Neumann Receives Outstanding Nurse Oncologist Award

Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Joyce Neumann, RN, MS, AOCN®, an advanced practice nurse at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX, recently received the prestigious 2001 Ethel Fleming Arceauxne Outstanding Nurse Oncologist Award. The award is presented annually by the Brown Foundation, Inc., to an M.D. Anderson nurse who demonstrates superior performance in all aspects of oncology nursing. The honor, which the foundation established in 1982, is accompanied by a personal award to the recipient of $15,000.

Dedicating to M.D. Anderson the last nine years of her 27-year nursing career as an advanced practice nurse in blood and marrow transplantation (BMT), Neumann marvels at the evolution of this treatment area over the last decade. From the scientific aspect, she now is working with not only patients with leukemia, lymphoma, renal cell cancer, and myeloma but also women with ovarian and breast cancers. From the human side, Neumann has learned to care for and help individuals triumph over their most difficult days of cancer therapy and sometimes face decisions about advanced life support or hospice care.

“Joyce exemplifies M.D. Anderson’s core values of caring, integrity, and discovery,” said Richard Champlin, MD, chair of the Department of BMT, in his award recommendation of her. “She leads by example in providing compassionate, highest quality patient care.”

Neumann is recognized internationally for her research and expertise. At M.D. Anderson, she wrote the standard for colleagues to reference in recognizing potential skin abnormalities of graft versus host disease. She has published and lectured extensively on non-myeloablative BMT, complications of this treatment, and ethical issues related to cancer care. She also has been an active member of ONS and its Blood and Marrow Stem Cell Transplant Special Interest Group.

Neumann will begin work on her doctorate in nursing, with a focus on research, at the University of Texas at Austin. Neumann received her master of science and bachelor of science degrees in nursing from DePaul University in Chicago, IL.

Tranin Receives Credential in Familial Cancer Risk Assessment and Management

The Institute for Clinical Evaluation has awarded ONS member Amy Strauss Tranin, RN, MS, AOCN®, with a credential in Familial Cancer Risk Assessment and Management until 2008. Tranin is a genetic cancer risk counselor for the Cancer Prevention Program at the Cancer Institute in Kansas City, MO.

Only 29 people in the United States have earned the same credential. Tranin is the only person holding a credential in Kansas City. The credential is based on meeting specific eligibility criteria and successfully passing an examination. Tranin’s eligibility is comprised of a current license, a master’s degree, formal education training in cancer genetics, and a logbook of 50 individual cases. The cases cover a variety of different hereditary syndromes for which Tranin provided services within the past two years. No more than 30 cases can be in the same hereditary syndrome.

The Familial Cancer Risk Assessment and Management examination tests the knowledge and skills of individuals who provide assessment and management services to individuals who are thought to be at risk for cancer.

“Her credential confirms that she is an extremely qualified specialist,” said Ronald Deisher, MP AH, administrative director of the Division of Cancer Control and Community Outreach for the Cancer Institute. “She is a real asset to our patients and physicians working with individuals who are potentially at high risk for cancer.”

Ash Appointed Associate Director for Cancer Control and Population Sciences at Shands Cancer Center

ONS member Carol Reed Ash, RN, EdD, eminent scholar and American Cancer Society professor of oncology nursing at the University of Florida (UF) College of Nursing, has been appointed associate director for cancer control and population sciences for UF Shands Cancer Center.

Ash will coordinate and implement all of the center’s cancer control activities. She also will collaborate with Director W. Stratford May, Jr., MD, PhD, and other associate directors as part of the senior leadership team.

Ash, who holds the Kirbo endowed chair in oncology nursing at UF, developed Gator-SHADE, a skin cancer prevention program for elementary school students and their parents, and is the principal investigator of a National Cancer Institute-funded cancer education program for nurses in developing countries. The American Association for Cancer Education recently honored her outstanding contributions to cancer education with the Margaret Hay Edwards Achievement Medal.

