



The Population Health Award

MUSC's success during the COVID-19 pandemic can be attributed, in part, to **Frederick Nolte, Ph.D.**, and his vast experience in virology. Nolte's expertise and reasoned actions made it possible for MUSC to be one of the first institutions in the U.S. to go live with COVID-19 testing in March 2020, just two weeks after the World Health Organization declared the global pandemic. Nolte was for a key innovator in MUSC's rapid development of testing for COVID-19 and more recently for the sequencing of viral genomes to identify new variants of the virus circulating in South Carolina.

Nolte received a Ph.D. in medical microbiology at The Ohio State University, then completed a postdoctoral fellowship in public health and medical laboratory microbiology at the University of Rochester. He has a long and highly recognized national profile for his work in molecular microbiology and laboratory medicine as evidenced by his publication of 122 peer-reviewed articles, 8 non peer-reviewed papers, 10 practice guidelines, and 27 book chapters. Further, he is a leader in the Association for Molecular Pathology and the recipient of the Diagnostic Virology Award given by the Pan American Society for Clinical Pathology.

He was recruited to MUSC in 2007 to be Director of Clinical Laboratories and worked tirelessly to serve MUSC's physicians and patients. He retired in July 2021 and is now professor emeritus. During his time at MUSC, he was widely recognized as the "go to" person for questions regarding molecular microbiology and multiple other areas of laboratory medicine. MUSC received national and international recognition due to Nolte's work. As evidence, the Association for Molecular Pathology, which is the premier global molecular diagnostic professional society, selected Nolte as the Chair of their COVID Response Steering Committee in 2020. This group worked to create the standards for COVID-19 testing to ensure quality results.

Under Nolte's leadership, the microbiology and molecular pathology labs at MUSC have performed over 378,000 COVID-19 tests, with at least 74,000 from underserved areas, as of March 2021. In addition, Nolte and his team supported 475 mobile testing events across all 46 counties of South Carolina, despite challenging circumstances, including supply and personnel shortages. From his laboratory to the national community, Nolte was a strong force of reassurance for COVID-19 testing throughout the pandemic.

His hard work and high standards had a direct impact on the quality of service delivered by MUSC. For his profound impact on the university community and the citizens of South Carolina over his remarkable career and during a time of crisis, the Medical University of South Carolina Foundation presents the Population Health Award to Frederick Nolte, Ph.D., on August 17, 2021.