

Capital Notebook: Michigan Dental Assn. CEO Has Died

Karen Burgess, CEO and executive director of the Michigan Dental Association, died last week after a short illness.

Burgess led the association for nine years and had worked membership positions at the American Dental Association in Chicago for 17 years before that.

"Karen was a remarkable individual who not only oversaw the MDA staff but also provided invaluable support to a succession of MDA leaders and MDA presidents, including myself," said MDA President Dr. Eric Knudsen in a message sent to the MDA membership. "She was a terrific CEO for the MDA and was instrumental in maintaining the MDA's position as a model state dental association."

Bill Sullivan, the MDA's vice president of advocacy and professional relations, will serve as interim director until a new executive director is named.

TRUSCOTT ROSSMAN ACQUIRES DESIGN FIRM: The Truscott Rossman communications firm announced Wednesday it has acquired Lansing-based Blohm Creative Partners, a six-person team specializing in graphic design, branding, marketing and digital strategy.

"At TR, we do everything with intention. As the communications industry changes, integrated services are more important than ever, and we're ready to fill that need for current and future clients," said John Truscott, CEO and principal of Truscott Rossman, in a statement. "I've always been impressed with Jeff Blohm and his firm, and I'm looking forward to integrating them into the TR team. Adding BCP to TR brings our ability to serve all our clients to the next level."

OU NAMES NEW POLICY SERIES AFTER DENNIS MUCHMORE: Oakland University is naming its new public policy series after Dennis Muchmore, now of the Honigman firm, former chief of staff to Governor Rick Snyder and a founding partner of the firm Muchmore Harrington Smalley & Associates lobbying firm. The new annual series is presented by the Oakland University Center for Civic Engagement.

David Foltyn, Honigman chair and CEO, said the series honoring Muchmore "is a testament to his leadership and efforts in helping to shape meaningful policies in Michigan." Bobby and Nancy Schostak made a gift to establish the series, OU President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz said.

The inaugural event will be 6 p.m. September 18 at the Oakland Center on the Oakland University campus. WXYZ-TV's Chuck Stokes will moderate a discussion with Snyder and former Governor Jim Blanchard. Persons interested in registering can use [this form](#).