



**Northern Michigan University**

TLAC Conference Grant Application  
Deadline: November 1, 2020

**Casey Hopper MSN RN CLNC**

Instructor | School of Nursing  
Northern Michigan University  
2809 West Science  
Office: 906-227-1192  
chopper@nmu.edu

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### **Eligibility**

I am an Instructor and have been employed at NMU since 2019. I was an adjunct from Fall 2019 through Winter 2020 semester and started a term position in Fall 2020. I am currently in a term position that ends May, 4, 2021. I am eligible for continuation of my contract in 2021 and have not received a TLAC conference grant previously. I plan on continuing to teach at NMU, and am currently applying to a doctoral program to acquire my terminal degree. My teaching assignments included Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing clinic, Holistic Health Assessment lab, and Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice clinic. I am also on the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee for the School of Nursing.

### **Conference**

International Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) Conference June 16-19, 2021 in Denver, Colorado USA.

### **Essay and Conference Information**

I am applying for the TLAC grant funds in effort to offset costs to virtually attend the International Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL) Conference from June 16-19, 2021. The INACSL Conference is an international conference to improve simulation development, learning resources for simulation, integrating technology into curriculum and practice, network with experts in the field, and learning best practice for simulations used in the education of healthcare professionals (INACSL, 2020). Simulation a learning activity used to replicate clinical practice scenarios with differing degrees of realism to promote learning, critical thinking, and skills acquisition in a safe and nurturing environment (National Council of State Boards of Nursing, 2018). The use of simulation and the objectives of the conference aligns with current needs in within the nursing curriculum at NMU. As increasing numbers of clinical sites become unavailable to students to practice skills and promote critical thinking necessary to understand and practice within the profession. Simulation is a learning activity that replaces or enhances clinical practice and has become a vital portion of nursing curriculum, as studies indicate no statistical significance in nursing knowledge between nurses that have followed the traditional track and those whom had up to 50% of clinical hours replaced with simulation provided that the faculty were formally trained in simulation pedagogy (Dalia, 2018). The requirement of having formally trained educators in the area of simulation pedagogy to ensure simulation experiences is a critical aspect of simulation education. Formally trained educators promote the vital critical thinking skills and learning objectives needed to replace the loss of clinical sites has never been as demanding and essential as it is in current trends in NMU's nursing education. The nursing discipline is focused on graduating competent and well-rounded clinicians. This is increasingly more difficult with the limited clinical sites available to NMU's nursing courses at this time.

I have a sincere interest in furthering my education within the area of simulation to meet the current needs of NMU's nursing department. Currently, I have created a Geriatric Experience simulation to promote understanding and simulation the difficulties an elderly person has doing daily tasks. I have offered to help with the annual Halloween Safety Simulation the nursing department presents and am hoping to become more involved within simulation in NMU's

nursing program. This conference will allow me to apply learned knowledge to enhance simulation and critical thinking as a educator with new strategies for teaching this modality.

In attending this conference, I will obtain knowledge that will benefit the entirety of the nursing department. The knowledge gained in this conference will be utilities to create simulations that are based on current evidence, track current trends and make suggestions for improvement in simulations through my role in the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and knowledge will be disseminated to the nursing faculty through a written report and sent via email. Furthermore, the knowledge I obtain with be disseminated into the broader NMU teaching community through a lunch and learn, speaking at a teaching conference at NMU, or other means depending on the available modalities in relation to COVID-19 restrictions.

The cost of the INACLS conference is \$449 to attend virtually. I am requesting an addition \$500 for compensation for time to attend the conference. The conference is comprised on two 8-hour days and two 4-hour days. In addition to the conference time, there is a time requirement to disseminate the information to NMU teaching community. For these reasons I am requesting monetary compensation for this.

