COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
The College of Health Professions was established in 1966. Although the youngest college at MUSC, we have the largest student enrollment with nearly 800 students, 17% of whom self-identify as underrepresented minorities. We live our tripartite mission of education, research, and service daily through our commitment to the values of integrity, collaboration, diversity, creativity, and excellence. Our vision is to improve the health of populations by developing and inspiring health scientists and leaders.

We offer ten educational programs that are highly ranked by US News and World Report (Occupational Therapy ranked 17th, Physical Therapy ranked 27th, Nurse Anesthesia ranked 29th, Master in Health Administration ranked 17th). Our Occupational Therapy program will transition to an entry level doctoral program in the summer of 2019. Additionally, in the fall of 2019, we will offer a post professional doctorate for practicing occupational therapists interested in advanced leadership skills, research, and teaching.

Our research portfolio continues to be robust, and the college is ranked 8th in NIH funding among 65 colleges of health professions. Most notable is the National Institutes of Health (NIH) award for the National Center of Neuromodulation for Rehabilitation (NM4R). Our center is one of only six centers nationwide in the Medical Rehabilitation Research Resource network. MUSC faculty in the Colleges of Health Professions and Medicine train investigators across the country in the use of neuromodulation tools and protocols to improve the outcomes of rehabilitation interventions.

Several of our faculty provide clinical services within the MUSC enterprise. In addition, community service is an integral part of our mission, and our students, faculty, and staff are committed to serving the needs of others.

We invite you to be part of our growing college that is changing what’s possible!
Academic Degree Programs

BACHELOR DEGREE

- **Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Studies (HCS):** This online/hybrid program is designed for students who have earned an Associate of Science degree or those with 60 general education college credits. Graduates gain an understanding of determinants of health, interpret health data, and may obtain employment in a health promotion field or seek an advanced degree in a related health profession.

MASTER DEGREES

- **Master of Science in Cardiovascular Perfusion (CVP):** This program prepares graduates to work in a variety of health care settings where cardiopulmonary life support services (i.e., the heart-lung machine during open heart surgery) are required. We also offer a post professional program for licensed perfusionists who wish to advance in their careers.

- **Master of Health Administration (MHA):** This program, offered in residential and online/hybrid formats, prepares individuals to serve in management and leadership roles in a wide range of health care settings.

- **Master of Science in Health Informatics (MSHI):** Graduates of this online/hybrid program are equipped to lead the implementation of health care information systems such as electronic health records and telehealth initiatives. They also develop data management and data analytical skills.

- **Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (OT):** This program prepares graduates to assist patients in everyday activities that are personally meaningful, socially satisfying, and culturally relevant. They work in interprofessional teams in a variety of settings. Starting Summer 2019, the program will transition to an entry level doctoral program. We will also offer a post professional doctorate for practicing occupational therapists interested in advanced leadership skills, research, and teaching.

- **Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies (PAS):** This program prepares graduates who work with physicians to make clinical decisions and provide a broad range of diagnostic, therapeutic, preventive, and health maintenance services. Graduates play a pivotal role in providing high quality, affordable health care.

Dr. Lauren Gellar, Division Director, and other faculty and staff with Healthcare Studies students.

OT students build a make-shift wheelchair for a patient in Uganda.

Students practice patient care in the PAS lab.
DOCTORAL DEGREES

＞ **Doctor of Health Administration (DHA):** This program prepares practicing health care professionals and leaders to address the pressing health care issues facing our nation. Graduates gain strategic leadership skills, an understanding of health policy, and applied research skills. The program is offered in an online/hybrid format.

＞ **Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP):** This program is offered to both entry level (on campus format) and post professional (online/hybrid format) students. The entry level program prepares competent, compassionate and knowledgeable certified registered nurse anesthetists to meet the health care needs of society through clinical practice, education and research. The post professional program is designed for certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA) who already hold a master’s degree in nurse anesthesia or a related field and want to advance in their careers.

＞ **Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT):** This program prepares graduates to examine, diagnose and treat individuals of all ages who have health-related conditions that limit their ability to move and perform functional activities in their daily lives. Graduates also work with individuals to prevent loss of mobility by developing fitness and wellness programs for healthy, active lifestyles.

＞ **PhD in Health and Rehabilitation Science (PhD):** This interdisciplinary post baccalaureate program offers concentrations in pathology and impairment, functional limitations, and health services. In this research doctorate degree program, scientists are trained to approach complex disorders and conditions from a cross-discipline and cross-system perspective. Graduates assume roles as researchers, program directors, and educators who advance the body of knowledge about health and rehabilitation sciences.
Grants Awarded

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- 8th in NIH funding among 65 colleges of health professions
- 47 funded grant awards
- 1st endowed chair, Christie Family Endowed Chair in Stroke Rehabilitation Research
- $9.5M awarded in grant funding
- 61% of grant awards from NIH totaling $5.8M
- 90% federal sources of funding

RESEARCH STRENGTHS

- Rehabilitation in neurological disorders (emphasis in stroke and spinal cord injury)
- Health services delivery (comparative effectiveness)
- Health, employment and longevity post spinal cord injury
- Alzheimers, Addictions, Voice and Swallowing

The overall monetary value of grant awards for FY 18 was $9.5M. NIH grant awards make up 61% for a total of $5.8M. Funding from all federal sources represents 90% of the grant dollars received which includes 11% from the DHHS Administration for Community Living and 10% from the Veteran’s Affair.
Recent Major Grants

Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE) in Stroke Recovery is a collaborative effort between more than 10 departments/divisions across MUSC’s College of Health Professions and College of Medicine. This infrastructure grant builds the MUSC research capacity in stroke recovery, with a focus on how neuroplasticity underlies improvements in function for those after stroke.

