



December 13, 2012

Prof. Kathy Berchem

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Dear Kathy,

Congratulations on being recommended for a sabbatical leave next year. I am planning to forward your name and my recommendation to the Board of Trustees at their next meeting in January. Before doing so, I am asking that you indicate your willingness to accept the sabbatical if it is offered to you and to acknowledge the conditions under which the sabbatical is being offered. Your acceptance will allow LSSU and your academic Department/School to better prepare for the coming year. If you agree, please sign, date, and return the agreement by January 8, 2013.

Sincerely,

Morrie Walworth  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

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By signing my name below, I am indicating my willingness to accept a LSSU Sabbatical Leave Award during the 2013-2014 academic year for two semesters, commencing fall 2013, if approved by the Board of Trustees. Furthermore, I acknowledge the following:

- a. I will not be offered any overload pay from LSSU while on sabbatical leave.
- b. Pursuant to FA contract item 15.4.6, upon my return from sabbatical, I will submit a written report in electronic form (available for posting) that outlines my sabbatical experience and achievements in keeping with the purposes for which the leave was granted.
- c. Sabbatical Leave Reports will be posted to the Provost web page.
- d. Possible reassignment of my academic student activities during the time of the sabbatical.
- e. If needed, agreement to share my LSSU office space with my replacement faculty during the period of my sabbatical leave (which is in alignment with 11.5 of the FA contract). There is no intent to do so at this time.

Signature of LSSU Sabbatical Leave Awardee

1-2-2013

Date

Copies to: Dean, Human Resources, Faculty Association



Kathy Berchem <kberchem@lssu.edu>

Admission Decision

1 message

Wed, Aug 1, 2012 at 3:37 PM



Dear Kathy,

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that the Rush University College of Nursing Admissions Committee has recommended your admission to the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. You have been chosen for admission from a competitive pool of applicants and I commend you on being selected. The faculty and I look forward to working with you as you undertake your nursing education at Rush University.

This communication constitutes your official acceptance packet with important information to read and forms to complete. Within the next few weeks you will receive a letter of acceptance from the Dean of the College of Nursing via US mail but the details of your acceptance are outlined in the letter and links below. Please read these documents carefully and complete and return all required forms by the dates indicated.

If you plan to apply for financial assistance through the Rush University Office of Student Financial Aid, please do so as soon as possible. As an applicant for aid you must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the Institutional Aid Application. Please include Rush University's school code (009800) on the FAFSA so that the results are automatically sent to the Office of Student Financial Aid. These forms can be found online at http://www.rushu.rush.edu/finaid/forms.html (1). Please be sure you are submitting your aid application for the correct academic year as the questions are updated annually. Questions regarding financial assistance should be directed to the Office of Student Financial Aid at (312) 942-6256 or Financial\_Aid@rush.edu.

Again, congratulations, and we look forward to you joining the future of nursing at Rush.

Mary E. Johnson, PhD, RN, PMHCNS-BC

Assistant Dean, Program Director for Specialist Education

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Confirmation Form and Fee

The confirmation form (the last page of this document) and fee must be returned to Rush University Office of College Admissions Services within 14 days of receipt of this email. A \$300.00 deposit must be included with this confirmation form. This fee is non-refundable, but it is applied toward your first term tuition. Receipt of the form on page 4 and confirmation fee is required to hold your seat in the class. A check or money order should be made payable to Rush University. Please send directly to Rush University Office of College Admissions Services at 600 South Paulina St., Suite 440, Chicago, IL 60612.

- For questions related to the Confirmation Form and Fee, please contact:

Vincent Gattuso at Vince\_Gattuso@rush.edu

Student Health and Safety Requirements for Post-Licensure Students

Certified Background.com (2) is the approved provider for health and safety data collection of students at the Rush University College of Nursing. CertifiedBackground.com is a service that allows students to order their own background check, drug test and upload immunization records and other documents online. Information collected through CertifiedBackground.com (2) is secure, tamperproof, and kept confidential.

