

PEOPLE & EVENTS

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Oncology Nursing Society Members Honored at Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association Annual Meeting

Several Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) members received awards at the annual meeting of the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA) and the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses (NBCHPN®), which was held on February 15 in Salt Lake City, UT.



Pamela Hinds, RN, PhD, FAAN, was honored with HPNA's 2007 Leading the Way Award, which recognizes a nursing leader who has been consistent in "leading the way" in hospice and palliative nursing,

demonstrating a deep and abiding commitment to furthering the philosophy, mission, and quality of palliative care.

"We are delighted to present Dr. Hinds with this award," said Judy Lentz, RN, MSN, NHA, chief executive officer of HPNA and executive director of NBCHPN. "Her contribution to palliative nursing stands as an exemplary model for other practitioners in the field."

Hinds is the director of the Division of Nursing Research at St. Jude's Hospital in Memphis, TN, where she also is co-facilitator of the St. Jude Palliative Care Initiative and co-chair of the Hematology/Oncology Fellow Mentoring Committee. She is co-chair of the Nursing Research Committee for the Children's Oncology Group (COG), a member of the Nursing Discipline Leadership Committee, and a member of the Steering Committee for COG Cancer Control. She is a member of the Review Committee for the National Quality Forum's *A National Framework and Preferred Practices for Palliative and Hospice Care Quality* project.

An accomplished researcher, Hinds' research interests include self-care, coping and adolescents, instrumentation, qualitative methodologies, triangulation, decision making, quality of life, and fatigue. She has presented widely and published extensively on a variety of subjects relating to end-of-life (EOL) and palliative care, particularly those involving children and adolescents. Her work has appeared in the *Journal of Clinical Oncology* and *Journal of Quality of Life Research*. She serves on the editorial boards

of various journals, including the *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing* and *Journal of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology*. In 2004, she received the Distinguished Researcher Award from ONS.

A renowned leader in pediatric palliative care, Hinds was the 2004 S.W. Shrifin Distinguished Lecturer for Palliative Care in the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing at City University of New York and the 2004 Invited Presenter at the National Institutes of Health State-of-the-Science Conference on Improving End-of-Life Care. She was a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee for the project "When Children Die: Improving Palliative and End-of-Life Care for Children and Their Families." In addition, she was the keynote speaker at the March 2007 Sigma Theta Tau Gamma Chi Research Day.



Also honored was Hazel Jackson, APRN, BC, CHPN, who was named NBCHPN's 2007 Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse of the Year. The award recognizes the work of a certified hospice and palliative nurse who personifies excellence in EOL care.

Jackson has worked as a hospice and palliative care team nurse and a pain resource nurse at the Atlanta VA Medical Center (VAMC) in Decatur, GA, since 2003. Previously, she was the director of Hospice Services at VAMC. In addition to receiving the CHPN of the Year Award, she is the recipient of HPNA's 2006 Innovation in End-of-Life Nursing Care Award and the 2004 Under Secretary of Health Award. She is the author of various publications related to EOL issues.

"We are proud to recognize Ms. Jackson's outstanding achievements with the Nurse of the Year Award," said Lentz. "We hope her commitment to excellence will serve as a model for healthcare providers everywhere."

Jackson holds an associate degree in nursing from Monroe Community College in Rochester, NY; a bachelor's degree in nursing from Alfred University in Alfred, NY; and a master's degree of nursing from Emory University in Atlanta. She also is an HPNA-approved educator. In addition to her HPNA and ONS memberships, Jackson is active in the American Nurses Association and the Nursing Organization of Veterans Affairs.

Connie Dahlin, MSN, APRN, BC, PCM, also was honored as NBCHPN's 2007 Advanced Practice Certified Hospice and Palliative Nurse of the Year. The award recognizes the work of a nurse who personifies excellence in EOL nursing and has made contributions in clinical practice, education, leadership, or research in EOL care.



"I can think of no better candidate for this award than Connie," said Betty Ferrell, PhD, FAAN, research scientist at the City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, CA. "As an advanced practice nurse (APN), she epitomizes scholarship, leadership, and clinical excellence. She is a dedicated nurse, and her life and work honor advanced practice nursing, continually raising the bar for the field."

