MESSAGE FROM THE CURRENT DIRECTOR

DR. MARIE ANNE ROSEMBERG

As an alum of a NIOSH-ERC training program (From the University of Washington’s Occupational Health and Safety program), it is my honor to embark on this journey with you all. I officially became the Director of the OHN program this June 2023 and it has been a pleasure getting to know each of the OHN trainees individually thus far. My goal is to continue building on Dr. McCullagh’s legacy all the while keeping the program abreast of changing trends in the occupational health field, responding to the emerging needs of the workforce, and preparing the next generation of occupational health professionals accordingly. My first order of business is to have a thorough understanding of both alumni and current students’ experiences with the UMSN OHN program. Alumni, please complete this survey at your earliest convenience. I am eager to connect to discuss the UMSN OHN program and its vision. I can be reached at sanon@umich.edu

MESSAGE FROM THE FORMER DIRECTOR

DR. MARJORIE MCCULLAGH

After 15 years as Director of the UMSN Occupational Health Nursing Program, I have passed the proverbial torch to my successor, Dr. Rosemberg. Meanwhile, I continue as an “active UM retiree,” directing another training program and consulting with faculty. In my role as a licensed professional nurse over the past 40+ years, I have had the privilege of supporting patients’ health at critical junctures of their lives, supporting the career growth of nurse-learners at virtually every stage of their careers, and making scientific discoveries that contribute to the health and well-being of society, particularly those who work the land. My “retirement” from UM actually involves a “promotion” to new roles, including pursuit of many family activities and new social and environmental development missions in collaboration with my husband. I am grateful for the multiple opportunities that the profession of nursing and the University have offered me, and to Dr. Rosemberg in particular, for leading the UMSN Occupational Health Nursing Program. I offer my best wishes to all students in the program for academic and career fulfillment and success, and welcome your future contact. I can be reached at mcculla@umich.edu.
HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEM:

Henry Ford Health System Occupational Health provides employees with a variety of health services to minimize lost work time and improve the health and productivity of their workers. They also provide ergonomic specialists who evaluate the work environment and make suggestions on how to increase health, safety, and productivity.

Their services include:

- Workers’ compensation
- 24/7 on-call support for injury triage
- On-site medical center management, including clinical staffing
- Comprehensive drug and alcohol program administration
- Mobile Health One
- Hearing conservation program management
- Pre-placement/new hire examinations
- Compliance consulting on OSHA, ADA and other federal mandates
- Illness and accident prevention
- Ergonomic evaluation and design
- Health and wellness education and screening
- On-site clinic options
- Employee physicals
- On-call injury support
- Drug and alcohol testing
- Hearing conservation
- Respiration fit/use
- Mobile health unit

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT: DR. SUNGWON PARK

How and when did you find out about occupational health nursing?

I practiced in the OHN office in the Seoul Metro (a metropolitan railway system) during the practice related to the mandatory clinical practice in my senior year in my bachelor’s program (course title: community health nursing). I was excited to learn about the liberal nursing role and how to make decisions by the OH team, centered by OHN, manage workplace safety and health, and educate workers having chronic diseases.

What made you become passionate about occupational health?

In my early career as a nurse, I suffered a severe electric shock from a faulty device in a hospital emergency department. My case fell into a rare, unidentified category of work injury, and there was no guideline to handle my case. From that point, I started being interested in workers’ health.

Tell us about your experience with occupational health nursing. What impact do you want to have? This can be impact relating to research, clinical practice or service.

At the hotel where I provided healthcare services for employees as OHN, I found that more than 60% of the personnel were at high risk of developing metabolic syndrome. With support from my master’s program, I could analyze workers’ health behaviors and related factors and provide interventional education for them. Half of the personnel who received the intervention showed improvements in their health conditions in the following year. I would like to help workers practically to improve their health.

What words of wisdom do you have for current and future OHN and other occupational health professionals?

Carpe diem!
In this edition, we are pleased to feature remarks by OHN program trainee, Breanna Miller. Breanna is a third year MSN student in the Leadership, Analytics, and Informatics (LAI) program. She tells us about her recent participation in the Michigan Safety Conference, held annually in Grand Rapids.

"The Michigan Safety Conference is an opportunity for safety professionals across industries and locations to come together and share knowledge, tools, and resources to help keep people safe. The conference offers sessions on topics from a variety of industries including healthcare, construction, risk, and security among others.

Between sessions, attendees can visit the vendors and exhibits, who offer a variety of tools, equipment, resources, and services to aid safety professionals in their work.

"In addition to my student role, I also work as an Employee Safety Specialist for a healthcare organization, so I primarily attended sessions geared toward the healthcare, risk, and security industries. One of my favorite sessions was the Psychological Safety session in the Risk division. It was run by Dr. John Austin, a behavioral scientist who shared information about psychological safety in the workplace, how it benefits the workplace, and the consequences of a work environment that does not allow employees to feel psychologically safe. We learned about how injuries and accidents can be reduced by implementing strategies and having conversations that provide a psychologically safe environment. Dr. Austin also provided us with a tool for assessing the psychological safety of our workplace. I learned many strategies that I can take back to my work!

"As someone newer the occupational health and safety field, this was an amazing opportunity to learn from other professionals with more experience and ask questions. I would recommend it to anyone looking to become a more effective safety professional, including nurses!"
NEW OHN STUDENTS

Olivia Livernois, Family Nurse Practitioner MSN

STUDENT AND FACULTY NEWS

- OHN Student Breanna Miller recently had a paper accepted to be published in the Workplace Health and Safety Journal titled “Creating a Synergistic Work Environment: Human & AI.” in the Workplace Health & Safety journal
- Dr. Rosemberg was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing

Are you an OHN graduate? Please take a moment to fill out the Alumni survey HERE or scan this QR code:

FUNDING NEWS

- The University of Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Education and Research Center (T42) was awarded for another 5 years of funding to support students across the various COSHE programs! Visit the new COHSE website!

- Dr. Rosemberg received two R03 grants from CDC-NIOSH
  - Non-Standard Work Arrangements, Health and Wellbeing Among Hotel Housekeepers
  - COVID-19 and Nail Salon Workers: Taking Stock of the Pandemic’s Impact on Occupational Health and Safety

Questions about the OHN program? Contact Dr. Rosemberg at sanon@umich.edu