

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan-Flint  
School of Nursing

Denise L. Cooper, associate professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing, is recommended for promotion to professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing.

Academic Degrees:

DNP	2013	University of Michigan, Nursing, Ann Arbor, Michigan
MSN	2005	University of Michigan, Nursing, Ann Arbor Michigan
BSN	1998	University of Michigan - Flint, Nursing, Flint, Michigan

Professional Record:

2021-present	Director of Graduate Nursing Affairs, School of Nursing, University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, Michigan
2021-2021	Interim Director of Graduate Nursing Affairs, School of Nursing, University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, Michigan
2019-present	Associate Professor, with tenure, School of Nursing, University of Michigan-Flint
2014-2019	Assistant Professor, School of Nursing, University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, Michigan
2008-2014	Lecturer and Adjunct Clinical Faculty, School of Nursing, University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Cooper's teaching philosophy is congruent with the commitment to excellence in teaching and scholarship, student-centeredness, and engagement with community partners at the University of Michigan-Flint (UM-Flint). Since promotion to associate professor in 2019, Professor Cooper has taught numerous courses for adult primary care in the Graduate Nursing program. In 2021, Professor Cooper was asked to assume an interim role as the director of graduate nursing affairs, which within a year became her official title. She took on a major undertaking, coordinating an entire redesign of the curriculum for the Graduate programs. Professor Cooper led the redesign by first benchmarking a wide variety of schools on quality, admission, enrollment, and retention. She also reviewed national accreditation standards and the certification requirements.

As an experienced member of the faculty, Professor Cooper mentors junior and new faculty. She describes her philosophy of teaching as "reciprocal learning" where the faculty facilitate learning with self-directed adult learners who are recognized for bringing past experiences to the classroom and "teaching and learning occur in both directions."

Professor Cooper is an expert teacher who uses her extensive knowledge as an educator and practitioner to inform her leadership as the director of graduate nursing affairs and to contribute to teaching and learning for students. Her performance in teaching is consistent with the

standards set by the University of Michigan-Flint School of Nursing. She has clearly demonstrated effectiveness as a leader in nursing education.

Research: Professor Cooper has a comprehensive and diverse body of scholarship. Her primary research line focuses on urinary tract infections (UTIs) among elderly in long-term care settings. She developed the Cooper Tool and the Cooper Urinary Tract Infection Program (CUTIP), which have been adopted by numerous nursing homes with documented improvement in desired outcomes. Professor Cooper's secondary research line revolves around improving student educational outcomes, with a focus on interprofessional communication, cultural competence, and simulation methods.

Professor Cooper has a number of publications, disseminating her research and other scholarship in peer reviewed journals for nursing, medicine, physical therapy, education, infection control, primary and community health, long-term care, and home healthcare. She has a career record of 19 peer-reviewed publications. Since the last promotion in 2019, Professor Cooper contributed to 13 publications in peer-reviewed journals, eight of which she is first or second author and five of which are published DNP projects for which she served as the chair or co-chair. In addition, she currently has four manuscripts in progress/under peer review. She has a career record of 28 peer-reviewed poster presentations and three peer-reviewed podium presentations. Since earning tenure in 2019, Professor Cooper has contributed to seven national/state peer-reviewed presentations (one podium and six poster presentations), as well as one invited presentation.

Professor Cooper has a successful track record in management of internal university and extramural federal and private source grants. She is co-leading a grant of over \$1 million from the Department of Health and Human Services (HRSA) aimed at addressing the shortage of psych/mental health nurse practitioner providers. She also has co-managed a HRSA residency grant of over \$1.6 million, that focuses on supporting the transition to practice for psych/mental health nurse practitioners. Additionally, Professor Cooper successfully secured funding from the CVS Foundation in both 2021 and 2022, totaling \$7,000, to support graduate NP students at the university.

Professor Cooper demonstrates a strong potential for sustained contributions to scholarship in the future. She is highly motivated to continue to advance her scholarly contributions, and her success to date points to a confident prediction that she will continue on this path.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Goulette, P., Dabney, B., & Cooper, D. (in press 2023). Abstract: Using provider education to increase sleep apnea screening rates in patients with multiple sclerosis (MS): A quality improvement study. *International Journal of MS Care Supplement*.

