



Medical University of South Carolina and MUSC Health Board of Trustees President's Report

DECEMBER 2020



ACADEMICS: EDUCATION



- **College of Health Professions (CHP) students in the online Bachelor of Science in the Healthcare Studies (HCS) program created the Accelerated Executive Master in Health Administration (A-EMHA) pathway.** This new pathway allows eligible students to fulfill their bachelor's degree requirements while completing several graduate-level courses that are waived in their A-EMHA. Both degrees are completed online in just three years (eight semesters) with a cost savings of more than \$17,000 and one-years' time.
- **Francis Marion University (FMU) voluntarily withdrew its accreditation with the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (ARC-PA).** In mid-November, CHP's Physician Assistant Studies (PAS) program received approval from the ARC-PA to permanently increase the maximum entering class size from 60 students to 97 students beginning in January 2021. MUSC's PAS program was previously approved to increase its class size starting May 2021. This change in effective date will allow the students from FMU to transfer to MUSC's PAS program in January 2021.
- **MUSC M.D./Ph.D. student Heather Holman won the inaugural SC Innovates student pitch competition for her CPR assist device, The Saver.** Heather and her collaborators, surgical residents Kristin Quinn, M.D., and Julie Siegel, M.D., designed the device under the mentorship of the Department of Surgery's Human Centered Design team.
- **Rashshana Blackwood ('21) won the MUSC Patient Counseling Competition for 2020-2021** and will represent the College of Pharmacy at the National Patient Counseling Competition in Spring 2021 at the American Pharmacists Association Annual Meeting.
- **The College of Pharmacy's team of Sara Bruner and Linh Hazard won the South Carolina Society of Health-System Pharmacists Statewide Clinical Skills Competition.** Sara and Linh will represent MUSC in the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists National Clinical Skills Competition.

ACADEMICS: FACULTY



- **Prabhakar Baliga, M.D., Chair of the Department of Surgery, was elected to the Board of Governors for the American College of Surgeons** as the Surgical Specialty Society Governor from the Southern Surgical Association. He will serve an initial three-year term.
- **Following an extensive national search, Reginald Munden, M.D., has been selected to serve as the next Chair of the Department of Radiology,** with a planned start date of April 1, 2021. He will succeed Philip Costello, M.D., who has served for more than 15 years as department chair.



- **Several College of Medicine (COM) faculty were recognized with our COM Research Excellence Awards in October.** Raymond F. Anton, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry; and co-investigators Patricia Latham, Ph.D.; Sarah Book, M.D.; Michaela Hoffman, Ph.D.; James Prisciandaro, Ph.D.; and Emily Bristol, BA, were recognized for their work and article titled "[Efficacy of Gabapentin for the Treatment of Alcohol Use Disorder in Patients With Alcohol Withdrawal Symptoms A Randomized Clinical Trial](#)" published by JAMA Internal Medicine. Vinayak Rohan, M.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery, was recognized for his work and article titled "[Virtual Crossmatching in Kidney Transplantation: The Wait is Over](#)" published by the Journal of the American College of Surgeons.
- **Sudie Back, Ph.D., Professor in the Department of Psychiatry, and Kevin Gray, M.D., Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Assistant Provost for Research Advancement, were awarded the MUSC 2020 Advancement of Women Award.** The purpose of this award is to recognize the MUSC faculty member(s) who best demonstrate excellence in his/her/their commitment to the advancement and promotion of women faculty at MUSC.
- **Amanda K. Giles, OTD, OTR/L , Associate Professor in the Division of Occupational Therapy, was selected to receive the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) 2021 Roster of Fellows Award.** The AOTA Roster of Fellows recognizes occupational therapist members of AOTA who have made a significant contribution over time to the profession with a measured impact on consumers of occupational therapy services and/or members of the Association.
- **K. Jackson Thomas, PT, EdD, professor in the Division of Physical Therapy, was elected to the National Board of Directors for the Alpha Eta Honor Society** for a two-year term. Alpha Eta is the national honor society for the allied health professions.
- **Stephanie Armstrong, RN, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, was appointed as Chair of the Healthcare Committee for the S.C. Human Trafficking Task Force.**
- **Heather Craven, RN, Ph.D., Instructor, was the recipient of the 2020 Academy of Medical Surgical Nursing President's Award.**
- **Cathy Durham, DNP, Assistant Dean, Graduate Practice Programs, was selected as one of the 2020 Charleston Regional Business Journal Health Care Heroes in the Health Care Professional category.** Cathy was deployed for about four months to NYC during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Sharon Kozachik, RN, Ph.D., Interim Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, was selected to serve as Chair of the Palliative and End of Life Care Expert Panel for the American Academy of Nursing.**
- **Dean Linda S. Weglicki, RN, Ph.D., College of Nursing, is serving as one of among 30 Ambassadors to the Friends of Nursing Research (FNINR), term 2021 – 2022.** FNINR Ambassadors are instrumental in educating Congressional leaders and decision makers about the importance and impact of nursing research on the health and quality of life of citizens of the US and around the world.
- **GlaxoSmithKline Distinguished Endowed Chair John Lemasters, Ph.D., was inducted into the National Academy of Inventors (NAI).**

