



Good day to my fellow nursing alumni,

I am pleased to write my first newsletter as president of the U-M School of Nursing (UMSN) Alumni Society Board of Governors. There are some great things happening at UMSN and I want to share with you how your Board contributes to the school's success.



First, I would like to welcome the newest officer and board members. Fran Jurcak (BSN '81) has assumed the role of vice president. Fran has served on the board for five years and was instrumental in establishing the [Distinguished Alumni Award](#) program. I am excited to partner with Fran. We all need to thank outgoing president, Linda Zoeller (BSN '71) and outgoing vice president, Daniel Tounsel (BSN '01) for their leadership the last two years. I am thrilled that Linda and Dan will remain on the board this year to help ensure a smooth leadership transition. A warm welcome to Hassan Abbas (BSN '17), Jordan Rimsa (DNP '18), and Maria Woloson (BSN '78) who joined the board this year. I would like to thank all of the board members for their time and commitment. As board members, we serve as advocates for UMSN and the Michigan Nursing alumni family (13,000+ strong!), and we work to provide an infrastructure that facilitates meaningful relationships between UMSN and its alumni. Click to see the full member [roster](#).

The board introduced several programs that have proven to be beneficial to alumni, students and faculty of UMSN in the past few years including:

- Establishment of the [Distinguished Alumni Award](#) program. Now in its third year, this program helps us recognize and celebrate some of our most successful alumni. Online nominations are being accepted now. Please consider nominating a classmate or colleague.
- Creation of the Alumni Helping Students Seminar Series. Now in its second year, this popular seminar series focuses on career development assistance for nursing students such as resume building, interviewing skills, and job offer evaluations. Thank you to all of the alumni volunteers who have participated in these seminars.
- Introduced [UCAN](#), an online alumni and student mentoring network to facilitate entry into practice, career paths, and alumni connections as students transition into job opportunities around the country. Please enroll in the program and customize your preferences for engagement with students. Once enrolled, be sure to join the School of Nursing group.
- Formation of UMSN Alumni groups on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#). With over 650 Facebook members and over 360 LinkedIn members to date, these platforms have proven to be popular resources for sharing news and accolades among alumni.

My primary objective for this year as president of the UMSN Alumni Society is to increase alumni engagement with the School of Nursing. Our board wants to keep alumni informed of UMSN initiatives and successes and to motivate alumni to participate in alumni activities such as the annual [Homecoming](#)



[Reunion](#), local and regional alumni events, and volunteer opportunities.

We enjoy hearing from you! Submit a class note, update your contact information, or simply drop a note to share your thoughts [here](#).

Please join me as we challenge ourselves to be the best Michigan Nursing ambassadors that we can be. On behalf of the Alumni Society Board of Governors, we look forward to connecting with you soon.

Wherever you go, Go Blue!

Karen Hollingsworth, BSN '76

UMSN Alumni Society President