

Oncology Nursing Society Member Named Health Policy Fellow



Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Margaret C. Wilmoth, PhD, MSS, RN, FAAN, has been selected by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) as a

Health Policy Fellow for 2009–2010. Wilmoth, a professor in the School of Nursing in the College of Health and Human Services at the University of North Carolina–Charlotte, has joined nine other health professionals in Washington, DC, for the 2009–2010 academic year, learning about the health policy process at the federal level. Fellows have been immersed in the theoretical aspects of the policy process during the fall semester and joined the American Political Science Association in November to complete their orientation to the federal policy process. Lectures will be conducted by key policy makers and other experts in health and public policy. Following interviews with members of U.S. Congress and other federal agencies in December, Wilmoth is spending the rest of the fellowship engaged full-time on Capitol Hill participating in the policy process.

RWJF focuses on the pressing health and healthcare issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, RWJF works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful, and timely change. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Announces 2009 Grant Recipients

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) announced the awarding of the 2009 Nurse Researcher Grants. The grants, designed to improve the quality of care and life for young patients

with cancer and their families, will total almost \$250,000 over the course of a two-year period. Among the 2009 grant recipients are Rita Secola, RN, MSN, CPON®, for Mentored Nurse Researcher and Mary Nelson, MS, RN, CPNP, for Intermediate Nurse Researcher, both at the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles in California and Ki Moore, DNSc, RN, FAAN, at the University of Arizona in Tempe and Tina Baggott, PhD, at the University of California at San Francisco, both for Independent Nurse Researcher.

ALSF added the Nurse Researcher Grant program to an already successful and innovative pediatric research grant program in 2007. Having awarded medical research grants to leading hospitals and institutions across the United States, ALSF felt it was important to invest in helping nurses find better ways to care for children undergoing cancer treatment. ALSF plans to expand on this commitment to helping pediatric oncology nurses in 2010 with the first ALSF Nurse Researcher Workshop. The free workshop, slated for April 26–27 in Philadelphia, PA, will be designed to help nurses learn the mechanics of creating a research proposal, securing funds, carrying out research, and disseminating findings. ALSF also will cover travel and lodging expenses for those eligible.

"Along with funding cutting-edge medical research to find causes and cures for childhood cancer, we think it is equally important to improve the quality of care and life for childhood cancer patients and their families," said Liz Scott, Alex's mom and Director of Development for ALSF. "Nurses have direct interaction with cancer patients as they undergo treatments, giving them a unique view into ways their patients' lives can be improved; we are here to help them do just that."

"This funding from ALSF comes at a critical time in my research on the effects of treatment for childhood cancer on the central nervous system," said Moore, an Independent Nurse Researcher grant recipient. "Support from the Foundation will allow us to explore the long term effects of chemotherapy, specifically cognitive development, on children with cancer."

"I am thrilled and honored to receive funding for my research from ALSF, an organization dedicated to funding research in the quest for improved childhood cancer care and cures," said Nelson, an Intermediate Nurse Researcher grant recipient.

For more information on the Nurse Researcher Grant Program and the upcoming workshop, visit www.ALSFgrants.org.

ONS Members Inducted Into American Academy of Nursing

ONS members Patricia Berry, PhD, APRN, FAAN, and Barbara Summers, PhD, RN, were formally inducted into the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) along with 96 other nurse leaders at AAN's Annual Awards Ceremony in Atlanta, GA.

Berry is an associate professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Utah in Salt Lake. She also is a certified gerontological nurse practitioner, an advanced practice palliative care nurse, and the associate director of



Patricia Berry, PhD, APRN, FAAN

education and practice for the University of Utah's Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence. With 32 years of experience in hospice and palliative care, Berry has contributed to critical policy, educational, and scientific initiatives to improve the management of pain and symptoms, particularly for patients with life-limiting illnesses and their families. She is a member of the national faculty for the Geriatric End of Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) and serves on the research committees of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the American Board of Nursing Specialties.

