About the Author

Mercy Ngosa Mumba, PhD, RN

Mercy Ngosa Mumba is an award-winning scientist and philanthropist. She is a published author in peer-reviewed scientific journals, and her research is widely funded by various agencies, including the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She is an Associate Professor in the Capstone College of Nursing at The University of Alabama. She graduated with her PhD from the University of Texas at Arlington College of Nursing and Health Innovation in December 2016 and with her honors bachelor of science in nursing in December 2010.

Her research focuses on substance use disorders, addictive behaviors, and their comorbid mental health conditions, including depression and anxiety. She is particularly interested in the impact of social determinants of health and the role of health disparities in preventing, treating, and managing these conditions. Mumba is passionate about improving the human condition through evidence-based initiatives and interventions and is a strong advocate for increasing research productivity, infrastructure, and human capital globally. She is personally involved in many initiatives that improve healthcare outcomes and promote holistic wellness and quality of life among individuals and communities. Because of Mumba's exceptional research productivity, she gained tenure and was promoted from Assistant Professor to Tenured Associate Professor in a record-breaking three years. She has $12 million in grant funding. She is principal investigator on studies supported by over $5 million of extramural funding, including from the National Institutes of Health.

As an educator, she enjoys transferring knowledge to the next generation of nurse clinicians, nurse educators, nurse leaders, and nurse scientists. She is especially grateful for the opportunity to mentor the next generation of scientists, regardless of discipline and profession. She is an exceptional researcher, and her intraprofessional research lab at The University of Alabama is home to several undergraduate and graduate honor students from various professions and disciplines, including nursing, medicine, biochemistry, psychology, public health, social work, engineering, and education. She has worked collaboratively with and mentored high-achieving students for almost 10 years. She believes that mentoring has benefits for both the mentor and mentee because it invigorates passion for inquiry and discovery.

Mumba is also a passionate servant leader who believes in the power of advocacy to effect policy changes that result in positive population outcomes. She serves on many boards and committees internationally, nationally, and locally, including the International Organization of African Nurses, Lovebound International, the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, the Southern Nursing Research Society, and Sigma Theta Tau International. She believes in giving back to the profession of nursing through service, scholarship, and mentorship. Professional engagement and service make Mumba's work worthwhile and allow her the opportunity to interact with people from all walks of life from around the world.