New Collaborative Research Center
Michigan State University and Sparrow Health System recently announced the establishment of the Center for Innovation. The center aims to improve patient care through research and implementation of evidence-based best practice. This is a collaborative initiative between Sparrow Health System, the MSU College of Nursing, the MSU College of Human Medicine, and the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine with expected future involvement of other colleges including Communication, Engineering, and Business. Dean Mary Mundt of the College of Nursing participated in the initial vision group and Associate Dean of Research and Director of the Doctoral Program Dr. Barbara Given chaired the planning group.

Award News
Congratulations to Dr. Sandra Spoelstra who was recently awarded a $30,000.00 grant from the BCOG Center for Symptom Management of the Walther Cancer Foundation for her grant titled “Determining severity, interference, and number of days of symptoms from side effects in cancer patient prescribed oral chemotherapy agents.”

Congratulations to the following CON faculty members who received 2012 awards from the MSU Alpha Pi chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

$1,500.00 Research Awards:
Dr. Nancy Gallagher: Promoting physical activity in older adults.
Dr. Denise Hershey: Identifying care challenges among diabetic patients with cancer.
Gayle Lourens: Providing rural access to interdisciplinary simulation education.
Dr. Amber Vermeesch: Promoting exercise in Latinas.

$500.00 Research Awards:
Dr. Kathy Dontje: Patient access to personal records focus groups.
Dr. Amy Hoffman: Focus groups in lung cancer.

$1,000.00 Professional development award:
Patrick Crane: Paper presentation at the International Nursing History Conference; 8/9-11/12, Denmark.

$500.00 Professional development awards:
Janice Hodges: Transforming the transition of new graduates. Presentation at National Nurses in Staff Development Conference; 7/12-15/12; Boston, MA.
Dr. Lisa Singletery: Maternal responsiveness: Early observation of mothers who bottle feed is needed in reducing the risk of childhood obesity. Presentation at the 2012 AWHONN Convention; 6/23-27/12; Washington, D.C.
Dr. Sandra Spoelstra: Do elderly cancer survivors have more pain? A comparison of cancer survivors to elderly without cancer. Presentation at the 6th Biennial Cancer Survivorship Research Conference; 6/14-16/12; Arlington, VA.
From the Associate Dean of Research and Director of the Doctoral Program
Barbara Given, PhD, RN, FAAN

The funding environment for research continues to be challenging. The National Institutes of Health (NIH), the source for most of the large grants sought by CON faculty, continues to be in a state of flux. Rate of funding continues to vary among institutes of health (NIH) but there are newer initiatives such as the PCORI grants and focus on the SBIR’s, STTR’s, and CMS Center for Innovation Grants. The NIH is currently reviewing size of grants and number of R01’s per investigator and success rate by discipline. Expect some additional changes: The Center for Scientific Review has a new set of Peer Review Notes. Articles of interest include: Moving Forward after an Unsuccessful application; Use of ER Commons for Communication; Planning, Writing and Submitting an Application; CSR Study Section Descriptions and Study Section Posters. A review of NIH’s Peer Review Notes may be useful and can be found at: http://public.csr.nih.gov/aboutcsr/NewsAndPublications/PeerReviewNotes/Pages/default.aspx.

Recent Publications


Partnership News

Allegiance Health System Partnership

Allegiance Health System Partnership

Dr. Rebecca Lehto has served as a research consultant at Allegiance Health for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Karen Biskupski, BSN, RN, was well attended by Allegiance Health nursing staff. IRB approval has been attained and nursing focus groups are being planned to better understand nurse perceptions related to evidence-based practice implementation at Allegiance Health.

MSU CON faculty have continued to conduct research presentations at Allegiance Health this spring. On March 14, Dr. Sandra Spoelstra gave a presentation titled “Developing an evidence-based hospital fall prevention program.” On March 28, Dr. Denise Hershey gave two presentations titled “Impact of chemotherapy on diabetes self-management: Clinical implications” to oncology staff nurses during their lunch hours. In May, Dr. Kelly Brittain gave a presentation titled “Factors related to informed decisions about colorectal cancer screening among African Americans”. The presentations were well received with rich discussion among the Allegiance Health nurses.