National Center of Neuromodulation for Rehabilitation (NM4R) is one of six centers nationwide in the Medical Rehabilitation Research Resource network. MUSC faculty in the Colleges of Health Professions and Medicine train investigators across the country in the use of neuromodulation tools and protocols to improve the outcomes of rehabilitation interventions.

The Health and Longevity Project investigates outcomes throughout the lifecycle and currently has multiple federally funded studies by HHS and the DoD, including those directed at aging, negative health spirals, re-hospitalizations, and mortality among those with spinal cord injury (SCI).

The Quality Employment after Disability Project includes two federally funded studies directed at employment outcomes throughout the lifecycle for people with SCI and multiple sclerosis.

Training in Grantsmanship for Rehabilitation Research (TIGRR) is funded by NCMRR/NICHD and brings together a nationally recognized group of mentors and consultants as faculty, including representatives of federal funding agencies. The workshop provides guidance in grant writing, clinical trial design, biostatistics, collaboration, grantsmanship, budgeting, and career development through lectures and individual consultation.

Spinal cord injury survivors, celebrating decades of recovery, participate in the Health and Longevity Project.

Dr. Aiko Thompson demonstrates technology in the Barbara S. Christie Evoked Potential Operant Conditioning laboratory.

2018 participants of Training in Grantsmanship for Rehabilitation Research (TIGRR).
Clinical Services

Several of our faculty provide clinical services within the MUSC enterprise in the realm of their professional expertise and licensure to serve our patients.

- Our Anesthesia for Nurses and Cardiovascular Perfusion faculty provide services to MUSC Health operating rooms.
- Our Physical Therapy faculty provide services in the MUSC Health outpatient clinic. PT faculty also provide services in the Wellness Center and in the CARES Therapy clinic.
- Our Occupational Therapy faculty provide services in the MUSC Health Children’s Hospital and the CARES Therapy clinic.
- Our Physician Assistant Studies faculty provide services in the MUSC Emergency Medicine Department.
- Faculty in the Department of Healthcare Leadership and Management participate in research activities with the MUSC Center for Telehealth, Comparative Effectiveness and Data Analytics Research Resource, and South Carolina Clinical & Translational Research Institute.

Community Outreach

Service is an integral part of our mission, and our students, faculty, and staff are committed to serving the needs of others.

- Community Clinics: Physician assistant students provide free care for St. Andrew’s Medical Clinic and East Cooper Community Outreach (ECCO). St. Andrew’s Medical Clinic offers access to quality primary care for the underserved population of the greater Charleston area. ECCO was founded as an emergency relief effort in 1989 after the devastation from Hurricane Hugo and has since grown into a permanent resource for the community.
- Program Development in Haiti: The college supports Université Episcopale d’Haïti and the Faculté des Sciences Réhabilitation de Léogâne which is the first educational program to offer professional programs of study in occupational therapy and physical therapy in Haiti.
- Medical Mission Trips: Faculty and students make an international impact in Uganda, Ethiopia, and Nicaragua through rehabilitation services as members of an interprofessional team in collaboration with OneWorld Health.
- Giving Back: Faculty, staff, and students continue to make significant contributions to the Charleston community through support of activities and fundraisers for causes such as Trident United Way Day of Caring, March of Dimes, Achieving Wheelchair Equity, Ronald McDonald House, and Charleston Miracle League.
- Support Groups: Faculty in the Department of Health Sciences and Research support the Young Stroke Survivors Support Group and the Aphasia Community Group. Both groups provide opportunities for stroke survivors to benefit from peer-to-peer community-based support.
Founded in 1824 in Charleston, The Medical University of South Carolina is the oldest medical school in the South. Today, MUSC continues the tradition of excellence in education, research, and patient care. MUSC educates and trains more than 3,000 students and 700 residents in six colleges (Dental Medicine, Graduate Studies, Health Professions, Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy), and has nearly 14,000 employees, including approximately 1,500 faculty members.

As the largest non-federal employer in Charleston, the university and its affiliates have collective annual budgets in excess of $2.4 billion, with an annual economic impact of more than $3.8 billion and annual research funding in excess of $250 million. MUSC operates a 700-bed medical center, which includes a nationally recognized children’s hospital, the Ashley River Tower (cardiovascular, digestive disease, and surgical oncology), Hollings Cancer Center (a National Cancer Institute-designated center), Level I trauma center, Institute of Psychiatry, and the state’s only transplant center. In 2018, for the fourth consecutive year, U.S. News & World Report named MUSC Health the number one hospital in South Carolina.

For more information on academic programs or clinical services, visit musc.edu.

For more information on hospital patient services, visit muschealth.org.