did a wonderful job of prepping me for this; I just did not expect it so soon. The emotions we, as nurses, feel with the patient's family is something that cannot be felt in simulation.

Sim helped me better understand this code situation, although it was horribly sad, I felt that I was better equipped to assist in a code when needed.

Samantha Olmstead, BSN Class of '16

Olmstead says she has always enjoyed simulations but before this particular exercise had not felt comfortable being part of a "real-life" code. After the exercise she says she felt more capable and confident in her abilities.

Olmstead says the ability to stop during simulations, ask questions, and have in-depth conversations about each step is extremely helpful. She says it wasn't before this experience that she truly understood the need for simulation and the post-sim discussions. "I am so grateful that I was able to attend simulation prior to this clinical experience," says Olmstead.

After graduation she plans to work in a Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and return to school for a graduate degree to become a nurse practitioner.

## FACULTY ACCOLADES



### NAM HONORS

For two years in a row, a faculty member from the University of Michigan School of Nursing (UMSN) has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine (NAM). Formerly known as the Institute of Medicine, membership is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine. UMSN's **Marita Titler**, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and chair of UMSN's Department of Systems, Populations and Leadership, was selected for her extensive contributions to nursing science. In 2014, UMSN Dean Kathleen Potempa, PhD, RN, FAAN, was selected for NAM membership.



### DISTINGUISHED PROGRAM COMPLETED

Associate Professor **Jody Lori**, PhD, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, successfully completed the prestigious AACN-Wharton Executive Leadership Program. Via a competitive process, 40 academic nursing leaders were selected for the program, which was designed to provide concepts and tools to enhance leadership.



### EBOLA PANEL PARTICIPANT

The lone nurse scientist on an expert panel reviewing a Texas hospital's handling of an Ebola patient was UMSN Associate Professor **Patricia Abbott**, PhD, RN, FAAN, FACMI. The panel was assembled to conduct a root cause analysis and to make recommendations geared to promote a stronger and more coordinated response by the U.S. health care system. Their recommendations included clarification of the CDC's role in local and regional disasters, improving preparedness for infectious disease emergencies, increased attention to high quality team-based care, an enhanced focus on the usability of electronic health records (EHRs), and a reevaluation of potential problems from an overreliance on the use of EHRs for communication.



### HONORARY DEGREE

**Dean Kathleen Potempa** received an honorary PhD from Mahidol University in Thailand. Dean Potempa was selected for her significant contributions in the field of nursing. Her extensive body of research includes a currently funded National Institutes of Nursing Research/Fogarty program to address non-communicable diseases in Thailand. Dean Potempa also received an honorary degree from State University of New York (SUNY) in 2010.



# RECENT FUNDING

## COLLABORATIVE PRACTICE FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

Nurses will take the lead in a new program designed to improve chronic care coordination for underrepresented populations. UMSN will expand its partnership with Community Health and Social Services (CHASS) Center in Detroit by implementing a new program for Registered Nurse Chronic Care Coordinators to lead interdisciplinary teams. Clinical Associate Professor **Donna Marvicsin**, PhD, PNP-BC, CDE, will serve as the project director on the \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration. The project will target improving communication and documentation by maximizing electronic health records to alert the team about relevant and timely standards of care and developing a systems-based work plan that will have relevant patient information available for the health care team prior to the patient presenting for care.

## HEALTHY BLADDERS

"To become a nation of women with healthy bladders and reduce high public and private medical care costs, a seismic shift is necessary in how we approach knowledge development about bladder health," says Associate Professor **Janis M. Miller**, PhD, RN, APRN, FAAN. That's why Dr. Miller will use a \$1.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to lead an interdisciplinary team of U-M researchers to better understand what makes a healthy bladder beyond simply the absence of disease. The researchers will focus on the knowledge gap between healthy bladders and the prevention of lower urinary tract symptoms (LUTS) such as infection and incontinence. The goal is to develop an evidence base about healthy bladders using mixed method approaches to inform prevention strategies for LUTS.

## YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Assistant Professor **Sarah Stoddard**, PhD, CPNP, will serve as a co-investigator on a new \$6 million grant at the Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center. With funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the researchers will study the effects of vacant property improvements on violence and property crimes. A key element of the work includes engaging residents with a special focus on young adults. They will focus on communities in Flint, MI; Youngstown, OH; and Camden, NJ.

## RAISING THE BAR ON CLINICAL RESEARCH

Associate Professor **Marcelline Harris**, PhD, RN, is part of the U-M leadership team in a new \$8.6 million collaboration dedicated to conducting clinical research more quickly and efficiently, with a stronger emphasis on patient-focused research. The Patient-Centered Network of Learning Health Systems (LHSNet) includes partners across six states and nine academic medical systems, plus healthcare systems and public health departments. Now LHSNet is part of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute's (PCORI) PCORnet, the National Patient-Centered Clinical Research Network. Dr. Harris and colleagues from U-M's Medical School will lead the grant investigative team for the collaboration.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

Clinical Associate Professor **Sue Anne Bell**, PhD, FNP-BC, and Assistant Professor **Michelle Munro-Kramer**, PhD, CNM, FNP-BC, with U-M Law School collaborators, received a new grant to support their efforts with Ethiopian human trafficking survivors. The funding, from U-M's Institute for Research on Women and Gender, will be used for their project "SELAM (Supporting Ethiopian Survivors of Exploitation and Abuse in Mental Health)."



## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

UMSN is closing in on its fundraising goal of the Victors for Michigan, Champions for All campaign. **7,869 gifts** have been received and **51 new endowments** have been created. 5,841 have been gifts of \$100 or less. Every dollar counts!

Contact: [nursingalum@umich.edu](mailto:nursingalum@umich.edu).

The Michigan Initiative for Student Support has been extended until June 30, 2016. Create or add to a student support or scholarship endowment at \$50,000 or more and the University will match your gift with 25%.

## Did You Know?

- A donor may direct their giving to any area of the School of Nursing such as scholarship, research, faculty support or global travel. A donor may also support specific areas of study.
- A donor may name their gift to honor a family member, classmate, or other influential person.
- A larger gift may be broken down into installments, typically over five years.
- Some of the most significant donations come through estate gifts.
- A donor does not need to be a graduate of UMSN. Many family members including spouses and children support UMSN because of the school's impact on their loved ones' life.

# THE POTEMPA DECADE

“The National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) congratulates Dr. Potempa on ten successful years as Dean, another milestone in her distinguished nursing science career. Dr. Potempa’s research leaves a legacy of not only honors and publications, but more importantly, a better quality of life for so many people with physical impairments or disabilities. We look forward to seeing the next steps in her journey as she continues to be a dedicated and passionate mentor to the next generation of nurse scientists.”

**PATRICIA A. GRADY**  
Director, NINR (NIH)

“In my years at Michigan, it was both rewarding and inspiring to witness Dean Potempa’s skill in advancing multiple objectives within the School of Nursing: strengthening research and scholarship while at the same time incorporating state of the art methods into the curriculum. If there is a singular vision behind the amazing new facility to house the School, it is hers. It is through her vision that Kathleen’s legacy will be felt far beyond her tenure or lifetime. She has shaped the School in ways that will serve its students and faculty for generations to come.”

**PHIL HANLON**  
Dartmouth President,  
former U-M Provost

“Dean Potempa has tremendous dedication to nursing education, from national leadership to university-level vision to steadfast commitment to individual student success. This I know firsthand. Despite her endless responsibilities, the Dean served as my PhD dissertation chair. Her knowledge and expertise were essential to the success of my education. Thank you, Dean Potempa, for your contributions to nursing education, your guidance, and boundless support.”

**MELISSA A. BATHISH**  
UMSN '14



# KATHLEEN POTEMPA: PROFILE OF A LEADER

Although she was the driving force behind the first purpose-built academic facility in University of Michigan School of Nursing's 125-year history, Kathleen Potempa, PhD, RN, FAAN, doesn't want to be remembered as a "bricks and mortar dean." There are so many other sturdy foundations to celebrate. Since she took the helm a decade ago, UMSN has boosted student applicant quality to new heights; maintained high national rankings; raised the percentage of faculty who have doctorates, and raised research funding to over \$9.1 million in 2015. And she was instrumental in the UMSN partnership with the U-M Health System for a nationally

recognized model of integrating teaching in clinical settings.

The new School of Nursing building, which represents her dedication to engaged active learning, is however her most visible towering achievement. The building has high-tech classrooms and features advanced simulation for clinical learning—a concept becoming synonymous with education at UMSN—to prepare nursing students for the world of work. "By the time they graduate they'll have been exposed to 100 key cases [simulated real-life scenarios] and can participate from a place of knowledge," she explains.

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EXCITEMENT RAN HIGH IN 2013, AS DEAN POTEMPA MET WITH STUDENTS BEFORE GROUNDBREAKING FOR THEIR NEW BUILDING.

"Under Dean Potempa's visionary guidance, the School of Nursing developed a unique partnership with UMHS for excellence in education, patient care, and scholarship. We have achieved great success in undergraduate program outcomes (such as improved NCLEX results, bringing us 10 points above state and national average pass rates)."

**BONNIE HAGERTY**  
UMSN Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies

"Dean Potempa is a phenomenal leader. She has strategically advanced the education and research enterprise at the U-M School of Nursing. We are grateful for her decade of service."

**MARITA TITLER,**  
Rhetaugh Dumas Endowed Chair of Systems, Populations and Leadership

"Dean Potempa contributes very much to nursing in Thailand, providing chances for world-class research and education from entry level to post-doctoral study. Thank you."

**NARUEMOL SINGHA-DONG**  
Institute of Nursing, Suranaree University of Technology Nakhon Ratchasima

## 2006

Kathleen Potempa, vice president and dean of the School of Nursing at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), is announced as dean of U-M's School of Nursing.

## 2007

Strategic planning commences with UMHS for an innovative model of undergraduate education to integrate practice, education, and research.

New Frontiers in Primary Health Care conference co-sponsored with Chiang Mai University (Thailand).

## 2008

Annual Terri Murtland Lecture and Scholarship established.

## 2009

Potempa appointed to the National Advisory Council for Nursing Research (advisory board for the federal National Institute of Nursing Research) until 2013.



