

CURRICULUM VITAE
JOHN ABDIRKIN, MD

October, 2018

Office Address

St. Thomas University
Carnival Cruise Lines, Room 123
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Miami Gardens, FL 33054
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EDUCATION

GRADUATE:

- 1988 *Medical School:* **Doctor of Medicine and Surgery**
UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA
School of Medicine and Surgery
Bologna, Italy
- 1988 *Thesis:* *"Psychological Aspects of Stress In*
The Rehabilitation of Cardio-Vascular Disease
and Treatment"
UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA
School of Medicine and Surgery
Bologna, Italy
- 1977 *Language Study:* **Certificate, Italian Language and Culture**
UNIVERSITY OF PERUGIA
Foreign Language Institute
Perugia, Italy

UNDERGRADUATE:

- 1977 *Collegiate:* **Bachelor of Science in Biology, Honors**
Program (Minor – Chemistry)
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
Syracuse, New York

Additional Medical Studies, 1978 – 1992: Rush Presbyterian Medical Center, University of Miami,
University of Siena, Gestalt Therapy Institute, Columbia University, Hofstra University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

On the *undergraduate level*, I have taught courses in the Natural and Physical Sciences including **Biology, Anatomy, Neuroanatomy, Physiology, Ecology, Bioregions, Microbiology, Pharmacology, and Chemistry**. In addition, I am qualified and certified to teach on-line classes. I piloted and designed a **General Biology** class, which is taught completely on-line for the natural science general education requirement and is available in a blended format also. I adapted **Bioregions** to the on-line format and developed an on-Line **Medical Terminology** course for the Nursing Program and Pre-Medical/Professional Majors as well as a course in **Medication Calculations**. I have facilitated, taught and adapted the **Senior Capstone course** for graduating Biology Majors in an online format. I team-taught an inter-disciplinary course: **Environmental Science and Environmental Politics**. Recently, I incorporated professionally recorded, video modules of my lectures into the curriculum of General Biology for Non-majors, which are accessible to students in Canvas. On the *graduate level*, I have taught courses in Education including **Environmental Science, and Methods of Teaching Science** and, in Management I developed and taught a seminar in **Health Services Administration**. I have taught **Pharmacology** in the Graduate Master of Science Degree Program.

1996 – present

ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY, Miami Gardens, Florida

2005 – present: (Full) Professor of Biological Sciences

2001 – 2004: Associate Professor, Biological Sciences

1996 – 2000: Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences

2016 – 2018

Converted Medical Terminology, General Biology, and the Senior Capstone Course in Biology, all completely into online platforms

HOT CHALK ONLINE EDUCATION with ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY

2014 – 2016: Professor of Biology, Institute for Education

Content and Methods of Teaching Science

MATER ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL, Hialeah, Florida

2014 – 2016: Professor of Biology, Advanced Placement Program

Principles of Biology I

1994 – 2000

BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Davie, Florida

Adjunct Professor, Chemistry, Department of Physical Sciences

Adjunct Professor, Biology, Department of Natural Sciences

1994

BARRY UNIVERSITY, Miami Florida

Visiting Professor, Neuroanatomy, Occupational Therapy Program

1994

BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Davie, Florida

Professor, Anatomy and Physiology, Department of Natural Sciences

1993 – 1994

BROWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE, Davie, Florida
Professor, Chemistry, Department of Physical Sciences

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

My most significant administrative work is the establishment and ongoing direction of a Nursing Program for St. Thomas University which leads to a BSN degree conferred by the University of Miami. With enrollments of 20 + students per semester, efforts were centered on recruitment to expand the program and increase academic success. Additional administrative projects I have undertaken have centered on the attainment of goals and outcomes related to the various grants in which I have participated. These outcomes have assisted elementary, secondary and post secondary-level teachers in enhancing program development by introducing up-to-date technology into the classroom, establishing best teaching strategies, enhancing instructional delivery and by introducing effective research practices in curriculum development as a means to promote improved student learning and participation as well as an awareness of environmental issues and the ability to comprehend and master math and science.

2018 - present

Student advisement and registration of class schedules for the subsequent semester. Includes 30-minute appointments to review student progress, assess career goals, verify students are on track in their chosen program of study, and input individual classes in Self Service program. Advise 30 students

2017 - present

Complete Student Tracking reports (Starfish) for all students, in all classes who are not succeeding academically during the semester. The purpose is to remediate and retain at-risk students. In addition, calculate midterm grades making them available on Webadvisor

2017

Terminated the “2 + 2” Joint BSN Degree Program with the University of Miami after being involved for over 16 years with this endeavor. Fifty (50) students earned their BSN degrees and graduated from the University of Miami. Taught out remaining students and guaranteed their entrance and matriculation to UM.

