

## Oncology Nursing Society Member Appointed Johns Hopkins University Distinguished Service Chair



Johns Hopkins University appointed Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Lillie D. Shockney, RN, BS, MAS, the Distinguished Service Chair, making her

the first woman and nurse to hold the position. A special awards dinner was held in her honor, where she received a plaque from Edward D. Miller, MD, dean of the School of Medicine, and William Brody, MD, president of Johns Hopkins University. The plaque had the following engraving, signed by Brody.

In the life of any institution, there are those who symbolize the rich heritage of its work and traditions. For Johns Hopkins Medicine, the names are legendary: William Welch, William Halsted, William Osler, Howard Kelly, and, of course, the spirit of Johns Hopkins himself. As a leader in surgical nursing, your commitment to the institution and to those who serve have become benchmarks for the care and treatment of breast cancer patients. The passion and selfless devotion exhibited through your work is an encouragement to all. It is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge your appointment as a Johns Hopkins Distinguished Service Assistant Professor of Breast Cancer, a recognition that places you among those who shape the character of Johns Hopkins Medicine. On behalf of Johns Hopkins University, I am pleased to join your family, friends, and colleagues in extending my sincere congratulations to you. Your achievements in nursing, your goodwill, your wise counsel, and your unwavering support to Johns Hopkins are hallmarks that inspire others. Your continuing accomplishments bring honor to this institution that is so deeply indebted to you.

For more information, visit [www.hopkinsbreastcenter.org](http://www.hopkinsbreastcenter.org).

## ONS Member Named Kenneth E. Morehead Endowed Chair in Nursing and Associate Dean for Research



Marlene Cohen, PhD, RN, FAAN, joined the College of Nursing at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha as the prestigious Kenneth E. Morehead Endowed

Chair in Nursing. In the position, Cohen will focus on her nationally known program of improving cancer care. Cohen also became associate dean for research.

Cohen's prodigious body of research, spanning more than 100 publications, focuses on human reaction to cancer diagnosis, symptoms, and treatment. Her studies examine patients' physical, emotional, and psychological responses, measuring the impact of nursing care on patients and their families. Recent investigations include symptom management of patients undergoing blood and marrow transplants plus psychological adjuvants for pain treatment. She currently collaborates with nurses in Italy and Israel on cross-cultural symptom management studies.

For more information, visit [www.unmc.edu](http://www.unmc.edu).

## ONS Members Win Roberta S. Abruzzese Publishing Award

ONS members Morris A. Magnan, PhD, RN, and JoAnn Maklebust, MSN, APRN, BC, AOCN®, FAAN, were awarded the Gaymar Industry 2008 Roberta S. Abruzzese Publishing Award, presented at the 23rd Annual Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin and Wound Care in Las Vegas, NV. Magnan and Maklebust were recognized for their article "Multisite Web-Based Training in Using the Braden Scale to Predict Pressure Sore Risk." The article was published in the March 2008 issue of *Advances in Skin and Wound Care*. The winning entry was chosen by a panel of judges selected from the journal's editorial advisory board.

Magnan is a staff nurse in the emergency department at St. Joseph Mercy Oakland in Michigan. He has served on the board of directors for the Center for Nursing



Program Director for the 23rd Annual Clinical Symposium on Advances in Skin and Wound Care Sharon Baranoski (left to right); Roberta A. Abruzzese Publishing Award Winners Morris A. Magnan, PhD, RN, and JoAnn Maklebust, MSN, APRN, BC, AOCN®, FAAN; and *Advances in Skin and Wound Care* Editor-in-Chief Richard "Sal" Salcido, MD

Advocacy and is a member of the National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists.

Maklebust is a clinical nurse specialist in wound care and a nurse practitioner for the general and oncologic surgery service in the Karmanos Cancer Center at the Detroit Medical Center. She also is an adjunct associate clinical professor in the College of Nursing at Wayne State University. Maklebust served as a founding member of the National Pressure Ulcer Advisory Panel, where she was a public policy chair for nine years.

For more information, visit [www.gaymar.com](http://www.gaymar.com).

## ONS Member to Give 29th Helen Nahm Lecture



ONS member Linda Sarna, RN, DNSc, FAAN, will be the 29th Helen Nahm Lecturer. A graduate of the University of California, San Francisco doctoral program in

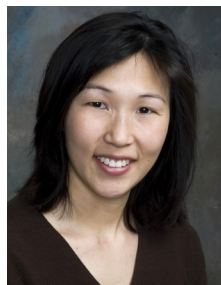
nursing science and a professor in the School of Nursing at the University of California, Los Angeles, Sarna has been involved in shaping oncology nursing as a specialty for the past 30 years. Sarna has published numerous articles related to smoking as a women's health issue, quality of life, and lung cancer.

Sarna helped to form the Nursing Coalition for Tobacco Control. Most recently,

she and her colleagues analyzed data from the Nurses' Health Study, a historic study on women's health with 237,648 female nurses participating. For her innovative research, Sarna also is being honored by ONS as the 2009 Distinguished Researcher.

