American Academy of Nursing Nominates New Fellows

The American Academy of Nursing (AAN) has nominated nine Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) members as fellows for 2002 induction. The nominees represent a variety of disciplines within the field of nursing. One of the criteria for AAN membership is recognition by one’s peers of having made outstanding contributions to nursing over and above those which are required in one’s position of employment. Each nominee also must be sponsored for membership by two AAN fellows. This year’s slate of nominees of exceptional nursing leaders are educators, researchers, entrepreneurs, and association executives.

The new fellows will be formally inducted into AAN on November 2 during the Academy’s 29th Annual Meeting and Conference at the Registry Resort in Naples, FL.

The ONS members to be inducted are Marlene Zichi Cohen, PhD, RN, Joan Such Lockhart, PhD, RN, CORLN, AOCN®, Marianne LaPorte Matzo, PhD, RN, CS, GNP, Cathy D. Meade, PhD, MS, RN, Marva Mizell Price, DnPH, MPH, RN, Kathleen Ruccione, RN, MPH, Anna L. Schwartz, PhD, c-FNP, Deborah Witt Sherman, PhD, APRN, ANP, BC, and Lois Van Cleve, PhD, RN.

AAN was established in 1973 to provide visionary leadership to the nursing profession and the public in shaping future healthcare policy and practice and optimizes the well-being of the American people through the synthesis of scientific and philosophic knowledge as the basis for effective healthcare policy and practice.

Belcher Named Acting Associate Dean for Professional Programs and Practice

ONS member Anne E. Belcher, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been named acting associate dean for professional programs and practice at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing in Baltimore, MD.

Belcher comes to Hopkins from the Thomas Jefferson University College of Health Professions, Department of Nursing, in Philadelphia, PA, where she was director of the undergraduate program. She was at the University of Maryland School of Nursing for more than 10 years, most recently as associate professor in the Department of Adult Health Nursing, and from 1992–1997, she was chair of the Department of Acute and Long-Term Care Nursing. She also has taught in the School of Nursing at Columbia University, where she served as associate dean for academic affairs.

Belcher is a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and an active member of ONS. She received a doctoral degree in higher education from Florida State University and a graduate degree in medical-surgical nursing education from the University of Washington in Seattle.

“I am delighted to be joining the faculty, students, and staff at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing,” Belcher said. “I have been proud through the years to work with nurse colleagues there on a variety of professional and community projects and to recommend the wonderful educational programs that are offered. It is a great honor to now join such a dynamic and creative school of nursing, especially at such a critical juncture in nursing practice, education and research.”

Kruse Named Hero in Fight Against Breast Cancer

ONS member Barbara Kruse, RN, OCN®, MED, a nurse clinician for the Norton Cancer Resource Center in Louisville, KY, has received the Local Leadership Hero Award from BMW and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. The award recognizes her many years of dedication and service to patients with breast cancer in her community and for the invaluable support and resources she provides to women affected by breast cancer and their families.

Kruse, a nurse for 26 years, is the founding staff member of Norton Cancer Resource Center, which opened in August 1997. Through the center, Kruse counsels newly diagnosed patients with cancer and their families and caregivers. She provides information on their diagnosis, treatment options, what to expect during the treatment and recovery process, and how to cope emotionally with having cancer.

This is the sixth year that BMW has partnered with the Komen Foundation for the BMW Ultimate Drive, a program that increases breast cancer awareness, raises funds for research and outreach, and recognizes community leaders and survivors. As part of the program, two fleets of customized BMW vehicles travel across the country, stopping in more than 200 cities. In each city, the public is invited to test-drive these cars. BMW donates $1 for every test drive mile driven to the national Komen Foundation to support research and breast cancer awareness projects around the country. In each of the past five years, BMW USA has contributed $1 million to the Komen Foundation.

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is an international organization with a network of volunteers working through affiliates to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease by advancing research, education, screening, and treatment.

Riegler Named Director of International Affairs Department

ONS Immediate Past-President Paula Trahan Rieger, MSN, RN, CS, AOCN®, FAAN, has been named director of the newly created department of International Affairs at the American Society of Clinical Oncology. This department will evaluate and address the needs of both international members and annual meeting registrants from outside the United States, serve as staff support for the International Affairs committee, and work to increase relations and collaborations with international oncology societies.

Rieger is an oncology nurse with more than 20 years of experience in the field of medical oncology, with expertise in biological therapies and cancer genetics. She is a recognized speaker and author, both nationally and internationally, and just completed a two-year term as ONS president in April 2002.

Yasko Named Director of Clinical Research Services at Roswell Park

ONS member Joyce Yasko, RN, PhD, FAAN, recently was named director of Clinical Research Services at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY. Yasko also serves as a senior associate with Oncology Associates, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in cancer research.