September 9, 2022

To: University Committee on Faculty Affairs

From: Teresa K. Woodruff, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Subject: Support in Granting Emeritus Status for Frances Pouch Downes

The Emeritus policy in the Faculty Handbook provides that “Faculty and academic staff who end their employment at the University after a substantial period of distinguished service, but short of the years of service needed for retirement eligibility, may be granted emeritus status by the President upon the written recommendation of the Provost after the Provost consults with the UCFA.”

Pursuant to the Emeritus policy, I seek your consultation on the attached request from Dean Duxbury. I have reviewed the request and recommend the granting of Emeritus status to Dr. Frances Pouch Downes. Dean Duxbury’s letter provides the basis for the recommendation and Dr. Frances Pouch Downes’ accomplishments and contributions to MSU during her career at Michigan State University. I ask that this request be considered by the University Committee on Faculty Affairs at their next meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

Cc: Ann E. Austin, Ph.D.
Kara Yermak, MHRLR
July 26, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a request to award Dr. Frances Pouch Downes emeritum status. Dr. Downes joined the BLD faculty in 2012. She was the Director of the Bureau of Laboratories at the State of Michigan Health and Human Services. Due to her accomplished career prior to joining MSU, she was hired with the Professor title as a rolling fixed term.

During her time with BLD she established a study abroad experience for students in Malawi. Dr. Downes also provided consulting services for the Association for Public Health Laboratories (APHL) primarily with labs in Indonesia. She also was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the APHL, their highest honor.

Dr. Downes is going to retire at the end of this academic year (8/15/22) but does not have the time in rank to be considered an MSU official retiree. She clearly represented the BLD unit and MSU well during her years of service and will remain active in the clinical/public health laboratory community. I am asking that she be given the emeritum title.

Respectfully,

John A. Gerlach, Ph.D., D(ABHI)
Professor and Program Director

Phillip M. Duxbury
Dean, College of Natural Science
FRANCES POUCH DOWNES

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660 Snyder Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
USA

Work Address
306 North Kedzie Hall
354 Farm Lane
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824
USA
E-MAIL downesf@msu.edu

Education
1987
Dr. P.H. Laboratory Practice
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC

1985-87
Pre-Doctoral Fellow
Centers for Disease Control
Atlanta, GA

1985
M.P.H. Laboratory Practice
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC

1980
B.S. Medical Technology
Indiana University
Bloomington, IN

1979-80
Medical Technology Internship
Indiana University Hospitals
Indianapolis, IN

Professional Experience
2012-present
Professor, Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics
Program College of Natural Science and Public
Health Program College of Human Medicine. Michigan
State University, East Lansing, MI

1999-2012
Administrator and State Public Health Laboratory
Director, Bureau of Laboratories, Michigan
Department of Community Health, Lansing, MI
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.
1997-1999  Director, Infectious Diseases Division, Bureau of Laboratories, Michigan Department of Community Health, Lansing, MI.

1995-1997  Managed Care Coordinator Laboratory Services Division, Michigan Department of Community Health, Lansing, MI

1992-95  Independent Consultant Niamey, Niger, West Africa


1990  Chief, Viral Serology Unit Michigan Depart. Public Health, Lansing, MI

1988-90  Assistant Chief, Microbiology Section Michigan Depart. of Public Health, Lansing, MI

Advisory Committee Appointments
API Scientific Advisory Board. Traverse City, MI. (2018-present)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Laboratory Quality Council Ex Officio Member (2015-2018)

NewSteps (Newborn Screening Technical Assistance and Evaluation Program Steering Committee) Association of Public Health Laboratories (2012-2014)

United States Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Advisory Committee for the Elimination of Tuberculosis, Association of Public Health Laboratories Representative (2010-2012)

Michigan Neonatal BioBank (a non-profit organization) Board of Directors (2009-2012)

Michigan BioTrust for Health Scientific Advisory Board (2009-present)

Newborn Screening Translational Research Network Laboratory Workgroup, American College of Medical Genetics Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Commission (2008-2012)
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

Advisory Committee Appointments (continued)

Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Committee. Michigan Department of Community Health representative. (2008-2012)

United State Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Infectious Diseases Board of Scientific Counselors (2003-2007)

Adjunct Professor, Biomedical Laboratory Diagnostics Program (formerly Medical Technology and Biosystems and Agriculture Engineering, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI


Michigan Cancer Consortium Cervical Cancer Committee (2004-07)

