MSU Spartans vs. Purdue Boilermakers

This annual Play-4-Kay event honors the memory of Coach Kay Yow and is an opportunity “for a nation of coaches to raise breast cancer awareness and funds for research on the court, across campuses, in communities and beyond.” This is a great family event to raise awareness and support for breast cancer research.

$5 of the ticket price will be donated to the College of Nursing Research Center. Gather your family, friends, and neighbors together to support breast cancer research and the College of Nursing Research Center for a great night of celebration and fun.

Date: February 19, 2012
Luncheon: 3:00pm
Game: 5:00pm
Location: Jack Breslin Student Events Center, Conference Center

Tickets: $12.00 for Adults
$5.00 for Students and Children

The ticket price includes lunch, Breast Cancer Awareness Play 4 Kay t-shirt, basketball game ticket, and a chance to win great door prizes.


If you have any questions, please contact Pam Schoen, Assistant Director of Development and Alumni Relations at pam.schoen@ht.msu.edu or toll free at (888)-771-3637 or visit the website at: http://www.msunursing.org/events/event_details.asp?id=193485.
From the Associate Dean of Research and Director of the Doctoral Program

Barbara Given, PhD, RN, FAAN

Researchers and doctoral students have been very busy this semester so far, already getting abstracts ready for submission to the Gerontological Society, Council for Advancement in Nursing, and a survivorship conference. In addition we are preparing posters and papers for the Midwest Nursing Research Society, MSU Women’s Research Day, and the Women’s Basketball game where Breast Cancer will be Featured. These are good opportunities for us and the student involvement is exciting. The overall message from campus and the Vice President for Research’s Office is that we have to have more funding (federal level) at MSU. The message is that we must increase our competitiveness as others are increasing theirs. To do so we need to be sure that we have the most innovative and significant research questions that we can. This means that we need to have compelling and sharp proposals. One of the approaches recommended to accomplish that is more presubmission peer review. We are fortunate that our faculty have that process in place to help us.

Recent Publications


Researchers Center News

Visiting Scholar

The MSU College of Nursing Research Center was proud to host Visiting Scholar Professor Antonia Villarruel, Nola J. Pender Collegiate Chair and Associate Dean for Research and Global Affairs at the University of Michigan School of Nursing on January 11, 2012. Dr. Villarruel met individually with Assistant Professor Amber Vermeesch, Assistant Professor Costellia Talley, Assistant Professor Nancy Gallagher, and PhD student Ana Kelly to discuss their nursing research projects. She also met with the PhD students together over lunch to discuss community based interventions with cultural groups. Finally, Dr. Villarruel gave a presentation entitled “Working with Latino Communities from Efficacy to Scale-Up” that was attended by PhD students and faculty alike.

Faculty Research Presentations

Congratulations to Assistant Professor Denise Hershey for her research presentation “Patient Challenges with Self-Management: Diabetes, Cancer, or Both?” on January 18, 2012 in East Fee Hall.

Congratulations to Assistant Professor Rebecca Lehto for her research presentation “Using Focus Groups in Nursing Research: Patient Perceptions of Using Mindfulness Therapy During Lung Cancer Treatment” at the Allegiance Health Research Council on January 22, 2012 in Jackson, MI.

Upcoming Faculty Podcast

Congratulations to Associate Professor Rebecca Lehto whose article “The Challenge of Existential Issues in Acute Care: Nursing Considerations for the Patient with a New Diagnosis of Lung Cancer” will be published in the February 2012 issue of the Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing (CJON) and will be featured in a podcast including an interview with Dr. Lehto and Mallori Hooker, Editor of CJON. The podcast will be available February 1st at: http://www.ons.org/Publications/CJON/Features/CJONPlus.

Educational Opportunity

2012 Institute on Systems Science and Health (ISSH 2012) is now accepting applications and will be hosted at Washington University in St. Louis, June 10-15, 2012. The ideal candidate for this expense-paid program is an investigator with little or no formal training in systems science and who aims to use the knowledge gained at ISSH to develop grant proposals to the NIH for research projects to improve population health and health equity. http://obssr.od.nih.gov/issh/2012/index.html

Applications due Feb. 5, 2012.

Grant Opportunity

The Alpha Psi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International is now accepting applications for the Professional Development Grant Award which focuses on nursing knowledge dissemination and generation. Research award criteria include: significance, approach, innovation, investigators, and environment. For additional information see http://www.alphapsinursing.msu.edu/

Applications due March 15, 2012.
Student News

December 2011 PhD Graduation Ceremony
Pictured from left to right: Professor Gwen Wyatt PhD, RN; Professor Sandra Spoelstra PhD, RN; Professor Linda Spence PhD (retired); Karen Bergam PhD, RN; Associate Dean for Research and University Distinguished Professor Barbara Given PhD, RN, FAAN; Assistant Professor Lorraine Robbins PhD, RN, FNP-BC; Melodee Vandenbosch PhD, RN; Associate Professor Deborah Schutte PhD, RN; Lori Houghton-Rahrig PhD, RN.