2013 – 2016

Nursing Program Director, School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management

2010 – 2012

Program Director, School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management and Coordinator, “2 + 2” STU/UM Joint BSN Nursing Degree Program

2007 – 2010

Program Director, School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management, Coordinate pre-professional and nursing programs, including marketing and recruitment

2006 – 2009

Coordinator, articulation agreement with Florida International University School of Nursing and Health Sciences

2002 – 2007

Director, “2 + 2” Joint Nursing program with the University of Miami, School of Nursing

2002 – 2008

Supervisor of a full complement of Work Study students for the Biology and Chemistry Laboratories

2000 – 2005

Assistant to Department Chair in developing Four Year Academic Plans, Scheduling Annual Fall and Spring Courses, Faculty Schedules, Overloads, Identifying and Interviewing Adjunct Faculty

1998

Director, SAFE program (Study Abroad for the Earth) in Assisi, Italy

1996 – 2006

Facilitator and Representative of Pre-Medical Society

GRANTS

2014

Project Coordinator, Summer Research Internship Program (SRI) to oversee the development of two patient scenarios (*Ventricular Fibrillation* and *Congestive Heart Failure*) and the intervention of an emergency crisis (*Nerve Agent Attack*). Undergraduates learn to operate, and program the computer driven simulator and its processors. A CERT team was assembled to demonstrate the use of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), triage strategies, antidote administration and decontamination practices in a nerve gas attack. A short film was produced to serve as a safety standard in managing a medical emergency crisis and incorporated into the University’s Emergency Management Program. The project culminated with a manual, which contains seven (7) laboratory exercises in a 116-page booklet (with a 7-page introduction) and is accompanied by a 30 page Instructor’s Manual and Operator’s Guide.

2013

Project Coordinator, Summer Research Internship Program (SRI) to develop a course in cybernetic training at STU. “*Best Practices*” were identified to conduct physical assessments and medical examinations on patients in clinical settings. The SimMan 3-G Virtual Essential mannequin was utilized to train undergraduate students in performing palpation, auscultation and percussion techniques. In addition, a scenario in the treatment and management of respiratory distress was created. This work was organized into a 64 page Clinical Manual with an Operator’s Guide.

2012

Project Coordinator - funding from various STEM Grants allocated by the Dean of the School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management provided \$10,000 to retrofit a designated area into a well outfitted, technologically advanced hospital suite for the SimMan Virtual Simulator. A headboard with oxygen, carbon dioxide and various other outlets was installed, in addition counters, nightstands, bedside tables, drapes, IV-drips, examination lighting, foldout computer stands, and video monitoring were installed. The equipment provides a controlled environment to prepare students with hands-on clinical training.

2011

Project Coordinator for a \$75,000 donation from the Hugoton Foundation, which provided the funding to purchase a SimMan 3-G Essential Virtual Simulator. Several training workshops were included and conducted by Laerdale educators. This enabled student assistants and faculty to learn the skill sets necessary to assemble the mannequin, operate the software user interface, and plan instructor-based program scenarios.

2010 – 2011

Participant, Title V Transformational Leaders. Exploration and encouragement of transformational leadership in faculty support of student retention and achievement. Involved attending ten training workshops, participated in the teaching of academic survival skills, mentored 15 students and prepared a plan to implement in the School of Science and Technology regarding faculty role and value in student retention, advisement and achievement.

2009 – 2010

Participant, Granny Grant. The measurement of minority grandparent caregivers' (incarcerated or absent parents) health status and mental-health/stress indicators provided a baseline assessment of community needs and services. Subsequently a plan was implemented for the development of community-based, culturally appropriate interventions to overcome racial/ethnic health disparities.

2009 – 2011

Participant, College Cost Reduction and Access Act for Hispanic Serving Institutions (CCRA). This grant involved the creation of a four-year cooperative student services system in science and math based on research based learning. Converted STU courses and descriptions in discipline to coincide with the Florida State numbering system (SCNS) by providing the appropriate documentation, including a curriculum review.

2007 – 2008

Participant, Project Success, U. S. Department of Education award of \$1.5 million to St. Thomas University and its partners at Miami Dade Public Schools and Palm Beach County Public Schools. The goal of this endeavor was to improve the conditions of learning and instruction of limited English proficient (LEP) students and bridge the academic gap that presently exists between them and their mainstream peers. Activities were focused on best research practices in curriculum development and methods of instructional delivery in math and science.

2006 - 2007

Co-Investigator, Nurse Education Practice and Retention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, HRSA Grant. A collaborative effort between St. Thomas University and

the University of Miami to expand enrollment in the BSN degree program. The proposal addressed student retention, the nursing shortage, care for the underserved and provided career counseling and mentoring to minority students. Funded in 2007.

2006 - 2007

Co-Investigator, Mayor's Initiative on Aging (MIOA) Research Project, Miami-Dade County. The goal of the Mayor's Initiative was to foster healthy lifestyles among the elderly and reduce the risk of disease with the assistance of public and private partnerships. This study measured the effects of two interventions, physical exercise and health education, on seniors' overall health and well being. The objective was to assess the value of ten sessions of health education and low-intensity exercises for elderly persons.