**“Kathleen is a thought leader at Michigan, nationally, and internationally. What impresses me most is her keen perspective on the future of health professions’ education. Her vision is clear—we must create a holistic environment based on collaboration, solid science, and discovery.”**

**LAURIE MCCAULEY**  
Dean, U-M School of Dentistry

**“I admire Dean Potempa’s abilities with creative initiatives and perspectives. She chaired the search committee to inaugurate the Harriet H. Werley Endowed Research Chair at UIC College of Nursing. As a mentee of Harriet Werley, I was privileged to be the inaugural chair holder. Dean Potempa then guided the inauguration of the Feetham professorship my husband Terry and I endowed for a UMSN assistant professor—a new concept for U-M, to recruit and support an exceptional new researcher and scholar. Her expert *Wall Street Journal* blogs bring a nursing perspective to national and global health challenges.”**

**SUZANNE BELLINGER**  
**FEETHAM**  
UMSN ‘62

U-M’s focus on global collaboration—“one of the reasons I came here,” Dean Potempa says—has expanded under her leadership. She created the role of associate dean for global affairs, a new undergraduate minor in global health was launched, and partnerships expanded on nearly every continent during her decade. Much of her own research funding has centered on public health in Thailand. At U-M, she’s been expanding training and research capacity for Thai nurse scientists to help in management of noncommunicable chronic disease, most recently with \$1.15 million from Fogarty International.

Growing up in a working-class Michigan family with three sisters, she was “raised to be an independent, thinking person” by a stay-at-home mother and a father who worked in the auto industry. Her parents urged her to pursue “career security.” After earning a nursing diploma, and a bachelor’s in

psychology—and working as a nurse—she received her master of science and doctorate degrees at Rush University College of Nursing.

It was at Rush that she met a major influence in her life: nursing school dean Luther Christman. He pushed for nurses to receive the highest levels of education and championed nursing parity among the health professions. “He was innovative, especially in the area of social change,” she says. “From him I learned how to move things ahead. I learned how not to accept the status quo.”

While in grad school, she and her husband, Wayne, an engineer, welcomed two children. Erik is now an actor and producer in New York City; Stacia is a surgical nurse at U-M.

When Stacia was a girl, she often accompanied her mother to work—sitting in on university meetings with

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COLLABORATING WIDELY AND WELL, DEAN POTEMPA PROVIDES VALUED SUPPORT TO STUDENTS, DONORS, SCIENTISTS, AND CLINICIANS.

## 2009

Inaugural annual Dean’s Research Day.



Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program approved by faculty to prepare expert clinicians. Blended web and monthly on-site studies allow nursing professionals to continue working and benefit from in-person mentorship with world-class faculty.

## 2010

Potempa named president of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing until 2012.

U-M Regents approve post-master’s DNP program.

## 2011

UMSN redesignated as WHO/PAHO Collaborating Center.

Concentration in international health is approved.





KATHLEEN POTEPA AND UMHS  
CNO MARGE CALARCO: VISIONARY  
CHAMPIONS FOR HEALTH EDUCATION.

“brilliant minds.” Stacia recalls the “tension and bravado” at one of those meetings. “Then I remember hearing my mother’s calm, clear voice, and it was magic,” she says. “The atmosphere immediately changed.” Navigating challenges with a “quiet, graceful strength” is part of what makes her mother a great leader, Stacia says. “It is her superpower.”

Dean Potempa may not use the word “superpower” to describe her strengths, but she knows what defines good leadership: “taking people where they thought they could never go.”

Debbie Gross, a UMSN alumna and nursing professor at Johns Hopkins, has known Dean Potempa since they worked on the faculty at Rush. “I remember telling her back then that she’d make a really good dean,” she says. “She’s got that highly sought-after package,” explains Gross. “She is strategic, very smart, and rational.” When faced with a challenge, “she is not daunted. Instead, she gets clear.”

Dean Potempa knows challenges lie ahead for the nursing profession. “Nursing needs to lead and transform in many areas of health care reform,” she says. While she notes that she’s been able to make great change in many areas, restraint of trade is one area “that needs to be grappled with.” She refers to the 2010 Institute of Medicine report on “The Future of Nursing” and says the state of Michigan’s restrictive regulations need to be amended so that advanced practice nurses can practice to the full extent of their education and training.

“It is my one sorrow while I’ve been here,” she says. “I want the next dean to take it up as a priority for the sake of our students and graduates. We need to not acquiesce under political pressure ... It is important to stand in the tension of change with courage.”

Future plans for Kathleen Potempa include continuing on U-M’s faculty after taking a year’s leave. She looks forward to having more time with family and to “appreciate the arts,” including operas and plays. She also wants “to do more as a human being and citizen,” focusing on hunger and poverty causes. And one day she and her husband plan to move back to Portland, Oregon, where they have a home.

Before she departs as dean, she has a message to future nurses: “It is a privilege to be very close to the patient’s story and to impact it on so many different levels,” she says. “Bring your whole self—bring all of your courage and leadership to it.” ■

“Dean Potempa’s vision of partnership across the school and the health system was the catalyst for our Clinical Excellence Initiative, which has significantly impacted education, evidence-based practice and most importantly the way we care for our patients and families. I am tremendously grateful for her wisdom, leadership and mentorship. Our partnership has forever changed the landscape of our collective professional nursing community.”

**MARGE CALARCO**  
U-M Health System Chief Nursing  
Officer

“I thoroughly appreciated Dean Potempa’s leadership at the School of Nursing. She has always been a strong advocate for nursing research and helped to create an environment at the school that promoted research excellence. She had a strong, positive effect on my research with cancer patients and their families, and on a generation of nursing science.”

**LAUREL NORTHOUSE**  
Professor Emerita

## 2011

UMSN becomes first nursing school with the Peace Corps’ Master’s International program.