Below you will find step by step instructions to process the information required by the College through CertifiedBackground.com. (2)

1. Go to www.CertifiedBackground.com and click on "Students."
2. In the Package Code box, enter the package code: RU671M



**LAKE SUPERIOR  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST**

**APPLICATION FOR SABBATICAL LEAVE**

*(Refer to Section 15.4 of the Faculty Association Agreement)*

I. Name Kathy Berchem Date 10-29-2012  
 Department Nursing Ext. No. 635-2043  
 Home Address [REDACTED] Home Phone [REDACTED]

II. Application for leave during the following (*indicate semester and/or year*):  
 Fall  Spring  Full Year F13 + S13

III. Number of years of faculty service (*minimum of 5 years required*) 7

IV. Year your tenure at LSSU was earned (*tenure required*) 2009

V. Semester or year of last sabbatical (*if applicable*)  
 (*minimum of 5 years since last sabbatical required*) none

VI. I agree to return to the University and to provide a complete written report (electronic) to the Provost upon the completion of my sabbatical semester(s) as denoted in section 15.4 of the Faculty Associate Contract.

K Berchem 10-29-2012  
 Signature of Faculty Applicant Date

VII. Signature of your Dean indicating his/her awareness of the application:

[Signature] 11/5/2012  
 Signature of Dean Date

- VIII. Attachments:  
 a. Title and Description of Sabbatical Project (Required and described on the next page)  
 b. Support Documents (Optional but strongly suggested)  
 c. Curriculum Vitae (Required)

Provost Office

NOV -7 2012

Lake Superior State University

## Title and Description of Sabbatical Project.

Provide a document that describes your proposed sabbatical activities. The document should include at a minimum the following components:

- *Project Abstract/Executive Summary:* A summary of the sabbatical project and outcome (150 word maximum).
- *Project Description:* A detailed description of the sabbatical project with the following sections:
  - *Introduction:* Provide an introduction to the topic/field of study.
  - *Background:* Provide information regarding previous work/activities related to the project.
  - *Outcome:* Describe the work to be completed and state the specific outcome(s) of the project. This section must address at least one of the following.
    - i. The strength of the relationship between the sabbatical leave proposal involving applied or theoretical research related to professional activities and the advancement of knowledge within disciplinary areas.
    - ii. The strength of the relationship between the sabbatical leave proposal involving an external, professionally-related experience/study in a business, industrial, health care, scientific or educational setting and the improvement of instructional/professional activities at the University.
    - iii. The strength of the relationship between the sabbatical leave proposal involving travel or advanced study and its yield in improving the quality of instruction at the University.
  - *Timeline:* Provide a timeline for the proposed project activities.



# LAKE SUPERIOR STATE UNIVERSITY

October 29, 2012

**Sabbatical Proposal**  
**Kathy Berchem**  
**School of Nursing**

## **Executive Summary**

My application for sabbatical for the AY 2013-2014 is based on my desire to pursue advanced education in my professional field. I have been accepted to RUSH University in Chicago, IL for their Doctorate of Nursing Practice program (Systems Leadership track) to begin January 2013. This advanced education opportunity will provide me with the tools to engage in a higher level of quality instruction for the students at LSSU. As this is a clinical doctorate that builds upon my clinical Masters from MSU, I am requesting that I be considered for sabbatical so that I may meet the clinical hours required by this program during fall 2013 to spring 2014.

## **Project Description**

### **1. Introduction**

Successfully integrating a complex new technology into a nursing curriculum that is steeped in decades of tradition and history requires a solid foundation of evidence-based reasoning. Nursing faculty and students will be faced with an evolving method of teaching and learning that will challenge them to think outside of traditional methods. The success of this learning will be greatly influenced by variable aspects that I hope to address in this doctorate program.

### **2. Background**

The use of simulation to augment nursing education has evolved into a critical element to the School of Nursing's ability to achieve its mission of graduating outstanding students who are ready and able to provide professional nursing services using theory and evidence based practice. The use of mechanical simulators provides a safe and interactive environment that simulates a variety of clinical situations that are not readily available in rural settings such as Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan.

The use of such technology requires its' integration into both our curriculum as well as into the teaching and learning methods of both our nursing faculty and students. I am a member of the Simulation Team from the School of Nursing who is partnering with War Memorial Hospital in the creation of a freestanding Simulation Education Center. This Center would be the foundation to the School of Nursing's vision to be a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education for the region.