2005

Co-Author, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Association) FY 05 – 06 Grant. Virtual Simulation in Nursing and Medical Education. Wrote proposal to purchase two SimMan® which are anatomically accurate mannequins used to train and assess physicians and nurses. The proposal included an introduction and rationale for simulation education, and outlined several features SimMan® is capable of performing. It also discussed the advantages over conventional techniques, learning outcomes, assessment, and a budget.

2004

Co-Author, Title VIII, Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant (NWD), U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Federal funding was requested to increase nursing education opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds (including racial and ethnic minorities underrepresented among registered nurses) by providing student scholarships or stipends, pre-entry preparation and retention activities. St. Thomas University requested \$ 273,000 in order to increase diversity in the nursing workforce.

2003 – 2004

Co-Author, North Dade Medical Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund. STU was awarded \$1.5 million from the NDMF to establish an endowment fund to provide scholarships in perpetuity for nursing students in the Joint Nursing Program. These scholarships are offered to those academically qualified students at St. Thomas University in need of financial assistance. This endowment provides a minimum of \$75,000 annually, which yields \$4,000 scholarships each, for 18 students.

2003 – 2004

Project Initiator, Tenet Healthcare Foundation Grant. STU requested \$1 million for the “2 + 2” Joint Nursing Program with UM. The overall goal of this project was to recruit qualified students from varied environments into STU's nursing program and successfully prepare them for employment in South Florida by providing them with scholarships and support programs (mentoring, tutoring) to ensure their success. These funds would have been used to administer and market the program, and create a summer workshop to recruit high school students interested in a nursing career. \$800,000 would go directly into an endowment fund for scholarships for nursing students from diverse backgrounds.

\$200,000 was to be utilized to jump-start the program including an online tutoring program to maximize student success.

2003 – 2004

Co-Author, NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Association) FY 03 – 04 Grant. \$51,000 of the total funds (\$900,000) appropriated by NASA have been utilized to enhance the Biological Sciences. Laboratory equipment was purchased for General Biology, Physiology and Anatomy to provide more hands-on experiments for the undergraduate majors. The goal was to develop the scientific and technological abilities and interests of minority and other students at STU, giving them NASA related skills for success in graduate school and the workplace. Newly acquired human anatomical models and supplementary material allow students to more effectively measure the dynamic nature of the musculo-skeletal system and the cause-effect relationships of lever systems. The study of respiratory patterns and endurance, along with the effects of external stimuli encourage students to pursue space flight research in human physiology. A mini-server allows for related educational software and various learning resources to contribute to student success.

2003 – 2004

Consultant, MARC U-STAR undergraduate training grant with the National Institute of Health. STU proposed to establish a “Minority Access to Academic Research Program”. The primary objective of this program was to stimulate interest within under-represented minority students to pursue a career track in biomedical research. Establishment of this program would increase the pool of talented students who are able to compete for admission to top graduate programs leading to a PhD or MD/PhD degree. This proposal was for \$1.4 million over 5 years.

2002 – 2003

Author, Conducting Computerized Physiology Experiments in the Second Millennium as part of the FIPSE (Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education, U. S. Department of Education), and NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Association) Grants totaling in excess of \$1 million. A portion of these funds (\$125,000) have been utilized to purchase computerized laboratory assemblages with performance data acquisition systems designed to conduct medical school-level laboratories. The award was also utilized for the infrastructure of the new Science and Technology building which is outfitted with state-of-the-art instruments interfaced with computer technology.

2002

Collaborator, National Science Foundation Grant, “Course Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI).” The increasing impact on technology has necessitated the reconfiguration of the traditional biology curriculum. The purpose of this project was to meet those challenges by assessing National ongoing undergraduate programs in Biotechnology, and explore the feasibility of such programs at STU.

2000 – 2001

Consultant, Science Team, U.S. Department of Education Matching Grant, Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to use Technology (PT3). This project was awarded over \$1.2 million for the period 2000 – 2002.

2000

Participant, Title V Grant (awarded \$1 million over 5 years) that dealt with technology and was implemented through STU's Medallion capacity building of new technology. Included faculty training to teach Web-enhanced courses.

1997 – 2000

Consultant, South Florida Annenberg Challenge Grant, Project Past/Present Environmental Awareness and Knowledge (PEAK). \$33.4 million over 5 years to improve student achievement in Dade County Public Schools through innovative programs and partnerships.

1996 – 1997

Co-Author of Collaborative for Excellence in Elementary Teacher Preparation in Mathematics, Science, and Technology (HEC Region 6 Grant), which was awarded \$17,000 with the opportunity for annual renewal. This program improved pre-service teacher performance with hands-on problem solving.

RECENT UNIVERSITY SERVICE

In my University Service, my knowledge in curriculum development and enhancement as well as my organizational skills has been utilized through my participation on numerous committees convened to evaluate and further improve the quality of academics at the University. This includes my ongoing assistance to the School of Science Technology and Engineering Management and the former Department of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Sciences as a coordinator and initiator of a myriad of projects.

