Foreword

I came across this quote recently and it couldn’t sum up this past month at UMSN in terms of innovation any better. Between the Innovate 4 Change Challenge student pitch competition and the We Dare pitch competition for faculty, the school has been alive and buzzing with creativity, ideas, and innovation. The breadth of ideas the students presented in their competition to address some of healthcare’s most pressing problems was exciting to see and hear about coming from our next generation of nurses, working in partnership with a variety of other disciplines from across campus. The ideas clearly addressed a problem or unmet need and it’s our hope the teams keep that innovative spirit fanned to move their ideas forward towards further development.

For our faculty, the three nurse teams that presented in the We Dare Challenge made it hard to choose which team was most deserving of the donor funds. Again, the healthcare-related issues they addressed were important to either nursing students needing more hands-on skill-building/practice, the health of nail care salon employees, or the patients who’d benefit from providers being more aware of inherent biases they hold which could be impacting care delivery to sometimes stigmatized populations.

Each and every innovator—student and faculty—involved in these pitches are impact players, checking many of the boxes in this quote. They have, and will, make a difference in the lives of the people their innovative programs/processes/interventions are meant to serve. You, too, are an impact player and we look forward to seeing you soon with any innovative ideas you have—whether just a seed or more fully-developed—to help you think through how to move them closer and closer to the people or systems they are meant to serve.

We dare you today, and every day, to keep innovating!

To inspire you, some featured highlights from this issue include:
- A run down on our first ever Nursing Student Innovate 4 Change hackathon and the 2nd annual We Dare Challenge for faculty this year
- Resources from the broader U-M innovation ecosystem, including one from the School of Information where you could potentially have a course in Winter term build a minimum viable app for you; and
- Lots of other student innovation and entrepreneurial activities for your students, and more!

In support of the innovative you,

Marge Calarco, Michelle Munro-Kramer, Ann Fitzsimons & Olga Yakusheva
Commercialization is alive & well at U-M and within UMSN

The University Record reported on 10/27/21 that U-M filed a record number of license and option agreements (as well as patents issued) over the last fiscal year, helping to solidify the University as the leader in commercializing research and technology. They quotes that 287 license and option agreements were signed, and we had a few from UMSN included in that count…with more in the pipeline. It is an exciting time to be a nurse innovating at UMSN. Let’s keep ‘em coming.

The Office of Tech Transfer is now Innovation Partnerships

The Office of Technology Transfer, with whom UMSN has developed a strong, collaborative working relationship, has changed its name to Innovation Partnerships, to reflect its broader role within the U-M ecosystem. In addition to the work they have helped us do in the past (e.g., filing Invention Disclosure forms for your innovations, licensing, providing counsel on new ideas/innovations, helping with IP protections, connecting us to funding and resource partners, etc.), the office is now, according to their website, “the primary gateway for U-M researchers (and clinicians) seeking to increase the impact of their work by connecting with the private sector—through corporate-sponsored research collaborations, licensing discussions, or connections with business mentors, entrepreneurs, and investors to support startup company formation.” What this means for us is that in addition to the services we’ve come to know them for, they now have the capability to connect us to corporations, businesses, investors, etc. for whom our innovations may be a good fit. This “one-stop-shop” approach should be beneficial for us, and the other innovators and entrepreneurs who will go to them for help.

FFMI Newsletter

Read more about what Fast Forward Medical Innovation is up to in its recent newsletter, which highlights the winners of the Frankel Innovation Initiative, a list of recent Kickstart winners, and a list of educational opportunities, among others.

Click here to read more.

U-M Ecosystem Hub for Innovators & Entrepreneurs

The entrepreneurial ecosystem at the University of Michigan is wide and vast, but so important for the development of some of our nursing innovations. To help with identifying what resources are housed where, a new website has been created with the purpose of supporting, connecting, and providing innovation and entrepreneurial opportunities between students, faculty, and staff.

This site includes more than 15 programs and entrepreneurial centers, of which HiIP is one, and more than 30 student entrepreneurial organizations from across campus to assist in your innovation and entrepreneurial journeys.

The link for this new site is: https://entrepreneurship.umich.edu/
teams who’d worked hard for five weeks to craft a pitch presentation for an idea they had to solve a pressing problem in healthcare. They pitched to an esteemed panel of judges for monetary and mentorship prizes to help move their ideas forward.