Northrup, A. D., Gignac, C. R., Wehbe-Alamah, H., & Cooper, D. (2022). Evaluating the impact of an educational intervention on hepatitis C screening in a midwest regional psychiatric unit. *Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association*.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/10783903221115741>

- Ochoa, S., Julin, M., Cooper, D., & Dabney, B. (2022). Utilizing the oncology care model to adequately manage cancer pain during the COVID-19 pandemic in an outpatient oncology clinic. *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 26(1), E7-13.  
<https://doi.org/10.1188/22.CJON.E7-E13>
- Buterakos, R., & Cooper, D. (2022). Documentation-sharing deficiencies of post-hospitalized skilled nursing facility residents: A retrospective review. *Journal of Nursing Care Quality*, 37(1), 1-2. <https://doi.org/10.1097/NCQ.0000000000000565>
- Cooper, D., Buterakos, R., Wagner, L., Tith, J., Shoou-Yih, D. L. (2021). A retrospective comparison of guidelines to assess hospital-diagnosed urinary tract infection in nursing home residents. *American Journal of Infection Control*, 49(2021), 1354-1358.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2021.04.001>
- Turkelson, C., Cooper, D., Creech, C., Schellenberg, K., & Behnke, L. (2021). Using simulation to enhance nurse practitioner students' cultural sensitivity, communication and empathy with vulnerable populations. *Clinical Simulation in Nursing*, 56, 108-116.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2021.04.011>
- Nimmo, C., Behnke, L., Creech, C., Schellenberg, K., Turkelson, C., & Cooper, D. (2020). Using a Spanish-speaking standardized patient simulation to educate NP students about providing culturally congruent care to Hispanic individuals in rural healthcare settings. *The Journal for Nurse Practitioners*, 17(2021), 476-80.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nurpra.2020.11.019>

Service: Since her promotion to associate professor in 2019, Professor Cooper has contributed extensive service to the School of Nursing, university, community, and profession. As a director in the SON, she serves on the Executive Committee (ex Officio) and the Leadership Council. She has also contributed her expertise to a number of staff and faculty search committees. At the university level, Professor Cooper has served on committees and events that include: University Elections and Nominating Committee; University Student Health Services with Ann Arbor; University Faculty Grievance Board; and University Curriculum Coordination Committee. Professor Cooper joined the NONPF Special Interest Group Leadership (2022-present) and is a reviewer for several professional journals including: the *Journal of Applied Gerontology* (2021-present); the *Journal of Nursing Care Quality* (2019-present); and *Geriatric Nursing* (2021-present). At the community level, Professor Cooper participated in the following events: Meals on Wheels (2020-present), and in Nurses' Week (2019-present). Additionally, she served as the president for the Hartland High School Booster Board (2019-2020).

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Cooper's publications on antibiotic use and development of the Cooper Tools that are utilized in long term care settings are important contributions to nursing."

Reviewer B: "I consider the body of Professor Cooper's work on preventing inappropriate antibiotic use in older residential people as most outstanding. She has consistently developed this area of work and it represents how to transfer knowledge from primary research into practice."

Reviewer C: “Dr. Cooper has an exceptional record of service at the college, university, and professional level. In fact, her service record is far more extensive than most that I have seen. Most impressive is the passion she has for putting the results of her work into practice.”

Reviewer D: “Dr. Cooper has excelled in her scholarship beyond most DNP faculty members by developing the UTI practice change and then building the evidence to support its use in improving patient/resident outcomes.”

Reviewer E: “Dr. Cooper has published in a variety of nursing journals reflecting the broad appeal of her scholarship and overall work-related to advanced practice education and clinical problems. In addition to her published manuscripts, she has twelve collaborative local, regional, and national presentations. She has an impressive record of seeking and receiving collaborative grant funding and serving as director and codirector.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Cooper is a multi-talented, exceptionally effective teacher who is nationally recognized for her research and scholarship. Her teaching, scholarship, and service to the school, university, profession, and community are exemplary. I enthusiastically recommend Denise L. Cooper for promotion to professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing.

Recommended by:



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Cynthia McCurren, Dean  
School of Nursing

Recommendation endorsed by:



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Yener Kandogan, Interim Provost and  
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs



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Donna Kay Fry, Interim Chancellor  
University of Michigan-Flint

May 2024