1996 – 2018 *ST. THOMAS UNIVERSITY*

COMMITTEE WORK

2018 – present

Committee to introduce a BA degree in Natural Sciences (includes 30 credits in the sciences)

2017 – present

Academic Freedom, Contracts, Rank and Tenure Committee, Member

2016

Committee to hire a Nursing Director for the 4-year STU Nursing Program, Member

2014 – 2018

Quality Enhancement Program Committee (QEP), Member

2014 – 2016

Diversity Subcommittee of the STU Mission Committee, Member

2013 – present

Laboratory Safety Committee, Member

2013 – 2014

Pre-Professional and Pre-Health Committee, Member

2010 – 2013

Compensation and Welfare (Faculty Forum), Member

2010 – 2011

Search Committee to hire a Dean for the School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management, Member

2009 – 2016

Financial Aid Appeals Committee, Member

2009 – 2010

Scholarship Committee, Member

2008 – 2010

Student Relations Committee (Faculty Forum), Member

2007 - 2008

Summer Program, Marketing and Recruitment Committee, Member

2006 - 2007

Peer Review Board for Women Moving Forward, Member

2006 - 2007

Student Affairs Committee of the Faculty Forum, Member

2006 - 2007

Search Committee for PhD faculty position in Biological Sciences and Research, Member

2006 - 2008

Corporate Involvement Committee, Member

2006 - 2007

Council of Undergraduate Studies, Member

2005 – present

Nursing Scholarships Disbursement Committee, Member

2004 – 2006

Search Committee for Laboratory Supervisor and Research Biologist, Member

2003 – 2016

Blue Cross/Blue Shield Nursing Coalition for Endowed Scholarships, Member

2002 – 2003

Academic Policy Committee (APC), Chair

2002 – 2016

Admissions Review Committee (ARC) to review prospective undergraduate applicants, Member

2002 – 2008

Committee to Plan Infrastructure for Carnival Cruise Lines Science and Technology Building, Member

2001 – 2005

Academic Policy Committee (APC), Member

2001 – 2004

Search Committees for Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science and Mathematics Instructors, Co-Chair

2001 – 2003

Biotechnology Committee, Member

2001 – 2002

Committee on Social Activities, Faculty Forum, Coordinator

2001 – 2002

Committee to Revise Biology Minor, Chair

2000 – 2002

Rank, Welfare and Compensation Committee, Member

1999 – 2004

Committee to Develop Four Year Academic Plans, Schedules, and Policies for Biology Majors, Co-chair

1998 - 2002

Committee to Explore a Biotechnology Major at STU, Member

1998 – 2000

Environmental Studies Committee, Member

1998

Search Committee for Laboratory Supervisor, Member

1997 – present

Committee to Revise Biology, Chemistry and Science Course Descriptions, Chair

1996 – 2002

Premed Faculty Committee, Member

1996 – 2007

Committee to improve Laboratory Efficiency and Productivity, Member

1996

Academic Vision Team Coordinator, Biology and Chemistry Committees, Chair

1996

Committee for the Development of a Five Year Degree Program for Biology and Chemistry Majors, Member

1996

Committee on Psychology Focus Areas in Health and Neurological Psychology, Member

1996

Coulter Scholarship Recruitment Committee, Member

SPECIAL PROJECTS

2018 – present

Lead Mentor/Coach of the Dual Enrollment Degree Programs in Biology. Duties include requesting and reviewing 16 syllabi from all DE instructors teaching biology courses (Principles of Biology I and II, Anatomy and Physiology, Ecology, and Marine Biology) in the local high schools. Confirm that the SLOs and other standard policies/practices such as assessments, textbooks, exams, grading policies are represented in DE courses. Attend lessons at the High Schools and evaluate the DE instructors. Meet and communicate with mentees for the purpose of collaborating in academic endeavors in the discipline

2018

Defined the SLO (Student Learning Outcomes) for the GER (General Education Requirements) in General Biology, BSC 1005 (formerly SCI 106) for the 5-year SACS review. Included exam results, grades, trends in academic progress and a review and comparison over 4 years of teaching the course. Changes were made to accommodate student learning outcomes and assessments

2017 – 2018

Participated in training workshops for the Canvas Learning Platform with the Director of Research and Institutional Effectiveness.

2017

Involved with the opportunity to initiate a joint Pharmacology degree with Larkin. The purpose was to offer a “3 + 3” BS to PharmD program to educate and prepare students in Pharmacology. Students would graduate STU with a BS degree in Health Science while simultaneously entering the PharmD program at Larkin. A draft flight plan of the curriculum at STU was developed by the Dean

2017

Solicited by Provost to assist in establishing an association to offer a Master's in Public Health degree with Larkin. Reviewed curriculum in three concentrations: Health and Education, Population Health and Epidemiology. Wrote the curriculum for Epidemiology

2016 – 2018

Redefined grading rubric for the Quality Enhancement Program currently employed to assess student writing. The scope was broadened to encompass writing across all disciplines as well as capstone courses. A new category, research skills was incorporated for writing in intensive courses. Intended writing goals and outcomes were formulated. Grade student writing assignments (7-8 per term) every year for the duration of the grant following the established grading matrix

2015 - 2016

Assisted Dr. Simunek, the first Director of the 4-year STU Nursing Program, in writing recruitment pamphlets for Graduate programs in Nursing.

