

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement

Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Linda D. Knecht, M.S.N., clinical associate professor of nursing in the School of Nursing, University of Michigan-Flint, retired from active faculty status on May 31, 2023.

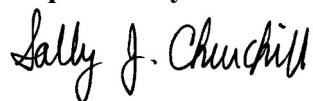
Professor Knecht received her M.S.N. from Wayne State University in 1981. She joined the University of Michigan-Flint in 1984 as an adjunct lecturer, became a lecturer in 1986, moved to the tenure track in 1990 as an assistant professor, switched to the clinical track in 2013 as a clinical assistant professor, and then was promoted to clinical associate professor in 2020.

Professor Knecht has a long history of serving the community as a practicing nurse and nurse educator. Her strong history in pediatrics and public health created opportunities for students to provide care at vaccination clinics at the Genesee County Public Health Department and learn about key principles of community health as a baccalaureate prepared nurse. Professor Knecht has published scholarly works that range from diabetes self-management, service learning, and nursing professional values. She led the global service-learning effort at the SON, visiting countries such as Kenya while guiding students in their exposure to different cultures. Her leadership skills are evident as past president of Sigma Theta Tau, Pi Delta Chapter, and the myriad of volunteer efforts in Flint, Genesee County, as well as internationally. She is an active volunteer with the Community Foundation of Greater Flint, cares for patients at the Genesee County Free Medical Clinic, and serves on the scholarship committee at the Lapeer County Intermediate School District. She also has helped with infant screening at an orphanage in Gilgil, Kenya.

In tandem with the above activities, Professor Knecht has generated a long-lasting legacy at the UM-Flint SON. For instance, she helped to initiate the UM-Flint Initiatives for Nursing Diversity Grant (UM-FIND) for \$1,156,377. The grant helped minority students find support and achieve success during their educational journey. Her keen attention to detail and articulate nature served well in tutoring nurse practitioner students in their quest to receive their doctorate. She also served as a perennial member of the preparation team for the UM-Flint SON credentialing reviews. Her ability to consistently devote her time to students and the community; her efforts toward diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging; and her strong dedication to the university serves as profound role-modeling to all nurses and nurse educators.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming **Linda D. Knecht, clinical associate professor emerita of nursing**.

Requested by:



Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

September 2023