Shands Cancer Center is an interdisciplinary initiative connecting healthcare professionals and scientists at UF Health Science Center’s Gainesville and Jacksonville campuses, Shands at UF, and Shands Jacksonville who are researching and enhancing clinical strategies for diagnosing, treating, and preventing cancer.

Heusinkveld Elected Chair of Texas Division of American Cancer Society

ONS member Karen Heusinkveld, DrPH, RN, FAAN, the Myrna Pickard Professor of Nursing in the School of Nursing at the University of Texas at Arlington, has been elected chair of the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society, Texas Division.

The organization includes 260 units throughout Texas, raises more than $40 million annually, and assists thousands of Texans through research, education, advocacy, and service. Along with the president and other officers of the Board, Heusinkveld will help to map out the strategic directions for the Texas Division.
Jordan to Consult for American Society of Clinical Oncology

Thomas D. Jordan, BS, MBA, former vice president of international oncology marketing for Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS) Company, has signed a consulting agreement with the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO). Jordan, who served almost 20 years with BMS and, prior to that, seven years with Adria Laboratories, will work with ASCO leadership on the society’s international relations. Jordan also will serve as a consultant to BMS.

As director of oncology marketing for BMS, Jordan worked with oncology professional societies to establish some of the first educational awards provided by a pharmaceutical firm for researchers, clinicians, and oncology nurses. ONS has recognized Jordan’s work by naming a doctoral scholarship in his honor. Jordan also is a member of the ONS Foundation’s Board of Trustees.

Publish Your Accomplishments in the Oncology Nursing Forum

The Oncology Nursing Forum accepts news of member accomplishments for “People and Events.” Submissions should include a recent photo and be less than 250 words. For more information, contact Associate Editor Jane M. Fall-Dickson, RN, PhD, AOCN®, at 301-962-8281 (jdickson@nidcr.nih.gov).

American Journal of Nursing Selects Books of the Year

Various publications written, edited, and reviewed by ONS members have been named 2001 Books of the Year by the American Journal of Nursing (AJN). AJN Book of the Year Awards are presented to the most valuable texts of 2001 as chosen by the journal’s panel of judges.

Advanced Practice in Oncology Nursing: Case Studies and Review (Saunders, Philadelphia, PA), by Esther Muscari Lin, RN, MSN, AOCN®, was selected in the Advanced Practice Nursing category (see page 591 of this issue for a review). Men’s Cancers: How to Prevent Them, How to Treat Them, How to Beat Them (Hunter House, Inc., Alameda, CA), edited by Pamela J. Haylock, RN, MA, was selected in the Public Interest and Creative Works category. Palliative Care Nursing: Quality Care to the End of Life (Springer, New York), edited by Marianne LaPorte Matzo, PhD, MS, and Deborah Witt Sherman, RN, PhD, ANP, CS, was selected in the Gerontologic Nursing category. ONS Senior Research Associate Judith DePalma, PhD, RN, served as a judge in the Nursing Research category.

These and other Book of the Year Award recipients are featured in the January 2002 issue (Vol. 102, No. 1) of AJN.

Groups Unite to Form Nursing Organizations Alliance

Two long-standing coalitions of nursing organizations have united to create an even stronger voice for nurses. Called the Nursing Organizations Alliance (the Alliance), the new group represents the merging of the National Federation for Specialty Nursing Organizations (NFSNO) and the Nursing Organizations Liaison Forum (NOLF), an entity of the American Nurses Association (ANA). Its mission is “to increase nursing’s visibility and impact on health through communication, collaboration, and advocacy.”

The historic vote to create the Alliance occurred on November 17, 2001, at a special meeting of NOLF and NFSNO member organizations in Salt Lake City, UT. Specifically, NFSNO members agreed to dissolve their organization. Although NOLF members also signed on to the Alliance, NOLF will continue to operate until the ANA House of Delegates meets in June to revise its bylaws.

Membership in the Alliance is open to any nursing organization whose focus is to address current and emerging nursing and healthcare issues. Structural nursing components of a multidisciplinary organization also are welcome to join. The Alliance is expected to convene its first official meeting this fall.