2014

Participated as a judge in the Biotic/Robotic Contest sponsored by the Yeager Foundation

2013

Presentation documenting the success of the "2 + 2" Joint Nursing Program over the past 9 years to the North Dade Medical Foundation, Florida Blue, student scholarship recipients, Development Administrators and President of the University. This included a 24-slide PowerPoint presentation to highlight endowment yield rates, scholarship amounts awarded, significant donors, enrollment trends, retention rates, graduation rates, demographics, performance on National Boards, employment rates, major employers, and role of virtual simulation.

2012

Developed prototype for General Education Learning Outcomes in the Natural and Physical Sciences to meet SACS requirements. The outcomes were established to demonstrate excellence, proficiency, adequacy or limitations in the subject discipline (General Biology and Bioregions) with measureable assessments.

2010 - 2011

Analyzed nursing program data (High School GPAs, SAT scores, remedial class enrollments, overall student performance at STU, attrition rates, acceptance rates to UM, BSN graduation rates), from 2003 to 2010 to determine the academic level required to succeed in the program (student profile). Subsequently, the nursing program was reorganized and restructured. The goal was to achieve an exclusive cohort of 20 exceptional students who were offered full scholarships. Admissions criteria were re-defined (3.5 HS GPA, 500 on both Math and Verbal SATs). The pre-nursing program was terminated and no longer will transfer students from other colleges be admitted into the program. Highlights of the 25-page report that resulted from the study were presented to several administrators at the university receiving widespread acclaim and support. A marketing campaign was launched to attract qualified students (Radio - Power 96, Pay-per-click, Miami Herald and Google).

2008 – 2009

Designed and wrote text for the narrated PowerPoint presentation (30+ slides) on the “2 + 2” Joint Nursing Program / STU and UM which provided an introduction of the curriculum, requirements and frequently asked questions about all aspects of the partnership. Served as a marketing and recruitment tool.

2008

PowerPoint presentation (36 slides) to showcase the comparative study which demonstrates the synchronous linkage between secondary and post secondary education in Biology: *“Aligning and Bridging Concepts and Curriculum between High School Biology and First Level University Biology.”*

2008 – 2016

Regular updates to the text and graphics of the BSN/UM Nursing Degree three-fold printed brochure

2006 – 2007

Assisted in creating an interdisciplinary minor in Bio-Medical Communications in response to growing demands for better communication in health promotion, the medical field, and scientific discovery.

2004 – 2008

Managed and coordinated 6 - 7 biology laboratory sections per week which required the supervision of a staff of 2 - 3 instructors and 4 student assistants. Provided all laboratory materials to instructors together with quizzes, exams, laboratory reports and detailed instructions and training for each traditional and computerized experiment conducted during the year. Standardize laboratories, problem solved, dealt with student issues and directed the entire operation.

2004 - 2014

Organize Annual Nursing Awards Ceremony in recognition of the ten graduating classes who successfully completed the program.

2004

Participated in the Hope College Visit to STU to discuss the design of the Science Building, Summer Internships and Science Curriculum.

2003 - 2010

Demonstrated sophisticated computer laboratory systems in biology for guests of the President and Office of University Advancement. These were intended to showcase our laboratory capabilities for public relations and potential benefactors.

2003 - 2016

Maintained website for STU/UM Nursing Program: [STU/UM Joint Nursing Program](#)
Included landing page, curriculum, entrance requirements, program information, etc..

2001

Revised and delivered narration during the processional at Commencement Ceremony explaining the customs and traditions of the graduation ritual.

2001

Lead a Developmental Technology Session involving the virtual dissection of a fetal pig at STU's "Take Our Children to Work Day."

2000 – 2008

Organized and sponsored on-campus workshops and seminars with Stanley Kaplan (to prepare students for the MCAT exams), the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy (to promote their scholarship entitlements), Ohio College of Podiatric Medicine, and Foreign Medical Schools (Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara, University of St. Eustatius, Ross Medical School, St. Martinus, and American University of the Caribbean).

2000 – 2004

Organized Department Advisement Workshops, which were conducted regularly each term to provide more clarity and ease during the registration period. Included the establishment of new guidelines and policies for the Science and Math Faculty.

2000 – present

Participant in Freshman Orientation Programs providing new students and their families with information related to academics and campus life at STU.

1999 – 2005

Ongoing assistance to pre-medical students by arranging and facilitating their acceptance into the Summer Medical Education Program (SMEP), a national academic enrichment program that helps promising, highly motivated students gain admission to medical school. SMEP prepares students for the competitive medical school admission process by providing free (full tuition, housing, and meals) six-week summer medical school preparatory programs.

1996 – 1997

Coordinator of bimonthly guest lecture series on Health and Wellness Issues ("John Abdirkin Presents"), ten speakers. This program was noted for expanding students' scientific and occupational awareness.