Sparrow Health System Partnership

Dr. Debra Schutte

Dr. Debra Schutte provided consultation on a wide variety of clinical scholarship activities, including the development of nursing research proposals, manuscript development, and evidence based practice projects. Two evidence-based project fellowship teams moved their projects forward this year, including Kim Harr and Erin Darnell (Use of Massage Therapy and Music Therapy in a Pediatric Setting) and Bethann Conn (Family Visitation Policy in the Adult ICU). Four 2012-2013 Evidence Based Practice (EBS) Fellowship teams were selected through a competitive process to evaluate the evidence related to a diverse set of clinical questions. Congratulations to the following 2012-2013 EBP teams:

- Michelle VanBuren: Pressure Relieving Devices in the OR.
- Mary Kathryn Medei and Brooke Wood: Early Incentive Spirometry on a General-Medical Surgical Unit.
- Chris Blocher: Maintaining Healthy Work Environments in the PACU.
- Sarah Collins and Sarah Davis: Developmental Care in the NICU.

The Sparrow nursing team is working hard to bring the best evidence to their care and to share their work with the broader nursing community. In addition to hosting their own Research Symposium on October 21, 2011, Sparrow nurses participated in a variety of other research conferences throughout the year including the Greater Lansing Area Community Research Day and the Midwest Nursing Research Society Annual Conference.

Dr. Schutte returns to her research consultant role at Sparrow in the Fall to facilitate the vital and productive partnership between MSU College of Nursing and Sparrow Hospital Department of Nursing towards the goal of evidence based practice and improved patient outcomes.
PhD graduates at MSU Advanced Degree Commencement ceremonies on May 4th, 2012 from left to right: Arunee Chaiyarit, Saowaluk Netchang, Lisa Singleterry, and Chia Tai Hung.

Spring 2012 PhD Graduation
Congratulations to Arunee Chaiyarit, Chia Tai Hung, Saowaluk Netchang, and Lisa Singleterry who marched in the MSU advanced degree commencement ceremonies on May 4th, 2012. Faculty, alumni, family, and friends gathered to attend the graduation ceremonies and to celebrate this great accomplishment. Arunee Chaiyarit, Saowaluk Netchang, and Lisa Singleterry have completed their PhD program and Chia Tai Hung will finish this summer. CON faculty have enjoyed working with each of these graduates and look forward to seeing their future contributions to nursing research.

Arunee Chaiyarit will be returning to Thailand to be a nursing instructor at Boromarajonani College of Nursing.

Chia Tai Hung will be returning to Taiwan for a post-doctoral position on a nursing cancer research team at the National Taiwan University where she plans to work on paper and grant writing before later applying to academic teaching and research positions.

Saowaluk Netchang will be returning to Thailand to work as a nursing instructor for Bachelor-degree nursing students at the Boromarajonani College of Nursing.

Lisa Singleterry will be returning to Ferris State University.

Alumni News
Congratulations to alumnus Dr. Paula Sherwood, a current Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburgh, who will be promoted to full Professor effective July 1, 2012.
PCORI Research Priorities Announcement
The Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) recently announced their national priorities for research. The five priorities for research include:

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<th>Priority</th>
<th>Funding Allocation</th>
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<td>1. Assessment of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment options</td>
<td>Approximately 40%</td>
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<td>2. Improving healthcare systems</td>
<td>Approximately 20%</td>
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<td>3. Communication and dissemination research</td>
<td>Approximately 10%</td>
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<td>4. Addressing disparities</td>
<td>Approximately 10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Accelerating patient-centered outcomes research and methodological research</td>
<td>Approximately 20%</td>
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For more information about PCORI, the national priorities for research, the research agenda, or funding opportunities, please go to http://www.pcori.org/what-we-do/priorities-agenda/.

Grant Opportunity
Oncology Nursing Society Research Development Grant
This $20,000 Research Fellowship award is designed to support short-term oncology research training and mentorship. Fellowships are available for both beginning and established researchers. For more information please go to http://www.onsfoundation.org/apply/re/Fellowship.

Online Application Deadline: July 11, 2011

Conferences and Calls for Abstracts

The Aging, Mobility and Quality of Life (AMQoL) Conference. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. http://agingmobilityconference.com/


7th Annual Children’s Hospital of Michigan Evidence-Based Practice Nursing Conference. Grosse Point, MI. http://www.childrensdmc.org/nurseconf/Abstract Submission Due: July 6


Poster Submission Due: June 15

Cyberinfrastructure (CI) Days at MSU. Coordinated by the MSU Cyber Enabled Research (iCER). East Lansing, MI. www.tech.msu.edu/CI-Days


Gerontological Society of America (GSA) 65th Annual Scientific Meeting. San Diego, CA. www.geron.org/.

ONS Advancing Care through Science Conference. Phoenix, AZ. http://connections.ons.org/