Congratulations to Dr. Karen Bergman, Dr. Lori Houghton-Rahrig, and Dr. Melodee Vandenbosch for their recent graduation from the MSU College of Nursing PhD program; the commencement ceremony was held December 9th followed by the Convocation and Pinning Ceremony on December 10th. We are so very proud and look forward to seeing their continued contribution to nursing research. We wish each of our new graduates the best success.

Newly Admitted PhD Students
The College of Nursing Research Center would like to extend congratulations to Becky Nauta and Vicki Voskuil who were recently admitted to the Michigan State University College of Nursing PhD program. Becky Nauta's research interests include maternal and child health as well as complementary medicine. Vicki Voskuil's research interests include childhood obesity. We look forward to welcoming them to the Nursing Research Center and working together next fall.

Dissertation Defense
Congratulations to PhD student Chai Tai Hung for the successful defense of her dissertation "Pain and Fatigue on Severity and Frequency: Congruence between Cancer Patients' and Their Family Caregivers" on January 12, 2012.

Recent Grant Submissions
Adams, K. with Lehto, R. Application submitted to the “Jonas Nurse Leaders Scholar Program” through the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Brittain, K. “Using Technology to Enhance the Community assessment/Analysis Project for Senior Nursing Students.” Submitted to the MSU Lilly Teaching Fellowship Program. This grant is designed to provide faculty with an opportunity to engage in a year-long exploration of robust scholarship on effective practices in University teaching.


Schutte, D. “Hearing Loss and Agitation in Alzheimer Disease within a Rural Isolate Community.” Submitted to the National Institutes of Health.


Recent Faculty Presentations

Accepted MNRS Presentations


Chaiyarit, A., Given, B., Given, C.W. “The impacts of caregiver mastery and depressive symptoms on caregiver health related quality of life.”


Devine, A., Kingsbury, K., Lirette, C., Pisas, L., Talley, H., Lourens, G. “Effectiveness of simulation on nurse Anesthesia Student Clinical Confidence.”


Hung, C., Given B., Given, C.W., You, M. “Symptom cluster: Cancer patient-caregiver congruent perception of symptom severity.”

Mroczek, S., Soltow-Hershey, D. “Impact of Chemotherapy on Diabetes Self-Management in Older Adults.”


Netchang, S., Given, B., Given, C.W., and Von Eye, A. “Factors Influence Cancer Caregivers’ Health Status.”


Presentations at Regional Conference

As the College of Nursing continues to prepare to co-host the 36th Annual Midwest Nursing Research Society Conference in April 12-15 2012 along with Wayne State University and the University of Michigan, we are very proud to announce that in addition to the many faculty members who will be presenting, many of our graduate and undergraduate students will also be presenting at this regional conference. For a complete listing of MNRS Student Presentations, please see the Student Presentations column to the left.

Congratulations to the following BSN students whose abstracts were accepted in the BSN student call for abstracts: Sarah Mroczek and Stephanie Smith.

Congratulations to the following two MSN student groups whose abstracts were accepted in the MSN student call for abstracts:
- Abigail Devine, Kate Kingsbury, Christina Lirette, and Lynn Ptasarski
- Paul Emmons, Shannon Mayhew, and Elizabeth Mueller

Congratulations to the following PhD students whose abstracts were accepted in the PhD student call for papers: Arunee Chaiyarit, Lori Houghton-Rahrig, and Saowaluk Netchang.

We would like to give special congratulations to BSN student Mary O’Connell; she will be presenting a paper that was accepted to the open call for abstracts at this conference.

We would also like to give special congratulations to PhD students Chai Tai Hung, Kelly Adams, Emilie Dykstra-Goris, and Phanarat Chencho whose papers were accepted in the open call for abstracts.

We are so very proud of each BSN, MSN, and PhD student who submitted to this regional conference. It is wonderful to have a student body that demonstrates such a strong passion for nursing research. We look forward to seeing their presentations at the Midwest nursing Research Society Conference this spring as well as their future contributions to the field of nursing research.

Conferences and Calls for Abstracts


Nursing Research Day. Great Lansing Nursing Research Consortium. Eagle Eye Convention Center East Lansing, MI. For more information contact Lei Lani Tacia RN, MSN at Leilani.tacia@allegiancehealth.org March 20, 2012

Presentation Applications Due: February 2, 2012


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Conferences and Calls for Abstracts Continued

January 26: Fellowships and Career Opportunities (Awards and Fellowships need-to-know). International Center Conference Room, 3-4 p.m. 
[https://forum.research.msu.edu/](https://forum.research.msu.edu/)

February 14: MSU Women's Health Research Conference: A Celebration of Women's Health Research at MSU. MSU Union-Parlors A, B, C, 8:30a.m.-4 p.m.


February 23: International Research (Taking your research abroad). International Center Conference Room, 3-4 p.m. [https://forum.research.msu.edu/](https://forum.research.msu.edu/)

March 22: Data Mining MSU (Find the data you need). International Center Conference Room, 3-4 p.m. [https://forum.research.msu.edu/](https://forum.research.msu.edu/)