Conference Objectives (INACLS, 2020):

- Experience the newest innovations in nursing simulation and learning resources while revisiting tried-and-true methodologies.
- Explore future simulation opportunities using evidence-based practice.
- Determine new directions for simulation and learning resource centers.
- Explore strategies to integrate technology in curriculum and practice.
- Examine the challenges of managing nursing simulation/learning resource centers.
- Network with colleagues and experts.

**TLAC Conference Grant Criteria**

<b>1. Demonstrated an interest in teaching and pedagogical issues, including scholarship of teaching and learning.</b> See essay above
<b>2. Faculty member explains in detail how the conference content will be used to improve their teaching.</b> See essay above
<b>3. Consideration will be given to faculty members who will share conference information with the university community about what constitutes excellence in teaching and learning.</b> See essay above, the information will be shared with the nursing department
<b>4. Additional consideration may be given for other factors. For example:</b> I have never attended a international conference regarding this teaching modality. Simulation is a necessary tool to promote competent clinicians within the nursing department more now than ever before secondary to the limited clinical sites.
<b>5. Contains description of conference (e.g., dates and location, with workshops to attend/attended) and clearly explains how this particular conference will enhance teaching.</b> See above
<b>6. Contains breakdown of anticipated conference/travel expenses.</b> See below

### Budget

Virtual Conference Fee	\$449
Compensation for time attending conference and disseminating learned material	\$500
Total	\$949

**Curriculum Vita**  
**Casey J. Hopper, MNS, RN, CLNC**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

493 County Rd. ML  
Negaunee, MI 49866  
(906) 235-2158  
cashopper79@gmail.com

Office: 2809 West Science Building  
Northern Michigan University  
School of Nursing  
Phone: 906-227-2830  
Fax: 906-227-1658.  
e-mail: chopper@nmu.edu

**EDUCATION**

Master in Science of Nursing, Nurse Educator (2018)  
Purdue University Global, Davenport, IA

Bachelors in Science of Nursing and Minor in Psychology (2005)  
Northern Michigan University, Marquette, MI

**Current Licensure and Certification**

- Registered nurse: Michigan Board of Nursing. License #4704249113 2005-present
- Registered nurse: Oregon Board of Nursing. License #20190740RN 2019-present
- Certified Nurse Legal Consultant 2012-present
- Basic Cardiac Life Support certification, 2002-present

**Professional Teaching Experience**

Northern Michigan University Marquette, MI: (2019-present)

- Adjunct Instructor 8/19-8/20
- Instructor, term position 8/20-present

Teaching Responsibilities

- NU 402: Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing (Clinic)
- NU 202: Holistic Health Assessment (Lab)
- NU 212: Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice (Clinic)

Concordia University Portland, OR: (2019-present)

- Adjunct Instructor 8/19-present

Teaching Responsibilities

- NUP 355 Nursing Care of Client w/Mental & Behavioral Health (Theory)
- NUP 403 Nursing Research and Evidence Based Practice (Theory)

Bay de Noc Community College Escanaba, MI

- Adjunct Instructor (8/16-1/18)

Teaching Responsibilities

- NURS 102 Nursing Fundamentals (Lab/Clinic)
- NURS 139 Behavioral Health (Clinic)
- NURS 254 Health Concepts II (Clinic)

**Professional Practice Experience**

REGISTERED NURSE (2015-present)

UP Health Systems Marquette, MI

- Direct patient care and management adult and youth psychiatric patients, med/surg and oncology.
- United counsel president
- Action committee for falls and treatment plans – president.

DIRECTOR OF NURSING (2008-2010)

Mather Nursing Center Ishpeming, MI

NURSE EDUCATOR, PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT DIRECTOR, AND PATIENT CARE COORDINATOR (2007-2008)

Upper Peninsula Home Health and Hospice Negaunee, MI

REGISTERED NURSE (2005-2008)

Bellin Health Green Bay, WI

- Cath Lab/ Interventional Radiology

**Professional Affiliations**

- Sigma International Honor Society for Nursing (2018-present)
- Michigan Nurses Association (2015-present).