

Wisdom, Words & Women

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MSU's Award Worthy Women 2015-2016

Additional MSU Award Worthy Women of 2015-2016 will be recognized in the May edition of the MSU Women's Resource Center newsletter. Congratulations Spartans! Go Green, Go White!



Eat Pomegranate Photography

Holly Rosen *Inspirational Woman of the Year Award: Culture of Empowerment*

Lauren Dietz

Holly Rosen is the director of MSU Safe Place, and this year's recipient of the Inspirational Woman of the Year Award in the Culture of Empowerment category. Holly has been the director of MSU Safe Place, a program that addresses relationship violence and stalking on campus, since its creation 22 years ago.

Having already been working in Lansing in the field of gender-based violence for 13 years, Holly played an important role in establishing MSU Safe Place in 1994.

Holly was excited to move to a university setting, **hoping to enact change** to the culture on campus. She also looked forward to the opportunity to have varying levels of intervention around domestic violence and sexual assault issues at the university.

Holly loves that this award's central focus is being placed on inspiration. An enormous aspect of her job involves her being inspired by the clients she works with, the student interns she advises, MSU Safe Place volunteers, and her colleagues around Michigan State University. The idea of herself receiving this award for inspiring others was really touching. **It was a great reminder to her that inspiration truly does flow both ways.** Holly has been working in this field for over 30 years now and, although she is passionate about justice, what truly keeps her going is this endless inspiration from all the people she works and interacts with. She is honored to have received this award and is happy that she can inspire and empower others.

To Holly, her job is not work. **It is an opportunity to seek justice and to help make the world a better place.** This is her philosophy in all aspects of her work, whether she is with a client, an intern, assisting in system change, or doing community outreach work. She also sees great value in relationship building in her field of work. Holly loves the opportunities she has been given to work with interns and shape other young women to think about the societal issues that require much needed change.

It is common for people to make assumptions about individuals working in the field of gender-based violence. They presume you are either a former victim yourself or they label you as a feminist, often with the negative connotation of hating men. While Holly believes that some of these assumptions have changed since she began this work over 30 years ago, she remains proud to be a woman working to end gender-based violence. She loves when men are allies to women in this field and she continually encourages them to stand up and join the fight.

With anyone involved in this field, Holly stresses the importance of having strong boundaries between work

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Dr. Ade Olomu
*Community Engagement
 Scholarship Award*

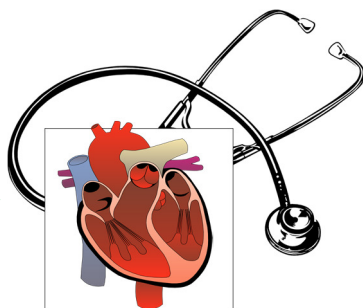
Maggie Chesbrough

Dr. Ade Olomu was first attracted to the field of medicine by her innate passion to help her community and to help those who may not have the resources and the ability to access safe and reliable health services.

She has practiced medicine in three different continents including, Africa, Europe and North America; she has therefore learned to interact with patients from different cultural and economic backgrounds. She is able to relate to a wide variety of patients and provide them the best clinical care. However, what continues to drive Dr. Olomu to succeed and empower others within her field of study is her desire to educate and her understanding that research is necessary in order to create change and improve the lives of many. Dr. Olomu has been on the faculty in the Department of Medicine, College of Human Medicine at Michigan State University for 15 years where she has focused her attention on closing the gap in cardiovascular care for minority and low-income populations and eliminating healthcare disparity.

Dr. Olomu is a member of the Executive Committee, a member of the Advisory Council and currently serves as the Vice Chair for Research in the Department of Medicine at Michigan State University. She is also the Director of the Office-GAP Program, which aims to improve care and health outcomes for cardiovascular and diabetic patients in Federally Qualified Health Care Centers in Michigan. She is a member of the Society of General Internal Medicine (SGIM) Disparity Task Force, which works to continue the Society focus on Disparities in Health and Healthcare. Outside of academics, Dr. Olomu is a caring wife and mother of five sons, two of whom are also in the field of medicine. Her husband, Dr. Nicholas Olomu, is a Neonatologist in the Department of Pediatrics and Human Development, College of Human Medicine, Michigan State University. They are blessed with five grandsons.

As a woman in the field of Medicine, Dr. Olomu works hard and remains dedicated to her passion for research. She successfully balances her work load of inpatient/outpatient clinical care with her responsibilities of being a Michigan State University faculty member and the necessity to conduct research in order to advance knowledge and improve the quality of health care. Dr. Olomu said, "Whatever you do, be dedicated, be hard working, and give the community something to aspire to!"



**Dr. Dànienne
 Nicole DeVoss**
*William J. Beal
 Outstanding
 Faculty Award*

Megdi Abebe



Dr. Dànienne DeVoss is one of the William J. Beal Faculty Award recipients. How do you learn to send a Tweet? Who taught us how to manage our Instagram profiles? In what way do digital spaces change our way of communication? While some people may not necessarily think about this while they are updating their Facebook statuses, these are the types of questions that are typically on the mind of Writing, Rhetoric and American Culture's Professional Writing professor and digital media enthusiast, Dr. Dànienne DeVoss.

After completing her doctorate at Michigan Technological University in Rhetoric and Technical Writing, DeVoss began to focus on how to maintain strategy in such a constantly changing field. Since social media is always defining and re-defining platforms, it can be difficult to teach students how to write for digital platforms, without being too comfortable in writing for today's growing media. Her research brings her to questions such as, "How do we teach students writing practices that transcend specific media? What if six years ago we offered a class on 'Myspace writing'? What could students do with that right now?"

DeVoss is very invested in helping students understand how important it is to be adaptable in today's world. This is more than just a class lesson, but something she herself diligently follows and can personally relate to—while working on her Ph.D., the World Wide Web was beginning to form and this fueled drastic changes in academia and industry. This introduction of the web had inspired her to look away from the standard understandings of writing and rhetoric, which mostly comprised of studying print, alphabetic texts, and study something else—something new.

"Fifty years ago we were primarily newspaper and broadcast television driven and people were mostly consumers of information. Now, here is this moment in time where more people are sharing and creating information and that became much more compelling than looking at a tiny group of select authors," DeVoss said. DeVoss certainly stays busy. She is currently working on writing two books, with one focusing on the significance of digital and physical spaces and how that affects particular learning environments for students, whether it is creative or very technical, and the other about how typography impacts rhetorical arguments. She also does a lot of work on copyrights and intellectual property, which helps keep students mindful when curating assignments and other creative processes.

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