The School of Nursing currently has one human simulator in its Skills Lab. I have integrated this simulator into case studies and application for NURS 212 Health Appraisal, the first course for nursing students when they are admitted to our program. Through this simulation experience, students are able to learn clinical skills in a safe environment, while also experiencing situations that they would otherwise not encounter.

While working through integration and application of this technology to the students learning, I realized how crucial the PROCESS of technology integration is to the learning success of both the students AND the faculty. This process will be the focus of my research proposal for my doctorate program.

### **3. Outcome**

Having a positive influence on the quality of instruction for LSSU is a paramount outcome of this proposal. By earning my doctorate, I will work through a project that addresses three issues:

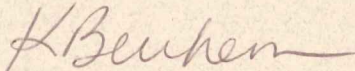
- a. The need for research addressing simulation integration into curriculums for both faculty and students.
- b. The needs of the School of Nursing to have in place a simulation integration plan.
- c. The need of our accrediting organization, the National League of Nursing (NLN), to have doctorate prepared nurses directing and teaching our curriculum.

### **4. Timeline**

I will be beginning this doctorate program January 2013 and be taking classes through December 2014. My capstone research project will be defended November 2014 after which I plan on successfully completing this program and earning my Doctorate of Nursing Practice.

The goal for beginning utilization of our Simulation Education Center is fall of 2013. Development of my clinical research project will be directly linked to the beginning and execution of operations at this center, as faculty will be integrating simulation into our curriculum to ensure success.

I appreciate the opportunity to apply for sabbatical for the AY 2013-2014. This would be a gift of time to be successful in my goal of achieving my Doctorate of Nursing Practice from Rush University. Granting me sabbatical for the AY 2013-2014 would be an investment into improving education and instruction at LSSU, and would strengthen the overall LSSU nursing graduate.



Thank you,  
Kathy Berchem  
Assistant Professor of Nursing  
[kberchem@lssu.edu](mailto:kberchem@lssu.edu)  
635-2043

## Kathy Berchem, MSN, RN, FNP-BC

██████████  
Sault Sainte Marie, MI 49783

Phone: ██████████  
Email: kberchem@lssu.edu

RN Licensure #: ██████████ – Michigan  
 RN Licensure #: ██████████ - Ontario  
 Nurse Practitioner License: ██████████ - Michigan  
 Nurse Practitioner license: ██████████ - Minnesota - archived

### EDUCATION and CERTIFICATION

<i>2013-2015</i>	<i>Enrolled in Doctorate of Nursing Practice, Systems Leadership program, Rush University</i>
<i>2000-2003</i>	<i>Master of Science in Nursing, Family Nurse Practitioner, Michigan State University</i>
<i>1993-1997</i>	<i>Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Lake Superior State University</i>
<i>1990-1993</i>	<i>Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, University of Windsor</i>
<i>Annually</i>	<i>Basic Cardiopulmonary Life Support (BCLS) Certified</i>
<i>2003-present</i>	<i>Family Nurse Practitioner Board Certified (FNP-BC)</i>

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*Jan. 2005 to present Assistant Professor of Nursing, Lake Superior State University*

Assistant Professors of Nursing are qualified experts, who do the following:

- conduct lectures and seminars in nursing
- maintain expertise (Continuing Education Units – CEU's), and licensure (biannually) in a rapidly evolving profession
- provide community service, including consulting functions (such as advising government and nonprofit organizations)
- teach campus-based or online courses
- mentor and train novice academics
- Off-campus clinical instruction and coordination
- Student advising of up to 50 students

*May – Aug (2008 & 2009) Family Nurse Practitioner, Primary Care Sports Medicine, P.C.*

Primary Care Sports Medicine P. C. provides primary care to all ages from childhood to elderly. My responsibilities included:

- Patient medical education
- Comprehensive patient assessment
- Evaluation and treatment
- Prescribing pharmacological agents and medication management

*Mar. 2004 – Dec. 2004 Cardiac Nurse Practitioner, Minneapolis Heart Institute*

The Minneapolis Heart Institute® is recognized internationally as one of the world's leading providers of heart and vascular care. This state-of-the-art facility combines the finest in personalized patient care with sophisticated technology in a unique, family-oriented environment. My responsibilities included:

