OMB No. 0925-0001 and 0925-0002 (Rev. 03/2020 Approved Through 02/28/2023)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES.**

NAME: Cohen, Susanna R.

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): SUSANNACOHEN

POSITION TITLE: Associate Professor (Clinical) of Nursing, & Adjunct Associate Professor (Clinical) of Obstetrics and Gynecology

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)

| INSTITUTION AND LOCATION | DEGREE  (if applicable) | Completion Date  MM/YYYY | FIELD OF STUDY |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| University of California – Davis | B.S. | 06/2001 | Community and Regional Development |
| University of California - San Francisco | R.N. | 06/2004 | Nursing |
| University of California - San Francisco | M.S.N. | 06/2006 | Nurse Midwifery, CNM |
| University of Utah | D.N.P. | 12/2014 | Nursing |

**A. Personal Statement**

**I am founder and director of the LIFT Simulation Design Lab at the University of Utah, College of Nursing where I also practice as a Nurse Midwife. I am an Associate Clinical Professor, a global leader in simulation and experiential learning, and an implementation science researcher. Over the last 15 years I have collaborated globally to ensure that evidence-based use of simulation learning and team-training are accessible, affordable and scalable. I am the** co-founder of the non-profit PRONTO International, which offers transformative trainings that catalyze providers to make individual, team, and systems changes. I am a global expert in the field of low-tech, high-fidelity simulation, team communication, facilitation, debriefing and curriculum development. I am the co-designer of the PartoPants™ (low-tech birth simulator) and of the PRONTOPack™ (simulation training package), which have been used in over 20 countries – at academic institutions, rural clinics and hospitals, and nursing and nurse-midwifery education programs – to train healthcare teams to respond efficiently and empathetically to emergencies at the time of birth. Together our program has trained over 7,000 front line workers and 1,500 simulation facilitators and master trainers. I believe strongly in the train-the-trainer model to build workforce capacity and ensure scalability and sustainability. The most recent focus of my work has been on supporting facilitators in maintaining their teaching and simulation skills. In addition to my current work, I designed and integrated 3 simulation courses into the midwifery and women’s health nurse practitioner program at the University of Utah, and collaborate on the interprofessional maternity ward team-training program, and on statewide initiatives for postpartum hemorrhage and hypertensive disorders.

**In my early career I focused on the support of individuals living with HIV and AIDS, including time spent in Santiago, Chile in my formative years as a college student. This project brings together that experience with over a decade of work in simulation and team-training in low-resource settings around the globe. I have developed curriculum and training programs that have been used across Africa in Kenya, Namibia, Ethiopia, Uganda, Mozambique, Madagascar, Niger, Nigeria, Ghana, and Malawi. In addition, I have worked intensively on projects in Mexico, Guatemala and India, demonstrating successful collaborations across borders, cultures and languages. As an MPI on this project, I will provide leadership in the community based participatory process to design a simulation training that is realistic, contextual and engaging, and I will work with my colleagues to ensure a robust evaluation of the training. I have worked intensively with Dr. Watt on the conceptualization, design and planning of this grant with daily contact and bi-weekly meetings. In addition, since her arrival here at the University of Utah, we have collaborated on a number of committees on global health activities at the university.**

**B. Positions and Honors  
Positions and Employment**

1999- 1999 Intern, Organization for HIV/AIDS Prevention, Santiago, Chile

2001 – 2002 HIV Case Manager/Prevention Educator, CommuniCare Health Clinic, Woodland, CA

2002 – 2002 HIV Program Coordinator/Case Manager, CommuniCare Health Clinic, Woodland, CA

2002 – 2003 Health Education Programs Supervisor, CommuniCare Health Clinic, Woodland, CA

2004 – 2007 Registered Nurse, SFGH Options Clinic, San Francisco, CA

2005 – 2006 Teaching Assistant, UCSF/SFGH Nurse Midwifery Program, San Francisco, CA

2006 – 2007 CNM, Migrant Clinicians Network Fellow, Hudson River Health Center, Peekskill, NY

2007 – 2007 Research Assistant, Instituto Nacional de Salud Publica, Cuernavaca, Mexico

2007 – 2010 Instructor (Career Line), CNM, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

2008 – 2009 Master Trainer, Institute of Public Health, Mexico, Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico

2009 – Present Consultant, Curriculum Development. Master Trainer and Board Member, PRONTO

International, Seattle, WA

2009 – Present Interprofessional Education Faculty Facilitator, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

2010 – 2015 Assistant Professor (Career Line) CNM, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