RECENT COMMUNITY SERVICE

My recent Community Service has revolved around promoting the benefits of further education to a population of at-risk youth involved in a federally funded program designed to foster independent living. These programs emphasize lifelong and value-orientated education, which is part of St. Thomas University's mission. In addition, I have been active in several fund raising projects to treat children with AIDS.

2015 – 2016

Elected and served as the President of Quail Run of Sunrise Unit Three Association, Inc., Sunrise, FL

2011 – 2016

Support A Child is Missing Alert Program which links law enforcement nationwide with the early search of missing children, the elderly, college students, and disabled individuals

2008 – 2014

Secretary Of Condominium Executive Board, for Quail Run of Sunrise, Unit Three Association, Inc.

2006

Collaborator, Community Advisory Board (CAB) with the University of Miami for the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (MCMHD) Center of Excellence for Culturally Tailored Hispanic Health Disparities Research (CTHHDR). The Center is dedicated to advancing the scientific development of interventions that address three areas of health that affect Hispanic-Americans: substance abuse, HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted illness, as well as family and intimate partner violence.

2004 – present

Support the Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center (CDTC) Sunflower Circle of Friends in a variety of fundraising events, which financially benefit the program to treat children with life threatening illnesses, and other health care needs, Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

2004 – 2006

Participated in the Comprehensive Family Aids Summer Camp Program (CFAP) by preparing campers (shopping for clothes and supplies) for the weeklong retreat to Texas, and assisted in their departure and arrival at the Ft. Lauderdale Airport.

2004

Sold beverages at St. Stephen's AIDS Outreach Ministry at their annual Arts and Crafts Fair in Coconut Grove, Miami, FL. A portion of these proceeds benefited families of the Comprehensive Family Aids Program (CFAP) at the CDTC in Ft. Lauderdale.

2002 – 2003

Sold entrance tickets to the Annual Red Balls in Ft. Lauderdale. 100% of the proceeds (\$14,000 in 2003) directly benefit children living with AIDS.

2003

Sold raffle tickets at the grand opening extravaganza of ZOO 14 in Ft. Lauderdale, benefiting children with AIDS. All proceeds (\$3,500) were donated to the Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center Inc. (CDTC) in Ft. Lauderdale, which is a private not-for-profit agency, affiliated with the North Broward Hospital District.

2001 – 2002

Sponsored, Nature Conservancy (Water for Our Future Forum Program) on water issues and solutions addressing South Florida's water supply, water resource management and Everglades' restoration challenges.

1999 – 2002

Volunteer Mentor, Independent Living (Florida Department of Children and Families). This program provided foster care youth with the opportunity to continue their education while simultaneously promoting independent living in their own apartment settings. Routine home visits monitored a youth's mastering of the skills needed to become independent.

1999 – 2001

Sponsored, Everglades Restoration Project, a partnership between the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the National Audubon Society Conservation Office (NASECO).

1997

Instructor, Educational and Enrichment Outreach Program within Dade County Public Schools to improve Math and Science skills of elementary students (Toussaint L'Ouverture Elementary School).

1994 – 1996

Spearheaded special Broward Community College "Science for Kids" outreach program involving high impact experiments to heighten middle school students' awareness of science. This project served in excess of 400 students over 15 weeks and received enthusiastic response.

VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL OF MIAMI

1991

Assistant to Doctors during weekly Psychiatry Grand Rounds and, In-patient Case Evaluations. This included conference reports on individual diagnostic and therapeutic plans.

SOCIETAL MEMBERSHIPS

Nursing Consortium of South Florida
National Association of Advisors for the Health Professions (NAAHP)
BioFlorida (Biotechnology and Bioinformatics)
National Science Teachers Association
American Institute of Biological Sciences
American Association for the Advancement of Science
National Association of Biology Teachers (NSTA)
University of Bologna Alumni Association for Foreign Medical Graduates

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

SOLE AUTHOR

Abdirkin, John, M.D., **Almost Painless Biology**, Sixth Edition, Hewell Publishing, 2722 North Josey Lane, Suite 100, Carrollton, Texas 75007, Copyright 2014

Abdirkin, John, M.D., **Chemistry with Ease**, Fifth Edition (2006), Ron Jon Publishing, Inc., Texas, Copyright 2000

STUDY GUIDES (non-published)

The following study guides and laboratory reports (which are revised annually) are distributed to students at the beginning of each term:

SOLE AUTHOR

Abdirkin, John, **Study Guide and Lecture Outline for Principles of Biology I**, (112 pages), 18th Edition, 2015

Abdirkin, John, **Study Guide and Lecture Outline for Principles of Biology II**, (156 pages), 20th Edition, 2018

Abdirkin, John, **J A Laboratory Reports for Biology Laboratory I**, (118 pages), 9th Edition, 2007

Abdirkin, John, **J A Laboratory Reports for Biology Laboratory II**, (117 pages), 8th Edition, 2008

Abdirkin, John, **Study Guide and Lecture Outline for Human Anatomy**, (136 pages), 19th Edition, 2018

Abdirkin, John, **J A Laboratory Reports for Human Anatomy Laboratory**, (146 pages), 19th Edition, 2018

