



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

October 2021



ACADEMICS: RESEARCH



- **Blair Dellenbach, MSOT/ OTR/L**, research Occupational Therapist for the College of Health Professions, has been named the 2021 recipient of the Craig H. Neilsen Foundation Allied Health Professional Research Award of the American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA).
- **MUSC Libraries was awarded a five-year, \$6 million cooperative agreement** from the National Library of Medicine. Shannon Jones, MEd, MIS, MLS, leads this effort as the MUSC Library takes on the role of regional medical library for the Network of the National Library of Medicine for Region 2.
- **NIH awards MUSC \$5.6 million for the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence (COBRE)** in Oxidants, Redox Balance, and Stress Signaling project. The COBRE project will be led by Kenneth Tew, Ph.D., D.Sc., professor, and chair of the Department of Pharmacology in the College of Medicine. This Phase III award outlines a paradigm for advancing translational research in redox biology and pathobiology, with a focus on redox mechanisms underlying a variety of chronic conditions (cancer, aging, cardiovascular, diabetes, inflammation, neurodegeneration, and drug addiction) affecting South Carolina's patient population.
- **MUSC now supports 128 pre-/postdoctoral fellows via training and research education grants** from the NIH (the top quartile of domestic educational institutions in the number of NIH grants for research training and education). The Training in Craniofacial and Oral Health Research (T-COHR) T32 program, led by Hai Yao, Ph.D., and Michael Kern, Ph.D., in the College of Dental Medicine was renewed for an additional five years. MUSC also received funding from the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases to support a new Digestive Disease T32 Training Program, directed by Stephen Duncan, Ph.D., in the Department of Regenerative Medicine and Cell Biology.



- **Robert Labadie, M.D., Ph.D., was announced as incoming Chair of the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery** effective January 1, 2022. Dr. Labadie joins us from Vanderbilt University, where he currently serves as Professor and Vice Chair/Chief Research Officer in the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. Dr. Labadie will be assuming this position from Paul Lambert, MD, who has served as Chair of our Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery for more than two decades.
- **Besim Ogretmen, Ph.D., was appointed to the role of Associate Dean for Research in the College of Medicine.** He will work with our Senior Associate Dean of Research, Anand Mehta, PhD, with a focus on enhancing team science within the college.
- **Angie Mund, DNP, CRNA, Chair of the Department of Clinical Sciences** in the College of Health Profession, was elected as the 2022 President-Elect of the American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology (AANA).
- **James S. Krause, Ph.D., received the Excellence Award for Outstanding Leadership** in Spinal Cord Injury & Disability (SCI&D) Health care from the American Paraplegia Society (APS).
- **Zoher Kapasi, Ph.D., PT, MBA, FAPTA, Dean and Professor of the College of Health Professions,** was elected Director of the American Physical Therapy Association's (APTA) Board of Directors, beginning January 1, 2022.
- **Steven Carroll, M.D., Ph.D., Chair of our Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine,** was appointed by Governor McMaster to the State of South Carolina's Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Resource Coordination Center Advisory Council.
- **Dan Lackland, DrPH, Professor in our Department of Neurology, was selected by the American Heart Association's Council on Epidemiology and Prevention as their 2021 EPI Distinguished Achievement Awardee.** This award recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to the affairs of a scientific council over a continuing period, and who have made substantial contributions to the field represented by the council.
- **Rebecca Kilpatrick, Ph.D., and Sharlene Wedin, PsyD,** were selected to serve on the Society of Behavioral Medicine's Health Policy Council as Health Policy Ambassadors for the priority area of Pain Management and Opioid Misuse. They will serve three-year terms in this role.
- **Michael Cummings, Ph.D., was selected to receive the Alton Ochsner Award Relating Smoking and Disease.** This award recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to connecting smoking and disease in addition to developing innovative treatment plans and smoking cessation efforts.
- **Sarah Schmitt, M.D., has been selected as the inaugural recipient of the American Clinical Neurophysiology Society (ACNS) Distinction in Teaching Award.** This award was created by the ACNS to recognize outstanding accomplishments in teaching clinical neurophysiology to fellows, residents, medical students, or EEG technologists.