ACADEMICS: RESEARCH



- **The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) recently awarded a three-year, \$3.378 million grant to the National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center** in the Department of Psychiatry to continue the National Mass Violence Victimization Resource Center (NMVRC). OVC established the NMVRC in 2017 to improve the nation's capacity to respond to mass violence incidents.
- **MUSC was one of three finalists for the Association of Clinical Research Professionals 2020 Innovation in Workforce Development Award.** MUSC was recognized for its clinical research matrix, an innovative partnership between the research community and human resources division that addresses challenges in attracting, developing, and retaining clinical research professionals.
- **MUSC has enrolled more than 400 subjects in the AstraZeneca (AZ) COVID-19 vaccine trial.** AZ reported early results from UK-Brazil data with overall 70% reduction in infection and no serious illness. The data is even better with the half-dose than full-dose regimen. MUSC has two more vaccine trials in study startup.

MUSC HEALTH



- **As of November 25, 2020, MUSC had completed approximately 247,774 COVID-19 tests statewide, including our state at-risk testing and enterprise.**
- **The COVID-19 Infusion therapeutic (monoclonal antibody) is a newly developed drug that is given to COVID-19 positive patients very early in the course of the disease.** The team was able to set this up in a separate location, for the safety of all patients. This was done in fewer than four business days, including installation of full information technology.
- **Prior to Thanksgiving, the COVID-19 team tested 2,257 care team and family members on campus.**
- **Opened a new at-risk community COVID-19 testing center at Charleston International Airport.**
- **Received state CON approval for Indian Land Hospital.**
- **Received state CON approval for Free-standing Emergency Department in Florence.**
- **Closed on the donation of the Heath property for the new Williamsburg/Lake City replacement hospital.**
- **Opened new medical office building space in Bluffton on November 9th and started staffing new physicians coming from Charleston on a daily basis.**
- **Opened new medical office building space in Summerville/Nexton in October. MUSC Health will progressively staff new providers in coming months.**



- **MUSCH Charleston:**

- Opened the dedicated Burn Unit.
- Vizient initiative is on track to save more than \$2 million from budget this year.
- Caroline DeLongchamps won Governor's Award in Humanities.
- Kindra Taylor was Nurse of the Year from neonatal intensive care unit.
- Pediatric ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) program received the quality designation, PLATINUM, by ELSO Center of Excellence.
- Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research recognized MUSC BMT in top 10% survival achieved for adult and pediatric patients.
- Successful adult trauma program American College of Surgeons reverification.
- Vizient ambulatory quality ranking improved to ninth in country.
- Pediatric Critical Care Unit was awarded the Society of Critical Care Medicine and American Association of Critical Care Nurses ICU Design Citation Award.

- **MUSCH Florence and Marion:**

- Went live with the mechanical thrombectomy coverage in October.
- Added new mental health services for patients at the existing Women's Pavilion.
- Leapfrog fall score release: MUSC Florence retained an A rating.

- **MUSCH Lancaster:**

- Leapfrog fall score release: Lancaster moved from a C to a B rating.

- **Public service campaign, "Don't Go Viral" to combat COVID-19 ran last several months with strong impact across the state.**

- **Opened the observation unit in Charleston:**

- College of Charleston student health virtual urgent care operationalized.
- The Henry and Mollie Fair Memory Clinic opened in RT on November 16th.



- **The Beemok Family Foundation has made a three-year commitment totaling \$2,250,000 to underwrite the Lowvelo fundraising event for MUSC Hollings Cancer Center.**
- **Alfred and Janet Lombardi have made a planned gift of \$2 million to MUSC.**
Of this amount, \$1 million is dedicated to Storm Eye Institute's general fund and \$1 million to MUSC's general fund.
- **The MUSC College of Nursing has received \$1,580,000 in grants from the Duke Endowment** to support the following projects:
 - \$313,000 to promote diversity in the South Carolina health care workforce by training underrepresented minority students.
 - \$585,000 to expand a trauma resilience and recovery program across the Carolinas.
 - \$685,000 to develop, test and implement a post-graduate psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner's residency program that will exclusively use a virtual telehealth model to reach underserved communities. Debbie Bryant, RN, DNP, Associate Dean for Practice, is the PI on this initiative.
- **The BabySTRONG received FDA Breakthrough Device Designation.** The device, invented by Doe Jenkins, M.D., Bashar Badran, Ph.D., and Mark George, M.D., is a neonatal feeding aid for premature and at-risk infants who present feeding issues.
- **The MUSC COVID-19 antibody test developed by the Center for Cellular Therapy will be offered in India in partnership with DNA Xperts.**
- **Ignis Health exclusively licensed software application of the Telehealth Service Implementation Model (TSIM),** developed by the MUSC Telehealth Team including Shawn Valenta, Jim McElligott, M.D., Tasia Walsh, Kathryn Cristaldi, M.D., Dee Ford, M.D., Ellen Debenham, Emily Warr, Megan Glanville, and Emily Sederstrom.



musc.edu



muschealth.org