Welcome to the Advisory Board of College of Health and Human Services at George Mason University

The College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) began in 1974 first as a Department of Nursing followed by rapid expansion to include other health disciplines. Currently, the college is home to faculty dedicated to educating students for careers in global and community health; health administration, policy, and informatics; nutrition and food studies; nursing; rehabilitation sciences; and social work. CHHS offers 5 undergraduate degrees, 12 graduate degrees, and 11 certificates with many being nationally ranked. Being the largest public university in Virginia, Mason is ranked #1 in student diversity in Virginia and #22 nationally. Our students are exceedingly diverse in every way and bring exciting new perspectives and experiences to our educational setting. While many of our graduates are first generation higher education students, they build careers in local, state and federal health agencies, academe, clinical care settings, and numerous other employment sectors, both locally and globally.

In the 2017-2018 academic year, the college was home to 1,870 undergraduate and 841 graduate students, though its alumni number more than 14,600 individuals including many of whom are actively involved with the college. Our faculty and students are committed to serving our communities, and we partner with organizations that collectively offer experiential learning at more than 260 active practicum sites.

Our faculty are also actively engaged in research ($18 million in 2017) ranging from the health and well-being of populations to the delivery of personalized care for individuals. Our many research partners foster opportunities for student involvement throughout their educational experiences. A strong commitment to alternative learning opportunities is actively underway. For example, we recently launched two fully online master's degrees: a Master of Health Administration and Master of Science in Health Informatics.

In January 2018, the college moved to the newly opened Peterson Family Health Sciences Hall, where excellence in teaching, research, and service will remain paramount in ensuring the health and well-being of the many populations we serve.

We are proud of all the college and university have to offer, and we remain committed to our vision and mission. We believe that together we can be even better.

Germaine Louis
Dean
George Mason University College of Health and Human Services Advisory Board Handbook

George Mason University’s overarching goal is to be the best university for the world, and one of the ways it aims to achieve this is by recognizing excellence in teaching and scholarship in the context of providing services to our many constituencies. By design, Mason is an inclusive university earning stature as both the largest and most diverse public research institution in Virginia, one of the best U.S. universities, and among the top 300 universities in the world. The College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) delivers rigorous and innovative curricula focusing on all aspects of health across the lifespan for Mason students, while meeting our mission of conducting research of consequence and professional service.

The College comprises five departments (Global and Community Health, Health Administration and Policy, Nutrition and Food Studies, Rehabilitation Science, and Social Work) and a School of Nursing.

CHHS Vision
The CHHS Vision is improving the public’s health and well-being across the lifespan. CHHS is the “health college” of George Mason University. It is where health research meets health practice and service delivery. By integrating our educational programs, our clinical and community-based research, and our community engagement efforts, CHHS strives to provide a rigorous and innovative learning experience for our students, to be a major provider of the health care workforce in northern Virginia, and to produce new knowledge to address critical health and social issues in policy and practice, while both faculty and students are actively engaged in improving the health and well-being of people both locally and globally.

CHHS Strategic Plan
The strategic plan comprises 12 ambitious goals and specific actions for meeting them. These goals are operationalized by each of our five departments and the School of Nursing to ensure we offer state-of-the-art curricula using novel teaching methods to position our students for successful careers and to remain lifelong learners. Among our many values is the commitment to diversity and civility as we prepare future generations of health practitioners and researchers. Read the strategic plan here.

Advisory Board Purpose
The purpose of the Advisory Board is to (1) advise and assist the Dean of the College of Health and Human Services in development and marketing opportunities, (2) to serve as advocates (“ambassadors”) for the CHHS mission, core values, and diverse academic programs, (3) to advise the Dean on emerging business trends that will likely affect future academic, research, and co-curricular priorities and programs, (4) to participate on Advisory Board Committees or working groups, and on special projects designed to advance the strategic priorities and strategic plan of the CHHS, (5) to support the Dean in creating outreach programs and collaborative partnerships within the University and with the external community that ultimately benefit the CHHS and its graduate and undergraduate programs and (6) identify, contact, and cultivate potential financial supporters and new members of the Advisory Board.

Advisory Board Membership
The Advisory Board membership may comprise up to twenty (20) members, consisting of CHHS alumni/ae, corporate and foundation executives, community and civic leaders, academicians, and private citizens. There is a Chair and Vice Chair of the Advisory Board. The Dean is a permanent member of the Advisory Board, and the Chair of the Faculty Council serves as a liaison to the CHHS Advisory Board in a non-voting capacity.

The membership currently consists of 10 experts in public health, nursing, volunteerism, non-profit and for-profit management, business sector, philanthropy, and health care.

- Gloria Addo-Ayensu, Director, Fairfax County Health Department
- Bob Blancato, President, Matz, Blancato and Associates
- Ellie Dehoney, Vice President of Policy and Advocacy, Research!America
- Kevin Donnellan, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff, AARP
- Mary Ann Friesen, CHHS Advisory Board Vice Chair, Nursing Research Coordinator, INOVA Health System
- Janet Hinchcliff, CHHS Advisory Board Chair, Principal, Health Systems and Strategy, Health Transformation Tech Center, The MITRE Corporation
- Susan Lydick, Adjunct Faculty, George Mason University
- Angela McConnell, Owner and CEO, Q Integrative Healthcare Consulting
- Robin Mockenhaupt, Senior Vice President, Strategic Initiatives, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Karen Remley, Senior Fellow, de Beaumont Foundation
- Carolyn Taylor, Corporate Operations Officer, Taylor-Oden Enterprises
- Les Taylor, President and CEO, Taylor-Oden Enterprises
- Tonga Turner, Director, Kaiser Permanente Community Health Division

Read board member bios here.

