

**Exemplary Academic –Practice Award Nomination**  
**University of Minnesota School of Nursing and Fairview Health System/MHealth**

The University of Minnesota School of Nursing (UMSON) and Fairview Health Services/MHealth (FHS/MHealth), a 10 hospital network headquartered in Minneapolis, have celebrated a valued partnership since 1997 when FHS and the University of Minnesota Medical Center merged. Since then, the UMSON and FHS/MHealth have collaborated closely on establishing clinical training sites for students, conducting joint research projects, and a host of other activities. In 2013, as a means to optimize opportunities for coordination, synergy, collaboration, and innovation between the organizations the dean of the UMSON and chief nurse executive representing FHS/MHealth recommended creation of a “Nursing Collaboratory”. Based upon common goals, including mutual respect and shared knowledge, the Collaboratory would be a nursing “think tank” and an incubator for creativity and innovation that engaged clinical nurses, nursing faculty and students from both organizations in the creation and implementation of new ideas and care models to enhance nursing education, research, practice and ultimately patient care. In 2015 the Nursing Collaboratory was formally established through a signed agreement between the two organizations.

The Nursing Collaboratory is comprised of top nursing leadership from the UMSON and FHS/MHealth. All members have joint appointments for their respective organizations and co-participate in local and system wide councils based on their role (education, research, and practice). The Collaboratory has a bold agenda to: 1) Lead research, education and practice aimed at discovering new approaches to improving health within the system and externally, throughout the broader community and the nation, 2) Promote undergraduate, graduate and post graduate education in nursing throughout the two organizations, 3) Advise and collaborate with Minnesota-based, regional and national health care providers and industry leaders as they apply nursing practice to developing and implementing new and better ways to generate, manage, access, understand and use health services, 4) Develop and coordinate alignment of internal and external standards supporting the use of nursing data and research, and 5) Develop, commercialize and disseminate new ideas, technologies, devices, and other services to improve the health of communities served. Since its inception in 2015, the Collaboratory has accomplished the following:

1. Established formal relationships with senior leadership and multiple levels throughout the organization through 12 joint appointments and member participation in 16 joint committees.
2. Advanced academic/practice research through the creation of a joint nurse scientist tenured faculty position, co-sponsoring and planning the annual UMSON Nursing Research Day, and providing UMSON Foundation research grants to students from FHS/MHealth enrolled in UMSON nursing programs.
3. Supported opportunities for nurses to lead and develop collaborative models that redesign practice environments by partnering on one interdisciplinary, nurse managed primary care clinic, a memory care clinic, an integrative women’s health clinic, and 4 satellite clinics with community partners.
4. Shared responsibility for facilitating a smooth transition of graduates to practice by providing clinical learning experiences to 469 UMSON students in 2016 at FHS/MHealth: the most of any UMSON clinical training site in the Twin Cities.
5. Supported a seamless academic progression by facilitating 33 UMSON Doctor of Nursing (DNP) student capstone projects at FHS/MHealth sites: the most at any clinical site.
6. Shared knowledge among experts by co-creating and teaching 4 nurse midwife courses, a safe patient handling class, a substance abuse class, and a care coordination course for Nursing faculty, students, and clinical nurses.
7. Jointly prepared for Magnet national certification by co-creating and implementing a professional practice model in FHS/MHealth hospitals and clinics.
8. Supported shared learning management systems by creating a joint process for providing American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) contact hours to healthcare providers.
9. Co-sponsored four national “Nursing Knowledge: Big Data Science” conferences and work groups that resulted in 14 published manuscripts and numerous presentations.
10. Co-created a process to design, implement, and sustain innovative ideas that has resulted in 2 innovation conferences and five new nursing commercial products in 2016.