



Name: Dawn Goldstein, PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC

Current Title: Assistant Professor/Program Director,
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse
Practitioner Program

Affiliation: Michigan State University

Candidate for: MNRS Nominating Committee Member

Personal Statement:

I am honored to be considered for a position on the Nominating Committee of the Midwest Nursing Research Society (MNRS) Board of Directors. In my role as an Assistant Professor and Program Director of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) program at Michigan State University, I am dedicated to advancing nursing research and education while promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the nursing profession. My experience in academic leadership, clinical practice, and research aligns well with the strategic goals of MNRS, and I am eager to contribute to the organization's mission by supporting the identification and development of future MNRS leaders.

Qualifications and Alignment with Nominating Committee Responsibilities

My career has been defined by a commitment to fostering talent, promoting diversity, and advancing evidence-based practices within the field of nursing. These values are central to the role of the Nominating Committee, which seeks to identify and support leaders who reflect MNRS's core mission.

- **Strategic Recruitment and Mentorship:** As Program Director of the PMHNP program at MSU, I am actively involved in mentoring graduate students and faculty members, particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds. I have overseen several initiatives aimed at improving healthcare accessibility and quality, including interprofessional education and mental health parity projects funded by NIH and other grants. These experiences make me well-prepared to identify and support leaders whose diverse skills, backgrounds, and perspectives can enrich MNRS.
- **Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion:** My work in graduate nursing education and my

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leadership in the U.S. Army Reserves have given me a deep appreciation for the strengths that diversity brings to leadership roles. In my experience, fostering an inclusive environment not only enhances team cohesion but also drives innovation and growth. On the Nominating Committee, I would prioritize recruitment of candidates who are committed to equity and inclusion, ensuring that MNRS leadership is reflective of the diverse communities we serve.

- **Insight into the Needs of Emerging Leaders:** My experience as Co-Investigator on NIH-funded projects, along with my role in shaping educational programs and supporting early-career faculty development, positions me to understand the challenges and aspirations of emerging leaders in nursing research. I am skilled in recognizing potential, advocating for professional growth, and supporting mentorship. This perspective would be invaluable on the Nominating Committee as we seek candidates who can advance MNRS's mission and goals.

Goals and Initiatives

As a member of the Nominating Committee, I would prioritize the following initiatives:

1. **Promoting Leadership Development for Underrepresented Groups:** I am committed to supporting diversity in all forms, including racial, cultural, and geographic diversity. By actively recruiting candidates who bring unique perspectives, we can ensure that MNRS leadership remains innovative, inclusive, and aligned with the needs of a rapidly evolving healthcare landscape.
2. **Enhancing Pathways for Early-Career Members:** Recognizing the value of early-career researchers, I would focus on identifying emerging leaders within MNRS who show a commitment to advancing nursing research. My experience in mentoring early-career faculty will inform my efforts to create accessible leadership pathways and promote ongoing professional development.
3. **Aligning Leadership Selection with Strategic Goals:** The Nominating Committee plays a pivotal role in supporting MNRS's strategic initiatives through leadership selection. I would ensure that the committee's nominations reflect MNRS's goals, including advancing mental health research, fostering interprofessional collaboration, and strengthening community engagement across the Midwest. To this end, I am hoping to start a Psychiatric Mental Health & Substance Use RIIG.

In conclusion, I am deeply committed to advancing the mission of MNRS by identifying and supporting dedicated leaders who bring a range of perspectives and expertise. My background in academic leadership, research, and mentorship uniquely qualifies me for this role, and I am excited by the opportunity to contribute to MNRS's vision. Thank you for considering my application for the Nominating Committee, and I look forward to the possibility of serving MNRS in this important capacity.

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