



Speakers Bios

Building Bridges in Global Health: Establishing Collaborative Partnerships
July 24-25, 2024



Dr. April Bigelow

Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
Packard Health and University of Michigan Health

Dr. April Bigelow is an Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner who currently practices through Packard Health and University of Michigan Health. In her practice she provides patients with outpatient palliative care, advance care planning, and complex symptom management as well as primary care. In addition, Dr. Bigelow teaches in the Health Behavior and Biological Sciences Graduate Nurse Practitioner Programs. Since 2013, she has led a global clinical immersion experience in rural Thailand. Dr. Bigelow's research focus includes the integration of palliative care practices and concepts into primary care

and chronic disease management.



Nathalia Borges

Medical student, University of Michigan

Nathalia Borges is currently a medical student with an academic background in maternal and child health. Through the opportunity to participate in the Summer Program at the University of Michigan, she has improved her knowledge of how the American health system works, as well as a better understanding of the fundamental skills that a health care provider needs to have to offer quality care that encompasses social, cultural and socioeconomic differences.



Dr. Mark Cantrell

Health Development Officer
U.S. Agency for International Development

Dr. Cantrell has dedicated his career to promoting the right to health through health systems strengthening, community health, and health diplomacy in diverse roles within the U.S. government, PAHO/WHO, UN, NGOs, and academia. Currently, he is serving in Egypt as a U.S. Diplomat in USAID supporting efforts to respond to humanitarian crises, build pandemic preparedness, and confront climate change. Previously, Dr. Cantrell was the Director of Public Health at Duquesne

University where he led the development of domestic and international public health programs and taught various public health and health administration courses.



Amy Carey

Assistant Vice Provost of International Engagement
University of Michigan

Amy Carey is assistant vice provost of international engagement at the University of Michigan where she leads the Global Engagement Team, works closely with units across campus in advancing multicultural experiences for students, and facilitates connections with international partners. She has worked in the field of international education for more than two decades. Amy received a bachelor's degree in international business and Japanese from Miami University and an MA and EdD in higher education and student affairs from The Ohio State University.



Dr. Nadia Ali Muhammad Ali Charania

Clinical Assistant Professor
University of Michigan School of Nursing

Nadia Ali Muhammad Ali Charania is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan School of Nursing (UMSN). Specializing in mental health nursing. She champions evidence-based educational practice. She values the enrichment that international student engagement brings to academic settings that mutually benefit national and international students—acknowledged for pedagogical expertise through accolades inspired by student commendations. Her research focuses on self-management strategies and social determinants of health to manage mental health conditions. Committed to advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, her efforts markedly contribute to UMSN's initiatives, ensuring academic spaces are nurturing, equitable, and inclusive to all students.



Dr. Andries Coetzee

Professor of Linguistics and Director of International Partnerships
University of Michigan

Andries Coetzee is Professor of Linguistics at the University of Michigan, where he also serves as Senior Advisor (African Engagement) to the provost, and as Director of International Partnerships for the College of Literature, Sciences, and the Arts. He is deeply engaged in Michigan's global engagement program and has established formal relationships on behalf of Michigan with universities and governmental organizations across the globe, including in Africa, Asia, and Europe. Professor Coetzee's research is also globally oriented, focusing on the relationship between language and society in Africa, South America, and Asia.



Dr. Megan Eagle
Clinical Instructor
University of Michigan School of Nursing

Megan Eagle, PhD, FNP-BC is a Clinical Instructor at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She serves as Deputy Director of the PAHO/WHO Collaborating Center for Nursing and Midwifery. Ms. Eagle has 25 years of clinical experience as a primary care provider for underserved populations in the United States, and 20 years of experience developing and delivering high quality clinical learning opportunities for students across the health professions, including community health courses in Ecuador. She was a member of the committee that established the minor in Global Health at UMSN.



Dr. Jody R. Lori
Professor in Global Nursing
University of Michigan

Jody R. Lori is the Sara H. & Robert B. Rothschild Endowed Professor in Global Nursing in the Department of Health Behavior and Biological Sciences. Dr. Lori is internationally recognized for her research on the development and testing of innovative models of care to improve maternal/newborn health in areas of the world challenged by a lack of human resources, long distances to care and cultural, gender, and socio-economic barriers. She has two decades of experience working in sub-Saharan Africa. She holds a PhD in Nursing from the University of Arizona and an MS in Midwifery from the University of Michigan.