- Patient and staff critical cardiac medical/surgical education
- Patient History and Physicals
- Prescribing pharmacological agents and medication management
- Diagnosing cardiac critical care pathologies
- Responding to critical cardiac patient emergencies
- Daily patient clinical cardiac management
- Outpatient cardiac care management

*May 2003 – August 2007(part-time/per Diem) Family Nurse Practitioner, Petoskey Family Medicine*

Petoskey Family Medicine provides the highest level of care in Family Medicine to healthy and ill patients of all ages. My responsibilities included:

- Patient and staff medical education
- Comprehensive patient assessment
- Evaluation and treatment
- Prescribing pharmacological agents and medication management
- Walk-in/urgent care clinic

*Jan. 2007- Oct. 2007 Family Nurse Practitioner, Community Care Clinic War Memorial Hospital*

The Community Care Clinic is located at War Memorial Hospital and serves the community of Sault Sainte Marie, MI. Urgent care is the delivery of ambulatory care in a facility dedicated to the delivery of medical care outside of a hospital emergency department, usually on an unscheduled, walk-in basis. Urgent care centers are primarily used to treat patients who have an injury or illness that requires immediate care but is not serious enough to warrant a visit to an emergency room. My role at this clinic included:

- Urgent patient assessment and treatment
- Prescribing pharmacological agents
- Wound care including suturing
- Episodic health patient teaching

*Jul. 1997-Nov.2002 Registered Nurse, McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital, Petoskey, MI*

McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital provides comprehensive, compassionate care close to home through a full spectrum of Health System Services, health screenings, educational programs and clinical trials. My responsibilities included:

- Assessment and care of medical surgical, oncology and critically ill cardiac patients
- Charge Nurse
  - Unit staffing
  - Patient placement management
- SWAT nurse



- Safe transport of the ICU patient to diagnostic procedural areas. The patients would receive continuous monitoring and treatment throughout the transport and procedure.
- Provide physician-ordered conscious sedation including pre- and post-procedure assessment and monitoring.
- Advanced patient care and transportation needs with highly skilled personnel and teamwork, SWAT nurses ensure continuity and quality of care, a safe transport environment and a high standard of professionalism.

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## **COURSES TAUGHT**

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### **NURS 212 Health Appraisal**

This course serves as an introduction to the nursing assessment and analysis component of the nursing process as a method of determining a well individual's health potential and status across the lifespan. Emphasis is on obtaining and documenting a health history, performing a nursing assessment and beginning to formulate a nursing diagnosis.

### **HLTH 232 Pathophysiology**

Study of physiological alterations in the body which disrupt homeostasis. Integrates anatomy, physiology and biochemistry into framework for studying disease. Core content provides understanding of mechanism and principles of disruptions of health. Emphasis on clinical correlations and physiological basis for common disorders.

### **HLTH 209 Pharmacology (both online and in-classroom)**

Study of basic concepts of pharmacology and their relationships to health care. Drug metabolic processes are described providing foundation for clinical judgments about drug actions, reactions and interactions.

### **PNUR 201 Medical-Surgical Practical Nursing**

This course focuses on nursing care of the adult client experiencing common stressors affecting health. Emphasis is placed on the administration of medications, collection and communication of relevant data, and implementation of basic nursing interventions.

### **HLTH 329 Women's Health Issues**

Developed the curriculum and taught for the first time at LSSU in Fall 2011.

This course explores the diverse health needs of women across the life span. Students are encouraged to take an active participation in identifying topics of interest. Social, cultural, political, economic, legal and ethical issues are analyzed for their influences on women's health and the health care women receive.

### **BIOL 122 Human Anatomy and Physiology II**

Taught during 6 week session in Summer 2012

The second half of the Human Anatomy and Physiology sequence emphasizes the endocrine system, cardiovascular system, lymphatics and the immune response, respiratory system, digestive system, urinary system and the reproductive system. Laboratory experiences are coordinated with the lecture discussions.