"The AAN invites topnotch nursing leaders to become fellows of the academy," said University of Utah College of Nursing Dean and Louis H. Peery Presidential Endowed Chair Maureen R. Keefe, RN, PhD, FAAN. "This honor is indicative of



Barbara Summers,
PhD, RN

Dr. Berry's numerous contributions to the field of nursing, particularly in the areas of end-of-life care and pain symptom management."

Summers is vice president and chief nursing officer at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson

Cancer Center in Houston. Since joining M.D. Anderson in 1997, Summers has introduced tuition assistance and residency and fellowship programs that allow all levels of nurses to pursue additional studies and developed a formal governance structure to empower nurses to find and debate solutions affecting their practice. She also established and is chairing a new academic department within the Division of Nursing that will nurture a growing research program and a corps of doctorally prepared nurses who want to pursue teaching in addition to patient care. Summers is a RWJF Executive Nurse Fellow and has been honored with the Texas Nurses' Associate Award for Outstanding Performance in Nursing and the Health Director's Award from the National Institutes of Health.

"It's an overwhelming honor to be selected as a fellow in the prestigious American Academy of Nursing and to have an opportunity to advance the nursing profession on a national level," said Summers, who comes from a family of nurses. "I have the great joy of leading and working alongside the greatest oncology nurses in the world at M.D. Anderson, and I share this recognition with

each of them. I am especially proud to apply the perspective of my specialty to the meaningful work of the Academy."

AAN comprises more than 1,500 nursing leaders in education, management, practice and research, including university presidents, chancellors and deans; hospital chief executives and nursing leaders; researchers and entrepreneurs; and practicing nurses. For more information, visit www.aanet.org.

Cherokee Uniforms Selects Inspired Comfort Award Winners

Cherokee Uniforms announced six winners of the 2009 Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award. Recipients were chosen for their exemplary service and care to those in need—going above and beyond what is expected of them. A panel of Cherokee representatives and past Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award recipients selected grand prize and top national winners for their exceptional service, sacrifice, and innovation in four categories: Grand Prize Winner Diana Webber, MS, ARNP, at Hope Medical Clinic in Atoka, OK, and Top National Winner Wallena Gould, CRNA, MSN, at South Jersey Healthcare System in Vineland in the category of Advanced Practice Nurses; Grand Prize Winner Diaraye Sylla, RN, BSN, at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and Top National Winner Andrea Parkhill, RN, BSN, at the Visiting Nurses Association of Central Jersey in Eatontown for Registered Nurses; Grand Prize Winner Rosetta White, LPN, at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte for Licensed Practical Nurses/Licensed Vocational

Nurses; and Grand Prize Winner Stacey Anderson, RDH, at the School District of Superior in Wisconsin for Non-Physician Healthcare Professionals.

"The recipients of the 2009 Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award illustrate the power that a single healthcare professional with a vision can have on their communities, region, and on their fellow man a world away," said Michael Singer, CEO of Cherokee Uniforms. "Each is a sparkling example of the excellence that healthcare professionals provide to countless patients across America, and we are honored to salute these recipients."

Cherokee Uniforms will be accepting nominations for the 2010 Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award beginning March 1 through May 31, 2010. For further information on the award, visit <http://inspiredcomfort.com> or receive updates on Twitter by following InspiredComfort.

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Digital Object Identifier: 10.1188/10.ONF.15-16

ONS Conference Calendar

35th Annual Congress

May 13–16, 2010
San Diego, CA

Advanced Practice Nursing Conference

November 11–13, 2010
Orlando, FL

11th Annual Institutes of Learning

November 12–14, 2010
Orlando, FL

Bravo! Job Well Done! Pat Yourself on the Back!

Have you been awarded recently for your dedication and commitment to oncology nursing? Have you been appointed to a new leadership position at your institution? If so, the *Oncology Nursing Forum* (ONF)

wants to share these achievements with its readers.

ONF accepts news of member accomplishments for People and Events. Submissions can include a recent photo

and should be less than 250 words. For more information, contact Associate Editor Linda K. Morse, RN, MSN, via e-mail at Linda_Morse@dfci.harvard.edu.