

Contributing

Deb has contributed greatly not only to the University of Maryland School of Nursing, and the area of simulation, but to excellence in nursing education in general.

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Debra L. Spunt



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A True Inspiration



DEBRA L. SPUNT, DNP, RN, FAAN

Director, Clinical Simulation Laboratories, University of Maryland

Debra L. Spunt, DNP, RN, FAAN, an assistant professor and director of the clinical simulation laboratories at the University of Maryland School of Nursing, died of cancer on March 9, 2007 at Gilchrist Center for Hospice Care in Towson, MD.

Born in St. Louis, MO in 1956, Debbie was a resident of Maryland for more than 30 years, graduating from Randallstown High School in 1975. She earned a bachelor of science in nursing (1979), a master's of science (1983), and a doctor of nursing practice (2007), all from the University of Maryland School of Nursing.

Debbie was nationally and internationally recognized for her knowledge, expertise, and leadership in clinical simulation, especially the use of computerized human patient simulators via clinical case scenarios to educate nurses and other health care providers. She was responsible for the design, administration, and management of the School of Nursing's 28 clinical simulation laboratories, considered the preeminent nursing student learning labs in the world. In this role, she collaborated with faculty on the integration of simulation into the nursing curriculum, and in doing so, has helped prepare thousands of nurses worldwide.

Debbie was a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, and a member of the American Nurses Association, the Maryland Nurses Association, the National League for Nursing, the Maryland League for Nursing, and Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing. She co-founded the International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning and served as its first president.

As a thoughtful participant in the plans for her legacy, Debbie created the Debra L. Spunt Clinical Simulation Practice and Research Endowment at the University of Maryland School of Nursing. This endowment will support clinical simulation laboratory equipment.

**Contributions may be made payable to
"UMBF/Spunt Endowment" and sent to:**

UMBF/Spunt Endowment
The University of Maryland School of Nursing
Office of Development, Room 727
655 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-706-7640

“Educating

Debbie's experience with computerized human patient simulators has had a tremendous impact on the education of the next generation of nurses.

Carolyn J. Yocom, PhD, RN, FAAN
Chair and Associate Professor
Organizational Systems and Adult Health
University of Maryland School of Nursing



2009 Debra L. Spunt Lecture

“...UNTIL WE REFLECT”

We are challenged to be innovators in the process of educational reform. Recognizing simulation as an innovative pedagogy is not enough. We must continue to reflect on our discoveries, disseminate our findings, and explore options for the future. Simulation, as an educational strategy, provides a tool to facilitate the development of reflective practitioners and educators. But, reflection is not for the “learner alone”; to grow as educators, practitioners, mentors, and leaders, each of us must engage in reflective self-analysis. This process, although uncomfortable, forces us to face incongruity, but “...Until We Reflect” we cannot envision our future.

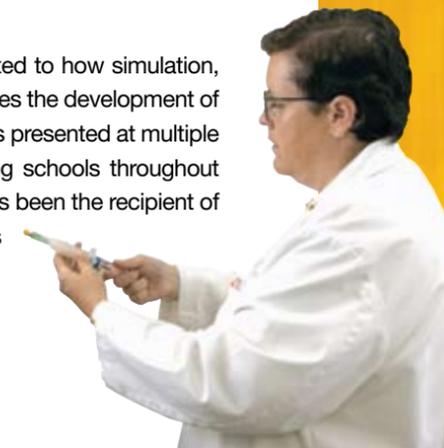


SHARON DECKER, PHD, RN, CCRN, ACNS-BC, ANEF

**Professor and Director of Clinical Simulations
Covenant Health System Endowed Chair in Simulation
and Nursing Education
Project Director, F. Marie Hall SimLife Center
Director, TTUHSC Quality Enhancement Plan**

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Lubbock, Texas

Sharon Decker's research and scholarship is related to how simulation, as an innovative teaching learning strategy facilitates the development of critical and reflective thinking skills. Dr. Decker has presented at multiple conferences and provided consultation to nursing schools throughout the United States about the integration of simulation into various curricula. She has been the recipient of numerous grants to support her research and has been recognized multiple times for her excellence in teaching.



A Symbol of Leadership

In appreciation for her leadership in the design, development, and implementation of simulation in nursing education,

The NLN Foundation for Nursing Education
and Laerdal Medical Corporation

present the annual

Debra L. Spunt Lecture

The NLN Foundation for Nursing Education is pleased to have this opportunity to establish the Debra L. Spunt Lecture to honor and recognize Debra's leadership. With funding provided by Laerdal Medical Corporation, the Debra Spunt Lecture will be held each year at the National League for Nursing Education Summit.