The teams, under the leadership of Dr. Michelle Munro-Kramer, Faculty Lead for Students with HiIP, shared in $7,250 in prize monies and nursing innovation books. While we congratulate all the teams on their pitches, the final winning teams were:

- **Vaccine Passport** – Johnson & Johnson Physical and Psychological Safety of Nurses Award
  - Team: Adrian Kaveh Ashtari & Adam Dobry

- **Mother Nurture** – Johnson & Johnson Health Equity Award
  - Team: Brenna James & Jessica Carrasco

- **The OctiPulse Regulator** – Sigma Theta Tau, Rho Chapter Global Health Award
  - Team: Rebecca Cherney, Katie Boensch & Amogh Angadi

- **Glove Recycling** – Rita & Alex Hillman Environmental Sustainability Award
  - Team: Gefei Wang, Sachiko Uchikoshi & Maddy Harner

- **Story Ride** – Audience Choice award sponsored by the Michigan Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists & Nurse Approved
  - Team: Maggie Li, Grant Yang, Kashmira Sawant, Akhila Kosaraju, Eric Moreno, Namrata Peri, Stacia Potempa

Our two other Teams were:

- **Ditch Stretchers**
  - Team: Stacia Potempa, Hannah Slawson, Satya Mummidivarapu

- **YOUtrition**: A Bridge to Nutritional Resources
  - Team: Ashley Moore, Naomi Stanford, Zelda (Yue) Hu, Amy Engineer, Agharman Gandhi, Phat Nguyen
This was an exciting event as it was student-led by our UMSN Student Innovation Ambassadors, and it brought students from across campus to us, at the Nursing School, to brainstorm and pitch ideas to help solve some of important problems in healthcare in the areas of physical and psychological safety of nurses, health equity, global health, and environmental sustainability, among others. Besides our own nursing students, who were a part of every team, there were undergraduate and graduate students representing engineering, public health, dentistry, information science, data science, health informatics, and business.

We love that this was a new innovation experience for the students, with 70% of them claiming this hackathon and pitch competition was something they had not engaged in before. We are confident they learned much from this Innovate 4 Change Challenge and look forward to seeing where they go with their ideas in the future.

Throughout the five weeks, the students were coached by faculty from UMSN and the School of Nursing at U-M Flint, who helped guide and also connect them to other resources. These coaches included:

- Environmental Sustainability: Meg Czerwinski & Jessica Marsack
- Health Equity: Rushika Patel & Elizabeth Fulks
- Psychological and Physical Safety of Nurses: Marge Calarco & Nicole Figueroa
- Global Health: Jody Lori & Suzanne Lugger
- Open Topic: Barb Medvec & Clayton Shuman

A heartfelt thanks as well to Dr. Marilyn Filter and Lyn Behnke from the School of Nursing at the University of Michigan-Flint for being available and helping with pitch practices for those student teams that took advantage of this incredible resource.

We are appreciative of the Dean’s, and UMSN’s, support for this initiative which has now begun to sew the seeds of nursing healthcare innovation within the school and across campus. We also need to thank our panel of judges for their time and counsel to each of the teams after their pitches, and who evaluated the pitches in the areas of:

- Understanding the problem
- Explaining the solution
- Describing the innovation and its value proposition
- Assessing the market opportunity
- Sharing a vision for the business model
- The quality of the presentation itself
Our judges included professionals from inside and outside of the U-M ecosystem, including:

- **Jim Arthurs**, BSEE – Mentor-in-Residence, UM Office of Innovation Partnerships (formerly Tech Transfer)
- **Diane Bouis**, PhD, MBA – Innovation Manager, Startup Incubator, UM Office of Innovation Partnerships
- **Julia Cooney**, MBA, BSN – Health Care Executive & Founding Member of SONSEIL (Society of Nurse Scientists, Innovators, Entrepreneurs and Leaders)
- **Nick Moroz**, BA, BSE, MSE, PhD – Director of Entrepreneurial Practice, UM Center for Entrepreneurship, College of Engineering
- **Bill Newhouse**, BS, MS – Senior Instructional Designer, UM School of Nursing

We were also fortunate to have several companies and organizations generously support this Innovate 4 Change Challenge, as highlighted below:
On November 1st, UMSN hosted the second annual We Dare Challenge, but this year, it was faculty pitching their ideas, programs, and innovations (vs. last year it was students) to the viewing audience of donors. It was an opportunity for nurse teams representing three dynamic, and necessary, projects to showcase their ideas in the hopes of winning some much-needed funds to help underwrite some aspect of their program or project.

It was exciting to see two teams that HiIP is working with participate in this Challenge and we congratulate Dr. Dana Tschannen, Dr. Deb Lee, and Dr. Melissa Bathish for winning for their Augmented Reality for Nursing Education pitch.