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**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**


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	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
<b>School of Nursing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Affairs (Chair)</li> <li>• Learning Resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Affairs (Chair mentor)</li> <li>• Learning Resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning Resources (Chair)</li> <li>• Student Affairs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcomes</li> <li>• Learning Resources (Chair Mentor)</li> <li>• Simulation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Affairs (Chair)</li> <li>• Learning Resources</li> <li>• Outcomes</li> <li>• Simulation</li> </ul>
<b>University</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum</li> <li>• Higher Learning Commission Accreditation</li> <li>• Distinguished Teacher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher Learning Commission Accreditation</li> <li>• Retention</li> <li>• Online Learning</li> <li>• Distinguished Teacher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Education</li> <li>• Faculty Association Executive</li> <li>• Distinguished Teacher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty Association Executive</li> <li>• Distinguished Teacher</li> <li>• Teaching and Learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distinguished Teacher</li> <li>• Parents of the Year</li> <li>• MAP Works Steering</li> </ul>

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**PROFESSIONAL HONORS**


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May 2011 Guest Speaker Lake Superior State University BSN Graduation Ceremony

May 2010 Guest Speaker Lake Superior State University BSN Graduation Ceremony

2010 Golden Anchor Award – Lake Superior State University

2007-2008 Distinguished Teacher of the Year – Lake Superior State University

2008 Golden Anchor Award – Lake Superior State University

May 2005 Guest Speaker Lake Superior State University Practical Nursing Graduation Ceremony

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**PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**


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*Breast Cancer Basics (November, 2012)*. Presentation to residence dorm female students at Lake Superior State University.

*Young Women's Health Issues (February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011)*. Presentation to residence dorm female students at Lake Superior State University.

*Let's Talk Breast Cancer (October 24, 2011)*. Presentation to freshmen students at Lake Superior State University.

*Teaching Practices and Procedures (2009)*. Presentation to new faculty at Lake Superior State University's orientation program. Topics included: syllabus standards, schedules, office hours, academic integrity policy, and absences/sick leave.

*Pharmacological Aspects of Treating Patient's with Cardiac Disorders (2009 and 2010)*. Invited guest lecturer for HLTH 209 Pharmacology students.

*Health Careers Exploration (2008)*. Oral presentation and interactive demonstration for 40 High School students from the Chippewa county community.

*Respiratory Assessment in Chronically Ill Patients (2007)*. Invited oral presentation to Registered Nurses in the Chippewa county community with demonstration and evaluation.

*Patient Health Risks and Safety in the Home Environment (2006)*. Invited guest lecturer for Fundamentals of Nursing students.

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## PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

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Berchem, K. (2010). Nursing care of Patients with Heart Failure. In L. Williams & P. Hopper (Eds.), *Understanding medical surgical-nursing (4<sup>th</sup> ed., Ch. 26)*. Philadelphia: FA Davis

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## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

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National League of Nursing  
 American Nurses Credentialing  
 Michigan Council for Nurse Practitioners  
 National Council for Nurse Practitioners  
 Ontario Nurses Association

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## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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Community Health Access Coalition (CHAC) Free Clinic in Sault Sainte Marie, MI  
 Women's Health Blood Pressure Clinics in Sault Sainte. Marie, Ontario, Canada

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## CONTINUING EDUCATION

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*Cardiovascular Pharmacology*: April 2012

*Cancer in Women*: Western Schools. April 2012

*Designing a Simulation Center*: (NLN program). February 2012

*Using Simulation to Teach Nursing Health Assessment*: October 20, 2011. Webinar

*Emerging Technologies in Nursing Education*: August 2-4, 2010. Boston, MA

*Teaching Pharmacology: Simplify Not Mystify*: August 4-5-6, 2009. Chicago, IL

*Boot Camp for Nurse Educators*: July 25-28<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Albuquerque, NM

*Teaching and Learning in Web-Based Courses*: Certificate program. Summer 2008. Online.

*Diabetes: The Diabetes and Obesity Connection*: April 2008. Traverse City, MI

*Pain Management: Character & Quality in Patient Care*. October 27, 2005. LSSU Honor Society of Nursing's Fall Education Conference. NLN. Sault Sainte Marie, Ontario, Canada.

*Nursing Legal & Ethical Issues in the 21st Century*. April 2006. Jodi Orm, RN, BSN, CLNC. LSSU Honor Society of Nursing. Sault Sainte. Marie, MI.