The 2009 Helen Nahm Lecture will take place on Friday, May 1, 2009, at 10 am in a location to be announced. For more information, visit <http://nurseweb.ucsf.edu/www/ix-ne.shtml>.

## ONS Member Recognized by Connecticut Governor



Linda Versea, APRN, a nurse practitioner and oncology research coordinator in the Whittingham Cancer Center at Norwalk Hospital, is leading a statewide effort

called the "Clinical Trials Initiative." Her efforts were recognized by Governor Jodi Rell (R), who, for the second consecutive year, has declared December as "Clinical Trials Initiative Month" in Connecticut.

In an article Versea published in *Oncology Issues*, she outlined the Clinical Trials Initiative and encouraged each oncologist to offer at least one patient an opportunity to participate in a cancer clinical trial during the initiative month of December. The goal is to obtain a significant increase in the number of patients with cancer enrolled in clinical trials. Since 2008, Norwalk Hospital has been joined in the initiative by several local hospitals. The effort also has received support from numerous cancer centers across the United States.

At Norwalk Hospital, Versea and the other members of the cancer research team have had great success in making the most cutting-edge cancer clinical trials available to patients treated at the center, including phase I, II, and III research trials.

"We are deeply committed to contributing to advances in cancer research and improving the lives of our patients through clinical research," said Versea.

For more information, visit [www.norwalkhospital.org](http://www.norwalkhospital.org).

## Joint Commission Appoints Mark G. Pelletier

The Joint Commission announced the appointment of Mark G. Pelletier, RN, MS, as the executive director for Hospital Programs and Accreditation and Certification Services. Pelletier is a



healthcare executive with more than 20 years of experience. He most recently was the senior vice president and chief operating officer of Condell Medical Center.

"Pelletier's hands-on experience in healthcare organizations will be important in further strengthening customer relationships and collaborating with organizations to improve quality and safety through accreditation and certification," said Ann Scott Blouin, RN, PhD, executive vice president for the Division of Accreditation and Certification Operations.

At the Joint Commission, Pelletier will serve as the executive director for the hospital and critical access hospital accreditation programs and help direct customer accounts across all accreditation programs.

Pelletier earned a bachelor of science and a master of science in nursing administration from DePaul University. He received his diploma in nursing from Mennonite College of Nursing at Illinois State University.

For more information, visit [www.jointcommission.org](http://www.jointcommission.org).

## Breast Cancer Research Initiative to Launch

The Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation and the Avon Foundation launched the Love/Avon Army of Women, a groundbreaking initiative that will partner women with breast cancer researchers to find the key to what causes breast cancer and take science beyond a cure to prevention. Through the new program, the Avon Foundation and the Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation will

- Encourage researchers to expand their focus from treating cancer to understanding what causes normal breast cells to become cancer cells.
- Shift the focus from finding breast cancer early and treating it once it occurs to preventing it in the first place.
- Provide researchers with timely and easy access to women volunteers so that they can shift their focus from the laboratory to real women.
- Empower women to take the next step in breast cancer research.

The Love/Avon Army of Women serves as an online resource, providing researchers timely access to healthy women—a critical component to prevention research. At the same time, the program offers

women the opportunity to play a significant, direct role in helping eradicate breast cancer. Women not currently undergoing breast cancer treatment, including healthy women, breast cancer survivors, and women who are high risk for developing breast cancer, can enroll in the Love/Avon Army of Women online at [www.armyofwomen.org](http://www.armyofwomen.org).

## Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Announces 2008 Nursing Grant Recipients

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF), a leader driving research for pediatric cancer, announced the awarding of the 2008 Nursing Grants to four institutions across the country: Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania; Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center in Seattle, WA; Texas Children's Hospital in Houston; and the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City. The grants, designed to improve the quality of life for young patients with cancer and their families, will total almost \$240,000 during the course of a two-year period.

Having awarded 80 medical research grants to 40 institutions and universities, ALSF felt it was important to invest in research enabling nurses to find better ways to care for children undergoing cancer treatment. ALSF emerged from the front-yard lemonade stand of Alexandra "Alex" Scott, a pediatric patient with cancer (1996–2004). At the age of 4, Alex announced that she wanted to hold a lemonade stand to raise money to help find a cure for all children with cancer. Since Alex held that first stand, the Foundation bearing her name has raised more than \$25 million toward fulfilling Alex's dream of finding a cure, funding research projects nationally.

"Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation is proud to continue our nursing grants program for a second year," said Jay Scott, Alex's father and executive director. "It is extremely important to fund research, but it is equally important to provide patients with a good quality of life while they undergo treatment. We want to show our support for just how integral these nurses are during treatment and recovery against this deadly disease."

For more information, visit [www.alexlemonade.org/home](http://www.alexlemonade.org/home).

Diane M. Otte, RN, MS, OCN®, can be reached at [otte.diane@mayo.edu](mailto:otte.diane@mayo.edu) or [ottedm@charter.net](mailto:ottedm@charter.net), with copy to editor at [ONFEditor@ons.org](mailto:ONFEditor@ons.org).

Digital Object Identifier: 10.1188/09.ONF.138-139