ACADEMICS: FACULTY



- **Ken Tew, Ph.D., DSc, has been selected as a Fellow of the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET).** Selection as a Fellow is an honor bestowed to ASPET's most distinguished members to recognize their meritorious efforts to advance pharmacology through their scientific achievements, mentorship, and service to the Society.
- **Cathy Durham, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of Graduate Practice Programs** in the College of Nursing, has been named a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She will be inducted into the Academy in October 2021.
- **Angie Powers, DNP, CNP, PMHNP-BC, Instructor in the College of Nursing, was inducted into the prestigious Order of Saint Maurice from the President of the National Infantry Association** and the Chief of Infantry for her individual contributions to the Infantry during her combat deployment. She also was honored as the first female inductee into the RiverDogs-Boeing Hall of Honor, which recognizes military veterans with Lowcountry ties. Currently a major and a nurse practitioner in the 7224th Medical Support Unit, Joint Base Charleston, she has served for over 28 years in the Army Reserve, with multiple deployments that include an Urban Augmentation Medical Task Force supporting hospitals treating COVID-19 patients, combat deployment in Iraq in support of Operational Iraqi Freedom, and a humanitarian deployment to El Salvador in support of Task Force New Hope.
- **Susan Newman, RN, Ph.D., CRRN, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean of Ph.D. Nursing Science Program,** College of Nursing, was selected to the Board of Directors for the Nursing division of the Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals.
- **Anthony DeClue, PharmD, Assistant Professor of Clinical Pharmacy and Outcomes Science** at the Medical University of South Carolina was elected as President-Elect of Phi Lambda Sigma, the Pharmacy Leadership Society. Dr. DeClue's term begins immediately and will run until the 47th House of Delegates in the Summer of 2022, at which time he will take over the Presidency of the Society. Over the past 6 years, he has served the society as the National Speaker of the House and Parliamentarian over the past 6 years.
- **Shannon D. Jones, MLS, M.Ed., AHIP, Director of Libraries & Professor, began her term as President-Elect of the Medical Library Association (MLA)** in May 2021. She will serve as President from 2022 to 2023. Her election to this office is also a milestone for the Association since she will be the second African American MLA President since its founding in 1898. She also was selected as a Library Journal 2021 Mover & Shaker – Change Agents.

ACADEMICS: EDUCATION



- **The Commission on Higher Education (CHE) has approved the Master of Science in Extracorporeal Sciences degree.** The addition of this new program is designed to meet the growing demands of the international cardiovascular perfusion and critical care communities.
- **Department of Surgery resident, Kristen Quinn, M.D., and MUSC M.D., Ph.D. student, Heather Holman, have received an Early-Stage Innovator Training Program grant** from VentureWell to support further commercial development of their device, The SAVER.
- **Dustin Annan-Coultas, Ed.D., Associate Professor in the Office of Interprofessional Initiatives, and Erik Modrzynski, Director of Field Operations, were selected as Faculty Innovation Fellows** for FY22 to develop simulation modules for use IP 753 Emergency Response Management course.
- **Mary McGraw Smith, M.Ed, Instructional Designer & Training Specialist, Melissa Hortman, EdD, Director of Instructional Technology, from Instructional Technology and Faculty Resources, and Leslie Morris, M.Ed, Curriculum Coordinator, from College of Dental Medicine were selected as 2021-2022 Microsoft Innovative Educators.** There are 707 across the nation, 7 across South Carolina, and 3 are here at MUSC. The Microsoft Innovative Educator recognizes global educator visionaries who are using technology to pave the way for better learning and student outcomes.
- **In September 2021, U.S. News & World Reports released its peer school rankings** and MUSC College of Nursing (CON) tied for 23rd with the University of Arizona.
- **MUSC CON Enrolled its largest cohort (117) and most diverse incoming ABSN class of students (fall 2021).**
- **MUSC CON achieved a 99+% NCLEX-RN first time pass rate to date for 2021.** The most current graduate program board certification pass rates are: 100% pass rate Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner, 97% (97% first time) Family Nurse Practitioner, 100% pass rate Pediatric Nurse Practitioner.
- **The PharmD/Master of Science in Health Informatics dual degree program is officially enrolling its first students.** This dual degree is a collaboration between the College of Pharmacy and College of Health Professions. Chad Harle and Victoria Brooks initiated this program, which is a very efficient way to earn both degrees and become leaders in this growing aspect of the pharmacy profession.
- **The College of Pharmacy surpassed \$1 million in student scholarship support,** setting a new record to start the 2021-2022 academic year- 58 titled scholarships representing 80 individual awards.
- **The MUSC Libraries was awarded a \$6.2M cooperative agreement from the National Library of Medicine, NIH, to serve as one of seven regional medical libraries in the United States.** On May 1, 2021, the MUSC Libraries assumed leadership for Region 2, Network of the National Library of Medicine serving Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands.