## 2012

Coverdell Fellowships allow returning Peace Corps volunteers to extend global health experiences into community work and obtain a UMSN master’s degree.

Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence funds scholars program.

UMSN becomes one of three nursing schools funded for prestigious Hillman Scholars accelerated PhD program.



Board of Regents approves the construction of new academic building for engaged learning, the first designed for nursing education in school’s history.

“It has truly been exciting to work with Kate over the last nine years. She is very forward-thinking, goal-oriented and disciplined—a leader among leaders. She has been a star in the area of advancement as evidenced by the support garnered for our new building. We have made great strides in academic achievement, organizational efficiency and financial stability since she arrived. It has been a source of joy and pride to work with her.”

**JAN LARSON**

Shaké Ketefian Collegiate Professor of Nursing and Chair, Health Behavior & Biological Sciences

“Kudos to Kate! Under Dean Potempa’s leadership, the School of Nursing enjoys a well-deserved world-class reputation for excellence in education, research, and service. What a pleasure it has been to work together for this great University.”

**MARK WEST**

Dean, U-M School of Law

2006-2016

## SCHOOL GROWTH AREAS

SIMULATION AND VIRTUAL LEARNING  
HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH ANALYTIC METHODS **BIG DATA**  
INTER-PROFESSIONAL POPULATION  
EDUCATION NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES [NCDS] HIV/AIDS HEALTH  
**NURSING PAIN SCIENCE**  
**LEADERSHIP HEALTH**  
SELF-MANAGEMENT ACCESS OF CHRONIC DISEASE TO CARE INFORMATICS  
HEALTH ADVOCACY INNOVATIONS IN ACUTE CARE  
**EFFECTIVENESS SCIENCE**  
**EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE**  
PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION **GLOBAL HEALTH**  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION  
LINKAGES BETWEEN RESEARCH AND PRACTICE  
**MATERNAL PALLIATIVE AND OUTCOMES** ADVANCED CARE  
CLINICAL TRIAL EFFICACY **HEALTH**  
SPANISH FOR HEALTH **PROFESSIONALS**  
QUALITY AND PATIENT SAFETY **SYSTEMS**

### 2012

Annual NIH funding surpasses **\$6.1 million.**



### 2013

Potempa becomes the only representative of nursing contributing essays to the *Wall Street Journal* health experts forum.

First five DNP students graduate.

Ground broken on North Ingalls Street for new academic building in late spring.



### 2014

Potempa elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies.

Full funding package offered to PhD students, for full-time study and their research programs.





ALUMNA SUZANNE MIYAMOTO ENGAGED WITH DEAN POTEPA ON NUMEROUS ISSUES TO ADVANCE NURSING EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND THE NATION'S HEALTH.

## COLLABORATION IN LEARNING AT THE EDGE OF DISCOVERY

From Day 1 at U-M, Dean Potempa thought strategically and aimed high. She had barely settled into her office when she began work on a vision for changing how nursing is best taught at a large research university with a prominent and multifaceted health system in its own back yard.

Together with Marge Calarco, PhD, Chief Nursing Officer of the U-M Health System (UMHS), Dean Potempa leveraged an integrated strategic planning process into a collaborative clinical, research, and educational framework. Dean Potempa negotiated a financial agreement with the Health System to support a large-scale initiative bringing together more than 100 faculty, students, and Health System nurses. It was the beginning

of the exciting undergraduate clinical education model called the "Clinical Excellence Initiative" (CEI).

A cornerstone of the CEI is the embedding of UMSN faculty into UMHS patient units to provide education of students and nursing staff, and to conduct research and evidence-based improvement projects. A variety of projects are co-led by faculty and clinical practice leaders, with students and nurses actively engaged in performance improvement.

The projects are selected by the student, faculty and nurse teams to provide direct benefit to patients and families. The CEI is jointly led and evaluated by faculty and practice leaders, thereby strengthening the partnership over time.

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"U-M School of Nursing laid the foundation for my career in health policy. The faculty are supportive of students and alumni, using every approach to improve our nation's health—Dr. Potempa is no exception. While working with her at the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, I had the opportunity to see her policy expertise and political prowess. I wish her the best."

**SUZANNE MIYAMOTO**  
AACN Government Affairs,  
UMSN PhD '09

"Kate Potempa has been an inspired and inspiring colleague, whose commitment to cross-professional education and research has strengthened the health sciences at U-M. She brings to our work deep knowledge, thoughtfulness, energy, and a fine sense of humor."

**LAURA LEIN**  
Dean, U-M School of Social Work

## 2014

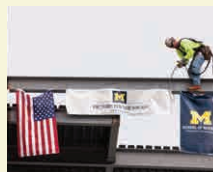
NIH funds UMSN Center for Complexity and Self-Management of Chronic Disease.

Certificate in Health Informatics launched for nurses and non-nurses.

Fogarty International funds training for postdoctoral students from Thailand to conduct research in Ann Arbor on non-communicable chronic diseases.

U-M funds Interprofessional Education initiative for health science schools.

Final piece of structural steel placed on new academic building.



## 2015

School reorganization into two departments: Health Behavior and Biological Sciences, and Systems, Populations and Leadership.

“We want to thank Dean Potempa for identifying the need for, and providing us with the opportunity to help fund, a new Community Health Initiative within the School of Nursing. From our prospective, the Dean’s selection of Dr. Barbara Brush to develop and manage this initiative has been very positive, and we feel fortunate to have been able to support a program so closely aligned with Carol’s strong interest in public health nursing.”