The other two teams competing were:

- **ArtSpective™**, an Art-based Intervention to Improve Sexual Health - Clayton Schuman & Dr. Erin Kahle
- **Application of a Linguistically Appropriate Chemical Exposure and Safety Online Training for Nail Salon Workers** – Dr. Marie-Anne Rosemberg & Dr. Aurora Le

Great job to all three teams and how exciting to see innovation being sparked and spread with our faculty and students through two different pitch competitions just weeks apart.
The School of Information, one of our strategic partners on campus, offers a course that can help with building an application for you. The course is SI 699: Agile Software Development for Content Management Systems. Through this course, students in the class work to build a minimally viable application for your research project. It will run this Winter term with the end-product being delivered in April.

There is no cost involved with regard to the students creating the application, however the UMSI Client Engagement office does suggest offering a small monetary incentive for user interviews. That way you can potentially guarantee a good user interview pool. As to the time investment itself, clients for this course serve as a product owner and would meet with the student team every 2 weeks, for 1.5-2 hours to review progress and set priorities for the next two-week increment. At the end of the course, clients will receive an app or product to be launched (but which will not be completely finalized and would still require some additional work).

For review purposes, here is the link to the course page. [https://www.si.umich.edu/host-student-project/user-experience-ux/si-699-user-centered-agile-development](https://www.si.umich.edu/host-student-project/user-experience-ux/si-699-user-centered-agile-development). Here you should find a description of the course, plus details of how the process will work with the student group.

Consideration for your project in the course requires a Proposal be filled out to help scope the project so the project information can be sent to the faculty member. You need to contact them by [November 8th](#) for consideration for Winter term.

For more information or to receive a Proposal, contact Kelly Moore at the School of Information Client Services Office via umsi.client.engagement@umich.edu.
**RWJ Funds Pioneering Ideas: Exploring the Future to Build a Culture of Health – Rolling Admission**

RWJ seeks proposals that are “primed” to influence health equity in the future. The areas of focus they are most interested in include:

- Future of Evidence
- Future of Social Interaction
- Future of Food
- Future of Work

They’re also open to ideas that fall outside these areas, but which offer unique and innovative approaches to progressing health equity and their mission of a Culture of Health. They want to hear from anyone (Nurses!) who has an innovative idea that could impact the trajectory of health and improve health equity and well-being for generations to come.

There is no established amount for this grant, but the average Pioneer grant in 2019 was $315,031, ranging over 1-3 years.

Proposals are accepted throughout the year on a rolling admission.

To learn more about this grant, click [here](#).

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**Student Innovation Programming and Events Happening Around Campus**

Sharing these out from the newsletter of one of our strategic partners on campus--The Center for Socially Engaged Design.

Our partners across campus have developed incredible community programming this semester. Check out the events below to learn more:

- **UMSI UX Lab Consultations**, [Apply here to be a new client!](#)
- **Register for the +Impact Studio Course**, [learn more about the course here](#) and check out the [syllabus for the Winter ’22 course here](#)
- **Due Nov 1, AWS US University Startup Competition**. [Learn more + apply here](#).
- **Due Nov 10, Ginsberg Center Community Engagement Grants**. [Learn more + apply here](#).
- **Nov 10, 12:00 pm, ZLI Launch & Learn: Design Thinking! Empathize, Define, Ideate.**
  Register by emailing: [innovationseries@umich.edu](mailto:innovationseries@umich.edu)
- Due Nov 19, **Excellence in Sustainability Honors Cord program applications. Learn more + apply here.**

- Due Jan 21, **Verizon Forward for Good Challenge in partnership with Clinton Global Initiative University.** Learn more about the challenge, deadlines, and application requirements [here!](#)

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**We Want Your Questions**

We want you AND your innovation-related questions. They help guide the content of this e-newsletter so that we write about what’s most important to you.

If you have an innovation-related question, (general innovation, nursing innovation, funding for innovation or other topics related to innovation) that you’d like us to write about in a future issue, send it to us and look for a private response or a response in an upcoming e-newsletter: amfitz@med.umich.edu

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For more information about HiiP or nursing innovation, or to share an innovation announcement or news, contact the UMSN HiiP Team:

Dr. Olga Yakusheva, Director, yakush@med.umich.edu (sabbatical leave 2021-2022)

Dr. Margaret Calarco, Interim Director of HiiP, mcalarco@med.umich.edu

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Visit our website: [https://nursing.umich.edu/HiiP](https://nursing.umich.edu/HiiP)

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