Abdirkin, John, **Study Guide and Lecture Outline for Physiology**, (114 pages), 20th Edition, 2018

Abdirkin, John, **J A Laboratory Reports for Physiology Laboratory**, (154 pages), 18th Edition, 2018

Abdirkin, John, **Study Guide and Lecture Outline for Bioregions**, (91 pages), 8th Edition, 2008

RESEARCH

Abdirkin, J., Torino, F., Rodriguez, A., Martin, A., Zwachte, E., Del Risco, J., Valentin, D., Busch, A., Moreno, G., and Hopping, J., (May 2013 - September 2014) **Physical Assessment and Clinical Patient Scenarios - Simulated Laboratories to Instruct Clinical Techniques** (Including Inspection, Palpation, Percussion and Auscultation of the Lung, Heart, Bowel, Integument and Eye; Respiratory Distress; Ventricular Fibrillation; Congestive Heart Failure; and Nerve Agent Attack). A 116-page manual accompanied by a 30-page instruction manual and operator's guide (including data table answer keys and answers to exercises).

Abdirkin, J., and Torino, F., (2012, May - September) **Physical Assessment Training and Medical Examination Techniques using a SimMan 3-G Essential Virtual Simulator**, Summer Research Internship Program (SRI), St. Thomas University.

Best training practices were identified to perform clinical exams on vital organs utilizing inspection, palpation, auscultation and percussion. In addition, a patient scenario was crafted to illustrate the treatment and management of respiratory distress. A 64-page Clinical Manual for cybernetic medical training was developed accompanied by a 20-page Operator's Guide to program the processors.

SPONSORED RESEARCH

Borkowski, N., Abdirkin, J., and Song, S., (2007, May) **Mayor's Initiative on Aging**, the Office of Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez. – An exploratory, community-based study was conducted to determine if a multi-faceted short-term health promotion program was effective in engaging and retaining older people in health promotion activities. Research was partially funded by the Heath Foundation of South Florida, Inc., VISTA Health Plans, American Heart Association – South Florida Chapter, and Dade Community Foundation. Preliminary results were presented by invitation, at the Florida Department of Elder Affairs' 5th Annual Best Practices Exchange Conference in Orlando, FL., on February 6, 2007.

ARTICLES

SOLE AUTHOR

Abdirkin, John, M.D., (2004) **The 2 + 2 Joint Nursing Program: St Thomas University/University of Miami.** (Feature Story) **Vital Signs** 14 (3) February (pp. 6 and 28).

Abdirkin, John, M.D., (2005) **St. Thomas University/University of Miami '2 + 2' Joint Nursing Program.** (Feature Story) **South Florida Hospital News** 1 (9) April (pp.28).

PRESENTATIONS

2015

Presentation to Admissions Officers, Deans, and Provost regarding the entrance criteria and justification for freshman matriculation into the 2 +2 Joint BSN Nursing Degree Program (with the University of Miami) and the BSN Nursing Degree Program being initiated at STU for freshman and transfers.

2014

Abdirkin, J., Del Risco, J., Busch, A., Moreno, G., and Hopping, J., (accepted/poster presentation abstract). *Virtual Simulation Training To Improve Auscultation Skills and Study Cardiac and, Respiratory Pathology.* 6th Annual Undergraduate Summer STEM Research Symposium, September 19, 2014.

2013

Abdirkin, J., Torino, F., Rodriguez, A., Valentin, D., and Del Risco, J., (accepted/poster presentation abstract). *An Exploration Through Virtual Simulation of a Nerve Gas Agent*

Attack and, Treatment of a Patient Using SimMan. 5th Annual Undergraduate Summer STEM Research Symposium, September 20, 2013.

2012

Abdirkin, J., and Torino, F., (accepted/poster presentation abstract). *An Exploration Through Virtual Simulation of Critical Care and, Diagnosis of a Patient Using SimMan – Morphine Overdose Scenario.* 4th Annual Undergraduate Summer STEM Research Symposium, September 7, 2012.

2011

PowerPoint Presentations of Nursing Report – *Restructuring the “2 + 2” Joint Nursing Program* to: Dean of Enrollment, Associate Provost, Chief Marketing Officer, Dean of Academic Resources Administration, Dean of School of Science and Technology, Director of Academic Enhancement Services, Vice President for University Planning and Enrollment, Vice President of University Advancement, Marketing and Communications, Director of Financial Aid, Associate Director of Career Services and Title V Retention Committee.

2007

Borkowski, N., Abdirkin, J., & Song, S. (accepted/poster presentation abstract). *Can a Multi-faceted Short-term Health Promotion Program be Effective in Engaging and Retaining Elderly Adults in Health Promotion Activities?* Academy Health’s 2007 Annual Research Meeting, June 3 – 8, 2007.

2006

Presented an outline of St. Thomas University’s role in conducting research for the MIOA (Mayor’s Initiative on Aging). Lead conversation on how subject’s health status and physical limitations would be measured and analyzed. Also explained the components (health education, physical exercise, and nutrition classes) of the 10 weeklong studies.