Video: Why I Serve (on the Advisory Board)
Advisory Board Responsibilities

- **Term**: The membership term is an initial two-year term. At the discretion of the Dean and the Advisory Board Chair, Board members may be asked to serve additional one-year or two-year terms. The Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair serve a two-year term following the appointment by the Dean. The Dean may also reappoint the Chair and Vice Chair for an additional two-year term.

- **Meetings and time commitment**: Meetings are held at least three times a year, and special meetings may also be called by the Dean, the Advisory Board Chair, or at least one-third of the Advisory Board members. Members are expected to be present at meetings, whether in person or via videoconference. The dates of meetings in 2019 are: March 7, June 20, September 19 and December 5 at 6:00pm.

- **Financial commitment**: Members are required to support the college through corporate and/or personal charitable gifts.

- **Conflicts of interest**: Members are expected to notify the Dean and Chair of any potential, real, or perceived conflicts of interest, and sign a conflict of interest form annually.

Advisory Board Roles

- **Chair**: The Advisory Board is led by the Board’s Chair and Vice Chair. This role is appointed by the dean of the CHHS with advice from the Advisory Board members. The Chair presides over all the meetings in the Board and coordinates the agenda for each meeting with the Dean and his/her staff. The Chair also provides oversight of all committees’ activities and projects.

- **Vice Chair**: The Advisory Board is led by the Board’s Chair and Vice Chair. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair presides over meetings and is responsible for the oversight of all the Committees’ activities and projects.

- **Committees**: There are currently three committees of the Advisory Board: Communications and Outreach, Development, and Membership. Membership on committees is voluntary and open to any interested Board member and agreed to by the Chair. Each Committee member is expected to participate by actively attending meetings and supporting the committee's goals. Committees consist of at least three Advisory Board members, who brief the Dean and the appropriate staff on committee findings and recommendations.

- **Members**: Members are expected to be engaged and support Advisory Board goals and activities, through their contribution of time and financial resources. They serve as ambassadors for the College, offer advice and counsel, and remain connected with the work between meetings, as requested.

About the Dean of the College of Health and Human Services

Dr. Germaine Louis is an internationally recognized reproductive and perinatal epidemiologist whose research focuses on environmental chemicals, stress, diet, and physical activity in relation to human fecundity and fertility. Her research also focuses on the implications of reproductive health across the lifespan of men and women.

Dr. Louis was an early pioneer in the application of the exposome research paradigm for understanding environmental influences on human fecundity and fertility impairments. She has served as Principal Investigator for original extramural and intramural research totaling over $53 million, and has published numerous scientific papers and co-edited the textbook Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology.

Dr. Louis has provided considerable service to The National Academies, Pan American Health Organization, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and World Health Organization among other governmental agencies, as well as for her disciplinary home as elected President for the Society of Pediatric and Perinatal Epidemiologic Research and the Society for Epidemiologic Research, along with serving on the boards for the American College of Epidemiology and the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology. She is the recipient of many awards for research excellence, mentoring and service.

Prior to joining the College of Health and Human Services in October 2017, Dr. Louis was the Director for the Division of Intramural Population Health Research at the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health. This position was preceded by her role as professor in the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Buffalo, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.
College Leadership

Rosemary Higgins, MD – Associate Dean of Research (starts on March 25)
Kimberly Holmes, PhD, MEd - Associate Dean of Student Affairs
Lisa Iovner, MBA - Executive Director of Finance and Administration
Germaine Louis, PhD, MS - Dean of the College of Health and Human Services
Michelle Thompson, MBA - Director of Marketing and Communications
Catherine Tompkins, PhD, MSW - Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs
Carol Urban, PhD, RN - Associate Dean of Practice and Strategic Initiatives
Laura Walsh, CFRE - Director of Development
Robert Weiler, PhD, MPH - Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

Department Chairs

Lawrence Cheskin, MD - Chair of the Department of Nutrition and Food Studies, and Interim Chair of the Department of Global and Community Health
Andrew Guccione, PT, PhD, DPT, FAPTA - Chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Science
Emily Ihara, PhD, MSW, FGSA - Interim Chair of the Department of Social Work
PJ Maddox, EdD, MSN, RN - Chair of the Department of Health Administration and Policy
Cheryl Oetjen, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC - Interim Director of the School of Nursing

CHHS Overview

15,658
CHHS ALUMNI
95
FULL-TIME FACULTY
$276,050
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

1,917
UNDERGRADUATES
950
GRADUATE STUDENTS
439
ACTIVE PRACTICUM SITES
Contact Information for CHHS

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Other Important Information

Map of GMU Campuses

Map of the Fairfax Campus

Parking Map of the Fairfax Campus

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