University of Michigan School of Public Health Academic Health Center Advisory Council (appointed June 2004)

Governor’s Task Force on Childhood Lead Prevention (2003-04)

Michigan-Ontario Border Health Steering Committee and Laboratory Subcommittee Co-Chair (2004-07)

MSU Center for Microbial Pathogenesis External Advisory Board (2004)

Michigan State University Committees
Accreditation Committee. Public Health Program (2017-present)

Core Course Committee. Public Health Program (2017-present)

College of Natural Sciences Faculty Advisory Committee (2014-2018)


Institutional Biosafety Committee (2013-present)
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

Michigan State University Courses
MMG 463 Medical Microbiology
MMG 201 Fundamentals of Microbiology
MMG 365 Introduction to Medical Microbiology
MMG 465 Advanced Medical Microbiology
BLD 450 Eukaryotic Pathogens
BLD 861 Emerging Infections, Emerging Technology
BLD 366 Infectious Diseases of Africa
BLD 478 Advanced Clinical Microbiology
BLD 445 Laboratory Management
BLD 456W Medical Laboratory Professionalism
HM 804 Public Health Policy and Administration
HM 801 Introduction to Public Health
HM 815 Introduction to Public Health Laboratory Data

International Experience
2017-present Blantyre, Malawi, Michigan State University Study Abroad Program Director, Infectious Diseases of Africa. Advisor to the Glasgow University and Malawi Medical College.

2016 Tanzania Ministry of Health Strategic Planning for Laboratory Systems. Consultant to Association of Public Health Laboratories, Morogoro, Tanzania

2016- present Indonesia Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Country Office, Global Health Security Agenda Planning, Consultant to Association of Public Health Laboratories, Jakarta, Indonesia

2015 Switzerland, Michigan State University Study Abroad Instructor

2014 Quality Management Systems Training Workshop, Consultant to Association of Public Health Laboratories, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

2011- 2013 Risk Factors for Acquisition of Measles Study, Laboratory Consultant, M. Boulton (Primary Investigator). Tianjin, China.


2010 3rd Annual Global Laboratory Initiative Meeting, World Health Organization Veyrier-du-Lac, France
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

International Experience (continued)

2009  Global Laboratory Directory Consultancy, World Health Organization Geneva, Switzerland

2009  CDC Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program Assessment Team, Dhaka, Bangladesh


2001-2005  Team Leader, APHL Botswana Global AIDS Laboratory Project. Coordinated and provided assessment, training and technical consultation with CDC, Ministry of Health and APHL members

1996-1998  Advisor, Jamaica National Public Health Laboratory, sponsored by the APHL/Pan American Health Association Laboratory Linkages Program


1993  Technical Consultant AIDSCAP, Bujumbura, Burundi

1987  Technical Consultant, Researcher International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Dhaka, Bangladesh

1980-83  Peace Corps Volunteer (Medical Technologist) Hôpital de Zinder, Zinder, Niger

Fluent in French, working knowledge of Hausa
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

Certifications
High-Complexity Clinical Laboratory Director, American Board of Bioanalysis
Medical Technologist, American Society of Clinical Pathologists

Professional Societies and Activities
Association of Public Health Laboratories
Lifetime Achievement Award, 2016
Past President (2009-10 and 2011-12)
President (2008-09)
President Elect (2006-2007)
Board of Directors, Member at Large (2004-2006)
Annual Meeting Program Chair (2007), Leadership (2000-04),
Global Health Committee (2013-present)Chair (2018-present)
International Conference for Emerging Infectious Diseases 2012 Scientific Program Committee APHL Representative

National Public Health Leadership Training Institute, Year 14 Scholar
American Society for Microbiology
MicroLibrary Clinical Laboratory Liaison (2013-present)
Emerging Infectious Diseases Post-Doctoral Selection Committee (2003-2006)

American Society of Clinical Pathology
American Public Health Association
Co-Editor, Compendium of Methods for the Microbiological Examination of Foods, 4th Edition
Editorial Committee, Communicable Diseases of Man Laboratory Edition (in development)

Michigan Public Health Association
Board of Directors (1995-97)

Michigan Infectious Diseases Society
South Central Association for Clinical Microbiology

Consultations

2010 Special Immunization Program for Laboratory Personnel Engaged in Research on Countermeasures for Select Agents, National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

2008 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Division of Laboratory Systems Peer Program Review