2004

Presenter of the *Institutional and Sponsor Collaboration Model to Solve the Nursing Shortage: St. Thomas University, University of Miami, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield Educational Partnership* at the Second Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) Nursing School Dean’s Conference and at the Florida Hospital Association (FHA) Educational meeting.

2004

Presented an overview of the *Nursing Program* to the Board members of the North Dade Medical Foundation, which eventually lead to an endowment of \$1.5 million to St. Thomas University for nursing scholarships.

2004

Presented the *Nursing Program* to classes at Stranahan High School (Broward County Magnet School).

2004

Conducted a seminar about the *Nursing Program* for the Guidance Counselors of Broward County.

2003

Presentation about the *Nursing Program* to CAP Advisors from Dade County which included a question and answer session.

2002

Guest Lecturer for Education Department on *Effects of Genetics, Endocrinology, and Environmental and Social Factors in the Determination of Sexual Orientation*. The presentation also included “frequently asked questions and answers” and an open forum.

1998

Guest Lecturer in Psychology on *Neurotransmitter Substances, Their Function and Mechanism of Action*. This also included a question and answer session.

1998

Presentation to Annenberg Grant participants concerning the University’s contribution and participation towards the *Environmental Awareness Project*.

1997

Guest Lecturer for Premed Club on *Medical School in Italy*.

HONOR, AWARDS, and DISTINCTIONS

2018

Invited to participate in the Italy program, 2019 as an instructor of Bioregions, chaperone, and guide

2016

Appointed by the Interim Dean to serve as the liaison between the School of Science and the Institute of Nursing

2016

Invited to serve as the Associate Dean of the School of Science, Mathematics and Engineering Management by the Interim Dean

2016

20 years of service to St. Thomas University. Recognition by the President, Senior Staff and Board of Directors commemorating this anniversary

2014

Medical Terminology, General Biology and Bioregions online Blackboard courses selected as best examples of effective online teaching at STU to showcase design, quality learning opportunities, content, strategic teaching, and instructional delivery by the E-Learning Task Force

2012 – 2014

Certificates of Appreciation for outstanding leadership and excellent mentorship of students in Summer Research Internship programs (SRI) 2012, 2013 and 2014 presented by Dean, School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management.

2012 - 2014

Dean's overall evaluation rating for the academic years 2012, 2013 and 2014: Exceeds expectations in teaching, service and research. Overall score total 10/10.

2012

Recognized by Director of the University Writing Center for a double-digit increase (14%) in writing sessions attended by nursing students.

2011

15 years of service to St. Thomas University. Recognition by the President, Senior Staff and Board of Directors commemorating this anniversary.

2010

Dean's overall evaluation rating for the academic year states, "Dr. Abdirkin exceeds the expectation of a faculty member at the university. His dedication to teaching and administration of the nursing program are especially commendable."

2010 - 2012

Recognized as the faculty member who did the most work with FIRST and STAR tracking systems for retention for consecutive academic years

2009

Acknowledged by Monsignor Casale for strengthening the nursing program and guiding students successfully to the University of Miami

2007

Appointed Program Director, School of Science, Technology and Engineering Management, St. Thomas University

2007

Certificate of Appreciation and commemorative plaque from Mayor Carlos Alvarez, May 23, 2007 for the Research Component of the Mayor's Initiative on Aging

2007

Certificate of Appreciation from Dean Guiyou Huang for judging the Marking Undergraduate Scholarship Excellence Writing Contest (MUSE Award)

2007 – 2010

Interim Dean's overall evaluation rating for the academic year indicates, "All areas considered, Dr. Abdirkin exceeds the expectations of a faculty member at the university."

2006

Faculty Development Award (\$2,000) for research with the elderly population, Miami-Dade County, St. Thomas University

2005

Advancement to the Rank of Full Professor of Biology, St. Thomas University

2005

Selected to participate in the 5th Cohort of the Title V Federal Grant: Electronic Portfolio Development and Instruction

2005

Under the E-Portfolio Title V Grant, chosen to teach students the technology to create and maintain an electronic portfolio

2004

Appointed Program Coordinator of the Nursing Program

2002 – 2003

Appointed Chair of the Academic Policy Committee

2002 – 2012

Multiple-Year Honoree nominated by honor students as an “outstanding teacher” and recognized nationally in “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers”. Published in yearly editions.

2002

Chosen Head of the Nursing Program

2001

Advancement to the Rank of Associate Professor, St. Thomas University

2000

Chosen to co-direct the Italy Program for 2001

2000

Received National Collegiate Medical Professions Award (NCMPA)

2000

International Mission on Medicine, Certificate of Nomination

1999 – 2005

Acknowledged by Department Chair for outstanding work and service to the Department of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computer Sciences

1997

Chosen to direct the Italy Program for 1998

1997

Appointment to full-time faculty position as Assistant Professor of Life Sciences, St. Thomas University

1995 – 1996

Nominated for Professor of the Year, Broward Community College

1993 - 1994

Nominated for Professor of the Year, Broward Community College