2011 – 2014 Interim Director, Nurse Midwifery/Women’s Health Nurse Practitioner Program, University

of Utah, College of Nursing, Salt Lake City, UT

2011 – Present Chair, Health Sciences Center, IPE Faculty Facilitator Subcommittee, Salt Lake City, UT

2012 – 2017 Co-Chair, University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics, PPIC: Team Training Subcommittee, Salt Lake City, UT

2013 – Present Vice President, PRONTO International, Seattle, WA

2014 – Present Faculty Advisor, University of Utah Center for Latin American Studies, Salt Lake City, UT

2015 – Present Associate Professor (Career Line), Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM), University of Utah,

College of Nursing, Salt Lake City, UT

2017- 2020 Senator, Academic Senate, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

2018 Fellow, American Academy of Nursing, Washington, DC

2019 Fellow, Academy of Health Science Educators, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

**2019 – Present** Senate Executive Committee, Academic Senate, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

**2019 – Present** Dean Search Committee, College of Nursing Dean, Salt Lake City, UT

2019 – 2020 Vice Division Chair, HSBC Division, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT

**Other Experience and Professional Memberships**

2001 – 2003 Volunteer, Sutter Davis Hospital, Bilingual Doula, Birth support during labor

2005 Student Representative, American College of Nurse-Midwives

2005 – Present Member, American College of Nurse-Midwives

2006 Member, Sigma Theta Tau International

2007 – Present Member, BirthCare HealthCare, Nurse Midwifery Full-scope practice

2008 – Present Member, Society for Simulation in Healthcare

2008 – Present Member, The Int. Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning

2009 – 2010 Member, College of Nursing, Simulation Learning Center Advisory Committee

2011 – 2014 Member, University of Utah, Clinical Doctorate Committee. DNP Scholarly Projects

2011 – Present Committee Member, Health Sciences Center, University of Utah, IPE Steering Committee

2012 - 2017 Member, American College of Nurse-Midwives, Global Division, Education Section

2012 – 2017 Member, University of Utah Hospital, Perinatal Process Improvement Committee

2013 – Present Founding Board Member, PRONTO International

2014 – 2018 Member, United States Midwifery Education, Regulation and Association

Workgroup, US MERA: Direct Assessment in Midwifery Task Force

2015 – 2018 Member Utah AIM State, Safety Bundle Committee

2016 – Present Member, USAID, Postpartum Hemorrhage Community of Practice

2017 – 2018 Member, Saving Children’s Lives, American Heart Association, Re-Design Task Force

2017 – Present Member, P&E Committee, Academic Senate, University of Utah

2018 – Present Member, American Nurses Association

2018 - 2020 Member, Presidential Anti-Racism Task Force, University of Utah

2019 - Present Member, Utah Women’s and Newborn Quality Collaborative Committee, State of Utah

2020- Present Member, One-U Thriving Anti-Racism Committee, University of Utah

2020- Present Member, Simulation & Experiential Learning Committee, Health Science, University of Utah

**Honors**

2000 Community Service Award, University of California, Davis, CA

2001 Mary Regan Meyer Prize for Academic Excellence and Community Service,

University of California, Davis, CA.

2001 Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, University of California, Davis, CA.

2001 Departmental Award, University of California, Davis, CA

2006 Sigma Theta Tau International, AE Chapter, University of California, San

Francisco, CA

2011 Non-Research Article of the Year, Journal of Clinical Simulation in Nursing

2011 Outstanding New Practitioner, College of Nursing Faculty Practice, University of

Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah

2016 Best Practice Innovator Excellence Award, International Nursing Association for

Clinical Simulation and Learning (INACSL)

2017 Hayden Vanguard Award, International Nursing Association of Clinical and

Simulation Learning.