**CAROL AND ED LAKE**  
Alumna and Donors

“Dean Potempa’s impact on nursing education, research and practice can be seen in the advancements made by the School over the past ten years. Research funding is at a record level. Academic program outcomes are excellent with consistently high board certification rates. Her leadership in recruiting and retaining exceptional faculty, supporting scientific discovery and fostering innovative learning will have lasting impact.”

**MAUREEN COERDT**  
Executive Director of Administration



DEAN POTEPA WITH UMSN FACULTY CYNTHIA ARSLANIAN-ENGOREN, CHRISTOPHER FRIESE, AND MARIA KATAPODI AT THE 2012 NIGHTINGALA.

Several publications and scholarly presentations have been completed by CEI faculty and practice partner teams. Improvements have been seen in many nurse-sensitive outcomes, such as pressure ulcer reduction and readmission rates.

Dean Potempa also worked with Dr. Calarco in creation of the role of Chief Nursing Informatics Officer at UMHS—just in time for implementation and management of electronic health records. UMSN student interns were brought in as trainers, getting hands-on experience with informatics.

Other collaborations with UMHS include nationally funded efforts to increase safety for health professionals in chemotherapy infusion clinics, and improving communication among health professionals.

In 2014, a new inter-professional education (IPE) program reaching across the U-M health science schools was implemented to enhance

collaboration between nurses, doctors, pharmacists, social workers, dentists, and other health professionals. IPE-driven benefits for health care teams—and their patients—are expected to be realized for decades to come. ■



## 2015

School of Nursing academic building opens for fall classes.



Applications accepted for BSN to DNP program.

UMSN receives an anonymous **\$1 million** gift for student support, the largest gift to U-M during its second annual “Giving Blue Day.”


Annual external funding for research and training surpasses **\$9 million**.

National Clinician Scholars Program revamped to include nurses. Potempa co-directs at U-M.

PAHO/WHO Collaborating Center for Research and Clinical Training in Health Promotion Nursing at UMSN renewed through 2019.

Registration opens for UMSN Symposium on Global Health in April 2016 celebrating “125 Years of Research and Impact.”



A photograph of a modern building with a glass facade. The glass reflects the surrounding autumn trees with yellow and orange leaves. The building has a dark, textured roof and a glass railing with metal bolts. The sky is blue with some clouds.

“Kate Potempa has creative ideas for advancing nursing research, clinical practice, and interdisciplinary collaboration, and these have been a hallmark of her leadership as dean of the School of Nursing. In areas from global health to health informatics, she has forged programs and relationships that both address immediate health concerns and deepen our understanding of how to deliver health care most effectively over the long run. Dean Potempa’s unwavering commitment to the school has strengthened it, most visibly in the new building, but also in the development of academic programs that draw outstanding faculty and strong students to Michigan.”

**MARTHA POLLACK**  
U-M Provost and Vice President  
for Academic Affairs



# RESEARCH FINDINGS

## MEDICAL MARIJUANA PITFALLS

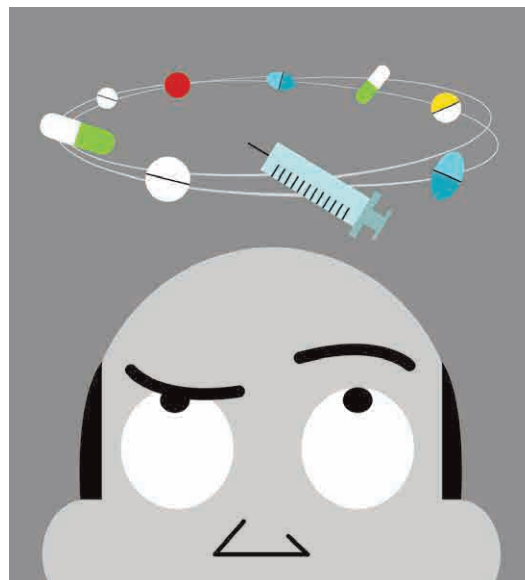
Teens who use medical marijuana are more likely to say they're addicted to marijuana compared to teens who get the drug illegally, according to findings from **Carol Boyd, PhD, RN, FAAN**, UMSN's Deborah J. Oakley Professor. Dr. Boyd says she doesn't believe medical marijuana use is creating addictions, but instead, teens who feel dependent may seek marijuana cards to ensure a reliable source. Dr. Boyd believes that the findings show that medical marijuana policies should be revised.