2007 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. TB Drug Susceptibility Testing Peer Advisor

2006 University of Maryland. Food Safety Information Infrastructure Project

2006 Michigan Health Information Network Clinical Workgroup

2006 Institute of Medicine. Forum on Microbial Threats

2002 Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS

2002 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Implementing Rapid HIV Testing in the United States

2001 World Health Organization. Developing Laboratory Support for Antiretroviral Therapy in Africa

1998 Michigan State University National Food Safety and Toxicology Center. Comparative Risk in Food Safety

Publications


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

Publications (continued)


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.
Publications (continued)


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

Publications (continued)


Presentations


TedEX MSU. 2016. 20% of the World Suffers from Diseases You’ve Never Heard Of. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jDfsDOWiw3g


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.


Presentations (continued)


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.
on HIV in Africa and 8th African STD Conference, Casablanca, Morocco.


Presentations (continued)


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.
Presentations (continued)


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.
Invited Presentations

2018  The Human Microbiome and Health. ASCLS Michigan, Plymouth, MI

2017  One Health, ASCLS Michigan, Kalamazoo, MI

2016  Emerging Infections Update, ASCLS Michigan. East Lansing, MI.


2013  Advanced Technology for the Microbiology Laboratory. ASCLS Michigan, East Lansing, MI


2010  Harmonizing the Voices that Influence Public Health Policy. Symposium: Politics and Pathogens: Exploring the Interaction of Science and the State. American Society for Microbiology. 110th General Meeting San Diego, CA

2009  H1N1 Update. William Beaumont Molecular Pathology Symposium. Royal Oak, MI


Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.
2007 Michigan Public Health Preparedness Laboratory System.
Wayne State University, Department of Microbiology Seminar Series, Detroit, MI
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

Invited Presentations (continued)


2004 Building Tomorrow’s Laboratory Workforce, CDC-AMA First National Congress on Public Health Awareness, Washington, DC


2003 Genomics and the Public Health Laboratory. Association of Public Health Laboratories Annual Meeting, Richmond, VA

2001 Chemical Terrorism Laboratory Response. Association of Public Health Laboratories Annual Meeting. Portland, OR


2000 Hepatitis C: Epidemiology, Challenges, Strategies. Michigan Society for Clinical Laboratory Sciences. Romulus, MI


1999 Hepatitis C: Epidemiology and Diagnosis. Statewide HIV/AIDS-STD Conference. Sponsored by MDCH.


1998 Regional Laboratory Food Testing, Focus on Food Safety, Michigan Environmental Health Association. Big Rapids, MI.
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.
Invited Presentations (continued)


1998  Epidemiology Breakout Session Moderator. Comparative Risk in Food Safety: Future Direction for Risk Analysis, National Food Safety and Toxicology Center at Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI.

1998  The Role of the Public Health Laboratory in Vaccine Preventable Disease Programs. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Regional VPD Conference. Dearborn, MI.


1997  Update on HIV and STD testing. Michigan HIV/STD Counselor Annual Meeting


1997  The Epidemiology of Lyme Disease in Michigan. South Central Association of Clinical Microbiologists, Fall Meeting


1996  Managed Care and Public Health Laboratories. Association for State and Territorial Public Health Laboratory Directors Annual Planning Conference
Frances Pouch Downes, Dr.P.H.

Invited Presentations (continued)

1996  Public Health Laboratory Managed Care Initiative. Changing Health Systems: Managed Care and Medical Laboratories, a symposium presented by the Michigan Department of Community Health, Michigan Public health Institute and the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine Institute for Managed Care.

1995  Epidemiology of Escherichia coli 0157:H7 in Michigan, American Society for Microbiology, Michigan Branch. Spring Conference

1992  The Role of the Public Health Laboratory in Disease Outbreak Investigation. Centers for Disease Control National Laboratory Training Network, Midwestern Area Resource Office Teleconference Series

1992  Diarrheagenic Escherichia coli: Clinical Relevance and Laboratory Diagnosis. South Central Association for Clinical Microbiology Teleconference Series

1991  Serological Diagnosis of Mycoplasmal Infections. South Central Association for Clinical Microbiology Workshop, Lansing, Michigan


1989  Foodborne Diarrheal Illnesses and Escherichia coli Diarrhea. South Central Association of Clinical Microbiology Fall Workshops entitled Identification of Unusual Enteric Pathogens.