**C. Contributions to Science**

1. **Invention of Hybrid birth simulator and curricular framework for simulation and team-training in any-resource settings.** In 2008 there were limited options to bring simulation learning to a global audience. I led the invention of the PartoPantsTM, a low-cost hybrid birth simulator that a simulated patient actor wears to simulate childbirth and obstetric complications (e.g. postpartum hemorrhage, shoulder dystocia, and eclampsia). This simulator has made high-quality training possible in low-resource settings where it is most needed and has been used to train over 7,000 providers in more than 15 countries. Subsequently, my doctorate project was the PRONTOPackTM, which contains the materials and curriculum necessary to empower front-line nurses to bring simulation and team-training to their own facilities in a low-cost and sustainable manner. In 2012, I co-founded PRONTO International, a non-profit organization that develops, implements and evaluates “innovative training strategies that act as a catalyst for health care providers to make individual, team, and systems changes.” (www.prontointernational.org). Through these efforts I have spearheaded, in a sustainable, ethical, and scalable way, the use of simulation for quality improvement and person-centered care around the world.
   1. **Cohen, S. R.**, Cragin, L., Risk, M., Hanberg, A., Walker, D. M. (2011). PartoPants*TM*: The high fidelity, low-tech birth simulator. Clinical Simulation in Nursing, 7*(1)*, e11-18. doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecns.2009.11.012. Winner, Non-Research Article of the Year.
   2. **Cohen, S. R.**, Walker D. M., Wong, B., Cragin, L. (2012). Self-efficacy change with low-tech, high-fidelity obstetrical simulation training for midwives and nurses in Mexico. Clinical Simulation in Nursing, 8*(1)*, 15-24. doi: 10.1016/j.ecns.2010.05.004
   3. Fahey, J. O., **Cohen, S. R.**, Holme, F., Buttrick, E. S., Dettinger, J. C., Kestler, E., Walker, D. M. (2013). Promoting cultural humility during labor and birth: Putting theory into action during PRONTO obstetric and neonatal emergency training. Journal of Perinatal & Neonatal Nursing, 27*(1)*, 36-42. PMID: 23360940
   4. Afulani, P.A., Dyer, J., Calkins, K., Aborigo, R.A., Mcnally, B., **Cohen, S**.R. (2020). Provider knowledge and perceptions following an integrated simulation training on emergency obstetric and neonatal care and respectful maternity care: A mixed-methods study in Ghana, Midwifery, 85. PMID: 32114318.
2. **Implementation and Evaluation of low-tech high-fidelity simulation in low-resource settings. The use of a new learning technology should be substantiated by evidence that it is worth the investment as it brings about provider knowledge and skill development and ultimately that it can change systems and improve patient outcomes. I am** a leading partner in an interprofessional, multinational team which collaborates on implementation research in low-resource settings and has successfully brought simulation and team learning to frontline providers, changed health policy and improved birth outcomes and the quality of care in multiple nations. Our research has found that this style of training impacts clinical and behavioral skills, respectful patient-centered care, and patient outcomes including neonatal mortality.
   1. Walker, D. M., **Cohen, S. R.**, Fritz, J., Olvera-Garcia, M., Zelek, S. T., Fahey, J .O. Romero-Martinez, M., Montoya-Rodriguez, A., Lamadrid-Figueroa, H. (2016). Impact evaluation of PRONTO Mexico: A simulation-based program in obstetric and neonatal emergencies and team training. Simulation in Healthcare, 11*(1)*, 1-9. PMCID: PMC5367503
   2. Afulani, P.A., Aborigo, R.A., Walker, D., Moyer, C.A., **Cohen, S**., Williams, J. (2019). Can an integrated obstetric emergency simulation training improve respectful maternity care? Results from a pilot study in Ghana. *Birth*, 1-10. DOI: 10.1111/birt.12418. PMID: 30680785
   3. Vail, B., Morgan, M., Spindler, H., Christmas, A., **Cohen, SR**., Walker, DM. (2018). The power of practice: simulation training improving the quality of neonatal resuscitation skills in Bihar, India. *BMC Pediatrics,* 18:291PMCID: PMC6122678
   4. Ghosh, R., Spindler, H., Morgan, MC., **Cohen, S.R.,** Begum, N., Gore, A., Mahapatra, T., Walker, D. (2019). Diagnosis and management of postpartum hemorrhage and intrapartum asphyxia in quality improvement initiative using nurse-mentoring and simulation in Bihar, India*. PLoS One, 14(7).* PMCID: PMC6611567
3. **Integration of Simulation and Experiential learning into statewide healthcare initiatives and application of experiential learning for challenging ethical and healthcare dilemmas. The LIFT simulation design labs engages local, state and international partners in the integration of experiential learning into research, implementation programs and other initiatives. I have consulted and designed simulation for use by the family Planning Elevated program (FPE) in their Utah state implementation of no-cost contraception at qualifying clinics; the Utah Women’s and Newborn Quality Collaborative (UWNQC), on a birth transfer project with a live streamed multi-site simulation that started with a hemorrhage in a birthcenter, followed care through ambulance transport and hospital resolution. This project brought about systemic change at the local fire department level and is in the process of nationally in the way that calls from midwives are filtered through 911 dispatch; the introduction of simulation and the PRONTOPACK for all hospitals in the State of Utah participating in the AIM Obstetric Safety Bundles; and the use of simulation in the training of healthcare providers, birthworkers and police officers in the identification of implicit bias and the repair of cultural ruptures and microaggressions in the workplace and with clients. Much of this work has been presented nationally and internationally and publications are being drafted.** 
   1. **Cohen, S.,** Baayd, J. Breeze-Harris, H., Handu, S., Heins, Z., Vincent, D (2020). Super Divya: Using superheroes to support simulation facilitators. International Meeting for Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH), San Diego, CA.
   2. **Cohen, S**., Baayd, J. (2020). Transfer simulations to improve teamwork during community birth. International Meeting for Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH), San Diego, CA.
   3. **Cohen, S.,** Baayd, J., Tao, K. (2019). What just happened here? How simulation training can help providers learn to identify and resolve microaggressions in the workplace. International Meeting for Simulation in Healthcare (IMSH), San Antonio, Texas.
   4. **Cohen, S.R.** Human – Centered simulation: Tracing Innovation back to our roots. (2017). International Nursing Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning’s (INACSL) Hayden Vanguard Lecture, Washington, DC.

**Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:**

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/1jSpp0jM5bjYDO/bibliography/public/>

**D. Research Support**

**Ongoing Research Support**

N/A Cohen (Co-investigator) 11/1/2020 -10/31/2021(expected)

Johnson & Johnson Maternal Health QuickFire Challenge

PROTNOSTAT: Obstetric simulation and team-training for Emergency Department and EMS Providers

The goal of this study is to design, pilot and conduct preliminary evaluation of a simulation and team-training program in obstetric emergencies for interprofessional teams in the Emergency Departments and EMS in rural communities in the US where maternity services are not available.

Role: Co-investigator, curriculum design, program design, implementation planning, training, and evaluation

N/A Cohen (PI) 07/01/2020 -06/30/2023

Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation

Project ARIISE: Addressing Racial Inequities through Interprofessional Simulation and Experiential Learning

The goal of this study is to design, pilot, evaluation, and scale-up a simulation and experiential learning program for interprofessional students, trainees, fellows, and faculty. In the third year of the program we will produce a train-the-trainer for other institutions.

Role: Principal Investigator, curricular design, monitoring and evaluation, facilitator, trainer.

N/A Cohen (PI) 11/01/2019 – 02/28/2021

Department of Family Planning, SOM, University of Utah

Simulation Training for Provider and System Assessment for Family Planning Elevated Sites

The goal of this study was to pilot and then implement a simulation training for participating clinics. The simulations engaged clinical teams in knowledge generations, skill building and systems analysis.

Role: Principal Investigator, curriculum development, facilitator.

N/A Walker (PI) 05/01/2019 – 04/31/2021

Originator, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Sub-contractor of University of California, San Francisco,

Obstetric and neonatal simulation and team training in UP, India

The goal of this study was to integrate obstetric and neonatal simulation and team-training into a nurse mentoring program across the state of Utar Pradesh, India

Role: Site Principal Investigator, curriculum development, Research

N/A Walker (PI) 08/30/2019 – 04/30/2022

Originator, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Sub-contractor of University of California, San Francisco

Pathway to sustain and expand obstetric and neonatal simulation and team training in Bihar

The goal of this study was to continue the work of the previous grant, continue sustainability programing for 850 trained facilitators through the scaling up and further development of additional interactive online comic-based learning modules, and the creation of an on-boarding curriculum.

Role: Site Principal Investigator, lead creator of virtual module, graphic medicine curriculum development, master trainer, and research team member

**Completed Research Support**

N/A Cohen (PI) 04/30/2019 – 03/31/2020

University of Utah, Vice President of Research, Seed Grant

Improving Out-of-Hospital Birth Transfers Through Interprofessional Simulation and Team-Training

The goal of this study was to design, pilot and evaluate an interprofessional postpartum and team-training for community midwives, EMS, and hospital providers that looked a communication, teamwork and treatment and referral in 3 settings across Utah (rural, suburban, and urban).

Role: Principal Investigator, curriculum development, master trainer, and research team lead.

N/A Walker (PI) 07/01/2017 -06/30/2019

Originator, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Sub-contractor of University of California, San Francisco

Improving Maternal and Neonatal Health in Bihar, India

The goal of this study was to continue the work of the previous grant, create sustainability programing for 850 trained facilitators through the piloting of interactive online comic-based learning modules, and continued in-person trainings.

Role: Site- PI, Program design, lead creator of virtual module, graphic medicine curriculum development, master trainer, and research team member

N/A Walker (PI) 11/01/2014 - 10/31/2017

Originator, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Sub-contractor of University of California, San Francisco

PRONTO, Bihar, India.

The goal of this study was to integrate obstetric and neonatal simulation and team-training into a nurse mentoring program in >320 facilities across the state of Bihar, India

Role: Site- PI, Program design, curriculum development, master trainer, and research team member