Illustration by: Joseph Gibbons

## CHILDBIRTH AS SPORTS MEDICINE

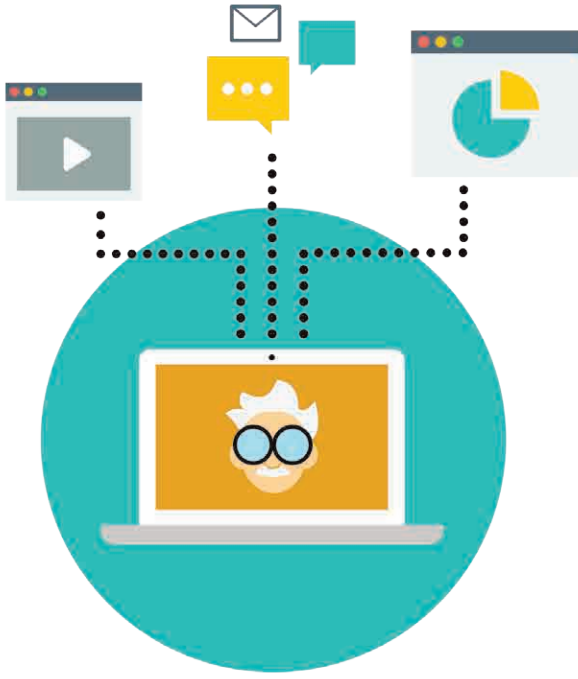
UMSN's **Janis M. Miller, PhD, APRN, FAAN**, and a team of researchers shared findings that cast new light onto the spectrum of muscle and bone injuries that can occur during childbirth. Using MRIs and techniques generally reserved for sports medicine, Dr. Miller and a team of researchers found that some injuries are actually muscle tears from the pubic bone that cannot be healed by the Kegel muscle exercises often recommended to women. In addition, the research showed some women have small fractures in the pubic bone or edema (fluid in the tissue) that lasts much longer than the assumed six weeks of recovery time. Dr. Miller stresses that this study focused on women who had higher-risks for tissue injury and she does not want to scare expectant mothers, since overall most of the tissues injuries go away with time, but she does hope it will provide more personalized care for postpartum women.



## DRUGS REVIEW

Type two diabetes is a complex disease that has a wide variety of medications available to treat the growing number of patients. As treatment options grow in complexity, it is important for care providers to understand the different drug classes and insulin preparations. Clinical Assistant Professor **Barbara S. Freeland, RN, DNP, ACNS-BC, CDE**, conducted a review of type two diabetes drugs including the medications' general uses, timeline (onset, peak, duration), and complications. "Knowledge of the ever-expanding list of medications is critical to safely and successfully manage glucose control," explains Dr. Freeland.





## VIRTUAL LEARNING

Virtual environments can provide effective learning and be a useful alternative to traditional training settings. The researchers wanted to examine the feasibility of adapting a traditional face-to-face facilitator training program for iCuídate!, a sexual risk reduction evidence-based intervention for Latino youth. They found participants were able to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to deliver the curriculum. Lead author **Michelle Aebersold**, PhD, RN, director of UMSN's Clinical Learning Center says, "This work shows that we can train people in virtual environments who are not 'gamers,' and they can learn very well. These facilitators were from small community-based organizations and they were able to use their new training with adolescents who otherwise would not have received the benefits of the program."

## 30 YEARS OF MIDWIFERY

*"Retrospective Review of Nurse-Midwifery Care at a Large University Health System"* is a U-M based assessment of recent midwifery practice trends and outcomes. It showcases how midwives can develop a model of care for women and their families within a tertiary care hospital setting. The study found that midwives demonstrated leadership in supporting physiologic birth, despite small increases in intervention practices like epidurals, inductions, and cesarean births in the period studied: 1983 to 2013. Authors: **Lisa Kane Low**, PhD, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, UMSN associate professor, associate dean for practice and professional graduate studies; **Lee Roosevelt**, PhD, CNM, MPH, UMSN alumna and current clinical assistant professor; and **Joanne Motino Bailey**, PhD, CNM, UMSN alumna, current preceptor and director of the midwifery service at UMHS.

"It is a credit to the midwives that they were willing to collect data about their practice outcomes and processes of care well before quality improvement initiatives were as integrated into the health care environment."

**DR. LISA KANE LOW**  
UMSN Associate Dean

## IMPROVING ICU ENVIRONMENTS

New findings from UMSN Assistant Professor **Deena Kelly Costa**, PhD, RN, suggest that isolated efforts to expand high intensity daytime physician staffing are likely unwarranted. Dr. Costa and colleagues found in a large sample of intensive care units (ICUs) that high-intensity daytime physician staffing was not significantly associated with lower risk-adjusted ICU mortality. Dr. Costa believes these findings suggest that efforts such as improving ICU work environments and increasing the number of baccalaureate-prepared nurses may hold more promise for reducing ICU mortality. This paper's abstract was awarded 'Best of Annual Research Meeting' at AcademyHealth.

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Nursing Alumna Achieves Top Position as University President

**“Can someone from a discipline like nursing be an effective president?’ I got that question every time I interviewed.”**

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“As a nurse, you are required to problem solve and collaborate with other disciplines so my answer was always yes, a lot of nursing skills and abilities are very translatable,” says Suzanne K. Mellon, (BSN '73), MSN, PhD. “I think the questions came from a lack of understanding of the depth of nursing education. I was very strongly grounded in liberal arts and sciences, and in practice.”

Dr. Mellon earned the position of president of Carlow University in Pittsburgh, PA, in 2013. She previously worked in traditional hospital settings, community health and consulting, but believes higher education to be the best fit for her, even though it was not in her career plans when she was an undergraduate student at the University of Michigan School of Nursing (UMSN).

“Now I tell students, ‘You don’t know what type of career you are going to have when you graduate,’” says Dr. Mellon. “Your education is providing you with the foundation that will help you with multiple careers in your lifetime. When those doors open, say ‘this could be a great opportunity’ and walk through them. Some of the careers that are out now are ones that didn’t exist when I graduated from college. It’s the foundation and ability in your degree program that really prepares you.”