- **MUSC launched its first enterprise-wide climate survey.** Over 20,000 employees, students, faculty, and staff are invited to participate in the survey. Results will be used to develop DEI strategic indicatives that address “Elevating the culture of OneMUSC”. The survey closed October 7, 2021.
- **Boeing and the Charleston County School District partnered to provide a \$2M gift** that will enable an expansion of mental health services in local schools for the MUSC Boeing Center for Children’s Health.
- **The Neuro Rehabilitation Institute (NRI) opened at the end of August.** The NRI is multidisciplinary, encompassing OT, PT, and SLP therapies housed in the same physical location to treat a specialty population. Individuals with complex spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, stroke, etc. who previously had to either leave the area for comprehensive services or go to multiple clinics may now receive care here. The space is jointly operated by MUHA and the College of Health Professions (CHP) to seamlessly integrate clinical education and research into clinical practice.
- **MUSC Hollings Cancer Center is excited to roll out two mobile health units to provide critical access care to underserved communities across South Carolina.** As part of Hollings’ ongoing mission to improve HPV vaccination rates, the HPV mini mobile will travel to schools, community events and provider’s offices to administer HPV vaccines, along with other routine vaccinations that children may be behind on due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. MUSC Health is also launching a brand-new mobile health unit to provide mammograms and pap smears to patients. The unit features state-of-the-art technology, including a 3D tomosynthesis mammography, that will provide access to cancer screenings to populations who otherwise may not get screened.



- **Our new division, MUSC Health Midlands, was successfully stood up August 1, 2021** and continues to work on achieving integration milestones with MUSC Health and MUSC.
- **MUSC Health successfully converted several clinics in the Regional Health Network** to rural health status which allows for enhanced reimbursement.
- **In Our DNA SC, a population genetics collaboration with Helix, was formally announced.** This will be a first-of-its-kind population genomics initiative in South Carolina called In Our DNA SC. The large-scale program is designed to improve health care outcomes by integrating genetic insights into clinical care and research. The statewide initiative will enroll 100,000 patients in genetic testing over the next four years at no cost to the patient.
- **Vision to Learn - Thousands of students in the Charleston County School District (CCSD), who struggle with their vision, will benefit from a new program launched in October 2021 which combines the efforts of the nonprofit organization Vision to Learn and the teams of MUSC Health, MUSC Children's Health, and the MUSC Storm Eye Institute.** Through this collaboration, CCSD students attending Title I schools will be provided a vision screening, eye exam, and if needed, a new pair of glasses, all free of charge. The program uses a mobile vision clinic to bring a licensed South Carolina optometrist and optician directly to children where they are all day, every day – at school – providing much-needed access to basic, yet critical vision care to South Carolina children.
- **Our digital front door collaborative effort, Notable, was kicked off with completion of a definitive agreement.**
- **MUSC Health owns 80% of the page 1 Google search engine results pages (SERPs) for the local Charleston market.** This means that 80% of the time our services and providers are on page 1 of Google. People rarely go past page 1 so this is a huge win.
- **MUSC Health marketing is honored to be a finalist for the National Radio Mercury Awards for the Don't Go Viral (COVID-19 public service ad) radio spots.** There are other large national agencies including BBDO, Edelman, and Goodby that are also finalists, so our spot is being recognized as best in class at a national level.
- **MUSC Health continues to mature our regional logistics/critical care transport (air/ground) strategy:**
 - **GMR Contract Executed** - provides a second branded helicopter in Sumter and a QRV (quick response vehicle) for the Lancaster Division (at no cost to MUSC Health)
 - **FirstPriority Contract Executed** - will provide up to 15 additional MUSC Health ambulances servicing the midlands division



MUSC HEALTH – FLORENCE

- Redesigned recruitment process resulted in 67% increase in RN positions filled
- Jay Dolia, M.D., onboarded and completed 3 thrombectomy procedures during his first week. This is compared to 4 total for the entire FY 21
- Parinita Dherange, M.D., onboarded in August to begin EP cardiology program in Florence Division
- Inpatient rehab successfully relocated to main campus resulting in over \$700k annual operational savings to Florence Division
- MUSC Florence earned Cardiac Rehab Certification

MUSC HEALTH – LANCASTER

- The Lancaster Division has secured agreement with the Chester County School Board to provide athletic training services at its three high schools. Dr. Evan Ekman, board-certified orthopedist and fellowship-trained in sports medicine will provide physician services. Prior to his current role with MUSC Health Chester Medical Center, Dr. Ekman served as team physician for Appalachian State University.
- MUSC Health will begin offering renal transplant services at its Lancaster Medical Center in early 2022. Key physicians, including a transplant nephrologist and transplant surgeons along with other key non-physician roles have been hired.

MUSC HEALTH – MIDLANDS

- Strong provider recruitment success since acquisition with four physicians (2 Family Medicine, 1 Neurosurgeon, 1 Pulmonary Intensivist) and three new Advanced Practitioners.
- Transitioned anesthesia from contract to in-house.
- Deployed four COVID Testing Pods across Division and added the Henderson St Vaccine Clinic in Columbia to the existing two vaccine clinics in PMOB 1 downtown and Health Resource Center in Camden.



COVID-19 RESPONSE

Latest COVID-19 key performance indicators across MUSC Health (all 3 divisions):

- 550,605 COVID-19 tests performed
- 19,481 COVID-19 antibody tests performed
- 4148 COVID-19 + inpatients identified
- 156,393 individuals vaccinated
- 293,325 shots administered
- >300 unique testing/vaccination locations throughout the state



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