Dr. Michelle Munro-Kramer
Assistant Professor and the Director of Global Programs
University of Michigan School of Nursing

Dr. Munro-Kramer is an Assistant Professor and the Director of Global Programs at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. Her program of research focuses on gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response, primarily among college-age youth, within domestic and international contexts. She is currently working with colleagues at university campuses across six countries in sub-Saharan Africa to develop evidence-based policies, measures, and interventions to address GBV among students. She also serves as a board member for the Nursing Network on Violence Against Women International.



Dean Kathleen Potempa

Former Dean and Professor
University of Michigan School of Nursing

Dr. Kathleen Potempa is an internationally recognized leader and scientist with membership in the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Nursing. She is the former dean of the University of Michigan School of Nursing and is currently a professor at University of Michigan. Her research has focused on exercise and other health practices on health, cardiovascular fitness, and cognition in physically impaired populations, for which she has received funding from the NIH – NINR and NIA, the NIH Fogarty International Center (FIC), the U.S. Administration on Aging, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid.



Gurpreet K. Rana

Taubman Health Sciences Library
University of Michigan

Ms. Rana established and currently leads Taubman Health Sciences Library's Global Health Program. She works toward advancing the impact of the health sciences information in global health education and research. Her work includes evidence-based information skills instruction for research and clinical trainees at University of Michigan and internationally; curation of global health data sources; engagement in global health and health equity research and practice across multiple disciplines; and implementation of expert searching of the global health and health equity literature.



Chelsea Schroeder-Lozada

Registered Nurse
University of Michigan Graduate

Chelsea Schroeder-Lozada is a dedicated registered nurse and recent Doctor of Nursing Practice graduate from the University of Michigan, specializing as a Family Nurse Practitioner. Her academic focus includes Global Leadership, Practice, and Policy, and she is certified in Trauma-Informed Practice. Committed to global health, she co-founded a non-profit in Peru for health and environmental education and serves as Research & Executive Director for The Quito Project, a student organization under CGHE and LACS. Her doctoral research on spiritual beliefs among individuals living with HIV highlights her dedication to holistic patient care and healthcare innovation.



Dr. Abdul-Aziz Seidu

Lecturer in Public Health at the College of Public Health
James Cook University, Australia

Dr. Abdul-Aziz Seidu is a lecturer in Public Health at the College of Public Health, Medical and Veterinary Sciences, James Cook University, Australia. He is also a founding member of the Centre for Gender and Advocacy, Takoradi Technical University, Ghana. He is originally from Ghana and holds an MPhil and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Population and Health from the University of Cape Coast, Ghana. He recently completed his PhD in Public Health at James Cook University, Australia. Abdul-Aziz has over eight years of research and teaching experience. His research focuses on sexual reproductive

health, disability and health, IPV and social determinants of health.



Dr. Naruemol Singha-Dong

Faculty member, School of Community Health Nursing
Institute of Nursing

Dr. Naruemol Singha-Dong is a Community Care/Home Health Nurse Specialist and an NCD Nurse Case Manager who currently practices through a primary care clinic serving rural communities. Additionally, Dr. Singha-Dong is a faculty member at the School of Community Health Nursing at the Institute of Nursing. She offers courses and facilitates learning for nursing students and those interested in community health and well-being at all levels. Since 2013, she has hosted a global clinical immersion experience in rural Nakhon

Ratchasima, Thailand. Dr. Singha-Dong's research focuses on integrating nursing practices and innovations into primary care and chronic disease management.



Beste Erel Windes

Academic Program Manager
Office of Global Affairs, University of Michigan School of Nursing

Beste Erel Windes is the Academic Program Manager at the University of Michigan School of Nursing Office of Global Affairs. In her role she helps

develop and grow several global health academic and education abroad programs for undergrad and grad nursing students. Beste manages the student development initiatives such as academic advising, global/intercultural engagement, international travel and

oversees the international students and scholars' programs. Beste holds an MBA degree and is a doctoral candidate in Education Policy and Leadership with a concentration in Global Studies.



Dr. Ruth Elaine Zielinski

Clinical Professor and Midwifery Graduate Program Lead
University of Michigan – Ann Arbor

Ruth Zielinski is a Clinical Professor and Midwifery Graduate Program Lead at the University of Michigan School of Nursing. She received her MS in Nursing in 1995 – Midwifery Track and her PhD in Nursing/Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies in 2005 both from the University of Michigan. Ruth’s midwifery experience was first in Southwest Michigan and then with the University of Michigan midwives. While she no longer practices in Michigan, she precepts students in global settings such as Uganda and the United Arab Emirates. Her research experience has been primarily on topics of body image/sexual health, maternal health outcomes, and midwifery education in the US and global contexts.