Dr. Mellon says it was a UMSN professor who encouraged her to pursue a graduate degree, and now she does the same for undergraduate students. She laughs when thinking about how her degree prepared her for her current position. “I received my master’s in psychiatric mental health. The abilities and the competencies from that served me very well in conflict resolution and dealing with people with challenges and issues. Those are certainly useful skills in higher education!”

Dr. Mellon was a first-generation college student in her family but says attending college was never a question. “My parents were advocates that all four daughters would have a college education,” she says. “I think when you are a first-generation college student, it really makes you value your education in a way that you can’t take for granted because everyone doesn’t have it.”

Creating new opportunities in education and optimizing learning for Carlow’s students are key elements of Dr. Mellon’s vision. With the first year of her strategic plan complete, Dr. Mellon can point to several key areas of improvements including accelerated growth in the student population and programs, the completion of the university’s first major building project in 15 years, a new core curriculum, and the conclusion of the university’s largest comprehensive campaign. While she calls the first year of the plan a success, there is still much to be done. Dr. Mellon says the university will continue to develop



DR. SUZANNE K. MELLON

innovative new partnerships, identify the university’s next building project, and eventually raise the student population from approximately 2,200 to 5,000.

Dr. Mellon says while Carlow’s nursing program is already strong, she sees room for expansion. “As health care evolves, there will be more opportunities for nursing, especially in leadership roles. Clinical nurse leaders and nurses with strong financial backgrounds can be great hospital administrators. I also see nurses as really key drivers in working with other disciplines in patient-centered teams. I think the role of nursing’s expansion into the community is going to become even more valuable through advanced practiced positions. It’s important to encourage nurses to continue their education where they’re going to make even greater contributions.”

Whether it’s nursing or another discipline, Dr. Mellon says she believes, “Education is the most important thing that is going to drive the improvement in a society and community. It opens leadership, civic engagement and enhances a community’s life and civil discourse.”



# CLASS NOTES



## AAN FELLOWSHIP INDUCTION

Congratulations to UMSN faculty and alumni recently inducted as American Academy of Nursing Fellows. Clinical Assistant Professor **Michelle Aebersold**, PhD, RN, and alumni **Suzanne Miyamoto** (BA LSA '02, MS '04, PhD '09), **Jeff Adams** (BSN '96), **Tondi Harrison** (BSN '88) and **Laureen Smith** (MSN '91, PhD '03) were inducted at a ceremony during the Academy's annual policy conference held in October.

## BUILDING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

**Anne Snowdon** (PhD '00) serves as chair of the newly launched Odette World Health Innovation Network (WIN) at the University of Windsor. WIN is considered the first Canadian health innovation center with formal ties to the U.S. The goal is to advance innovation in the North American health market.

## SHAPING HEALTH POLICY

**Julie Sochalski** (BSN '75, MS '79, PhD '88) was appointed chair of American Association of Colleges of Nursing's (AACN) Health Policy Advisory Council. UMSN Associate Professor **Olga Yakusheva**, PhD, was named as a member of the council. Sochalski was also selected, with UMSN Clinical Assistant Professor **Christine Anderson** (BSN '81, PhD '08), for the AACN Faculty Policy Think Tank.

## ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

**Kerri Schuiling** (PhD '03) is the new provost and vice president for academic affairs at Northern Michigan University. Dr. Schuiling most recently served as professor and dean of NMU's College of Health Sciences and Professional Studies.

## ARTHRITIS RESEARCH IMPACT

**Amanda Niskar** (BSN '93) is the National Scientific Director of the National Office of the Arthritis Foundation. She supervises all aspects of the Arthritis Foundation's scientific program and works to "take the science off the shelf and translate it into high-impact results that make a positive difference for people with arthritis."

## ON THE MOVE

Nurse practitioner **Elizabeth Bobo** (BSN '08, MS '14) has joined Bronson HealthCare Midwest Urology. Bobo has 10 years of experience as a registered nurse and was most recently employed with St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.

## NURSING PIONEER RECEIVES GLOBAL HONORS

**Margaret Jane Edmunds**, a member of the **class of 1894**, was posthumously awarded the Order of Civil Merit by the South Korean Government. She founded the Pogunygwan Training School for Nurses, the first school of nursing in Korea. Edmunds served as the school's president for five years. The school is now part of the Ewha Womans University in Seoul. Her family accepted the award in her honor.



## HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

**Christine E. Kasper** (PhD '82) was inducted to the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing's International Nursing Research Hall of Fame. Dr. Kasper (pictured right) currently works as a senior research scientist in the Veteran's Affairs (VA) Office of Nursing Services. Dr. Kasper is also the 2015 recipient of the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award.

## READ ALL ABOUT IT

Nurse epidemiologist **Betsy Todd** (BSN '73) was named Clinical Editor of The American Journal of Nursing. Now in its 115<sup>th</sup> year, AJN is the oldest and most honored broad-based nursing journal.

## GUIDING CLINICAL TRIALS

**Joyce Nancarrow Tull** (MS '12) has been named Associate Director for the Clinical Investigations Support Office (CISO) at the University of Southern California. CISO is responsible for the coordination and execution of oncology clinical trials at the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, Los Angeles County Hospital, and USC affiliates.

## SHARE YOUR STORY

We want to hear about all the achievements of our alumni. If you have news to share, please email [nursingalum@umich.edu](mailto:nursingalum@umich.edu).

# SCHOOL NEWS



## DIGGING AROUND

Clinical Assistant Professor

**Cynthia Darling-Fisher** doesn't mind trading in a sterile clinical environment for a muddy one! She was a part of the recent Woolly Mammoth dig less than 30 minutes from U-M's campus. Her husband, Daniel Fisher, is the director of the U-M Museum of Paleontology. The couple has been actively involved in historic digs across the country for many years. The mammoth skeleton was discovered by a farmer who donated the bones to U-M.



## SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

**Lisa Kane Low**, PhD, CNM, FACNM, FAAN, is now UMSN Associate Dean for Practice and Professional Graduate Studies. Dr. Kane Low is a nationally known practicing midwife and scientist. Her research focuses on evidence-based labor care practices during childbirth. She is currently President-Elect of the American College of Nurse Midwives and will assume the presidency in May 2016.



## NEW PROFESSORSHIP

**Janet Larson**, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been appointed UMSN's Shaké Ketefian Collegiate Professor of Nursing. Dr. Larson, UMSN's department chair for Health Behavior and Biological Sciences, has a program of research spanning 25 years focused on improving the health of people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Dr. Larson chose the name of her professorship to honor Dr. Ketefian, a UMSN professor emerita, internationally recognized for her leadership promoting graduate education for nurses.



## NURSES JOIN LEADERSHIP

Clinical Associate Professor **Sue Anne Bell**, PhD, FNP-BC, was selected for the first cohort of the newly revamped National Clinician Scholars Program. It's the first time nurses will be included in the program previously only open to medical doctors. Dr. Bell's research focuses on the health effects of disasters and the impact of climate change on human health, within a health equity framework.

## NEW PROGRAMS AT UMSN

### Population Health

Students in UMSN's Health Systems, Nursing Leadership, and Effectiveness Science Master's program have a third option to choose from for their area of focus. Now, in addition to leadership and informatics, students may choose population health as their emphasis area.

Population health is the multidisciplinary study of the health status of groups, aggregates, and populations, factors influencing that health status, and how decisions are made in the allocation of resources across multiple determinants of health.

Email: [UMSN-MastersAdmissions@med.umich.edu](mailto:UMSN-MastersAdmissions@med.umich.edu)

### Global Health Minor

The Population Health in a Global Context minor expands the undergraduate content area to provide opportunities for students to more fully explore global health through a variety of courses and a required field experience. The purpose of this minor is to provide students the opportunity to examine health care processes and systems at the global level.

Email: [UMSN-Advisors@med.umich.edu](mailto:UMSN-Advisors@med.umich.edu)





## DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

UMSN's newly formed Diversity Strategic Planning Committee is tasked with making recommendations to enhance the recruitment and retention of a diverse faculty, staff and student body in the School of Nursing. The committee is comprised of UMSN faculty, staff and students, as well as Linda D. Scott, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the University of Illinois College of Nursing. Their efforts will support U-M's charge that diversity, equity and inclusion are key to educational excellence and the advancement of knowledge and to ensure each member of our community has the full opportunity to thrive.



## SETTLING IN

To help welcome the students to their new home, UMSN hosted daily events during the first week of classes last fall. Above are two students enjoying a game of Jenga.



Photo credit: Dark Spark

## LEADERS AND BEST

Jade Curl, a UMSN junior, was featured in a "Victors for Michigan" video to show the impact of financial support for students. Curl, a second generation U-M nursing student, said she would not have been able to attend U-M if she didn't have scholarships from the university. Curl worked at U-M's Telefund to continue raising money for other students. "It's an overwhelming feeling of joy that someone wants to help nursing students, as well as other students on campus," says Curl. "Your financial situation doesn't correlate with your level of intelligence or how well you do in school or what kind of differences you can make."



View Jade's story at [nursing.umich.edu/jadecurl](https://nursing.umich.edu/jadecurl).

## BSN to DNP

UMSN is now offering a BSN to DNP degree for baccalaureate nurses to fast track the path to a terminal nursing practice degree. Transitional plans are available for students currently in master's programs at UMSN. In response to changing landscapes in health care and nursing education, we are pushing ahead to prepare qualified nurses with both an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) specialty and a DNP.

Our DNPs will be prepared for key roles improving quality, safety, evidence translation and evaluation of implementation. Clinical

expertise will be joined by theoretical, analytical work and application of system-level variables that impact patient-level quality initiatives. Non-clinical courses are web-blended and meet on campus once a month.

Website: [nursing.umich.edu/dnp](https://nursing.umich.edu/dnp)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

UMSN Celebrates 125 Years of  
Research and Impact  
April 5-7

A Farewell to Dean Potempa  
Wednesday, April 6

Commencement  
Saturday, April 30

Homecoming Reunion  
Weekend including PhD  
reunion events  
October 21-23

*Plus, additional 125<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary events. Details  
coming soon.*

## REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Michael J. Behm, Grand Blanc • Mark J. Bernstein, Ann Arbor • Laurence B. Deitch, Bloomfield Hills • Shauna Ryder Diggs, Grosse Pointe • Denise Ilitch, Bingham Farms • Andrea Fischer Newman, Ann Arbor • Andrew C. Richner, Grosse Pointe Park • Katherine E. White, Ann Arbor • Mark S. Schlissel, *ex officio*



UMSN is now on LinkedIn. The page “University of Michigan School of Nursing Alumni Group” is intended for connecting with classmates, networking, sharing career updates, and nursing-related discussions. If you’re an alum, you’re invited to join!

Connect with **UMichNursing**