Dahlin currently serves as an APN in the Palliative Care Service of Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston. She also serves on several task forces and committees, including the Partners Oncology Service Line EOL Task Force, the Partners Nursing EOL Task Force, and the Healthcare Dimensions Hospice Quality Assurance Committee. Dahlin is a founding member of the Palliative Care Service at MGH.

Dahlin is involved in many local, regional, and national activities aimed at promoting palliative care. She serves on the task force for the National Consensus Project and was a member of the project's original steering committee. She is a core faculty member of the Harvard Medical School Center for Palliative Care, where she has been the nursing leader for the intensive two-week Program in Palliative Care Education and Practice curriculum since 2000. She is on the national faculty for the oncology and graduate versions of the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) curriculum and is a lead consultant in the development of a critical care version of ELNEC.

For the past four years, Dahlin has served on the American Hospital Association Circle of Life Selection Committee, which recognizes innovative EOL programs and practices. She has established herself as a

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nationally recognized expert on billing and reimbursement issues for APNs in palliative care. She has published and presented widely; her writing is included in Ferrell and Coyle's *Oxford Textbook of Palliative Nursing*, *Clinical Manual for the Oncology Advanced Practice Nurse*, and *Gerontological Palliative Care Nursing*. Dahlin also has served on HPNA's board as past president.

"As a profession, palliative care has progressed much further and faster than it would have without Connie's many contributions," said Lentz. "It is impossible to overstate the value she has brought to the field. Practitioners of palliative care everywhere owe a debt of gratitude to her dedication, determination, and spirit."

In addition, six ONS members were honored as recipients of HPNA's 2007 Member Appreciation Certificates: Patrick Coyne, APRN, FAAN, Dahlin, Judith Paice, RN, PhD, FAAN, Joan Panke, RN, MA, Marilyn Smith-Stoner, RN, PhD, CHPN, and Rose Virani, RNC, MHA, OCN®.

The Member Appreciation Certificates honor HPNA members who have gone "above and beyond" in assisting HPNA in requisite association-related activities during the year. Such tasks may include authoring and editing educational materials, presenting at teleconferences, participating on committees and task forces, providing leadership for HPNA chapters and provisional groups, and contributing to the HPNA nursing assistant newsletter.

HPNA is a national nonprofit organization of nursing professionals specializing in EOL care and pain management. It is part of the Alliance for Excellence in Hospice and Palliative Nursing, which includes the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation and NBCHPN. For more information, visit www.hpna.org.

Kedziera Named Clinical Director of Pain and Palliative Care Program



ONS member Pamela Kedziera, RN, MSN, AOCN®, has been named clinical director of the pain and palliative care program at Fox Chase Cancer Center (FCCC) in Philadelphia, PA.

In her new role, Kedziera will help lead the expansion of FCCC's pain management center into a broader focused program that addresses comfort and function throughout the disease process. She will continue to direct the pain management nurses and registered dietitian and will be administratively responsible for the pastoral care program and the chaplains who provide pastoral care services.

Kedziera has worked at FCCC since 1980. Prior to becoming clinical director, she was clinical manager/clinical nurse specialist for the pain management center, a role she held since 1987.

"Pam was selected for this promotion based on her interest in palliative care, her desire to design patient services that promote quality of life for patients and families throughout the cancer care continuum, and for her successful leadership abilities in building teams and coalitions to enhance patient care," said Joanne Hambleton, RN, MSN, CNA, vice president for nursing and patient services at FCCC.

Kedziera earned her BSN from La Salle University and her MSN from the University of Pennsylvania. Within ONS, she holds leadership roles at the local and national levels. Kedziera also has been an active volunteer for the American Cancer Society.

Maxwell Appointed Vice President of Research at excelleRx



ONS member Terri Maxwell, PhD, APRN, BC-PCM, has been named vice president of research at excelleRx, Inc., in Philadelphia, PA. excelleRx is the market leader in evidence-based pharmaceutical care for niche patient populations throughout the United States.

"Dr. Maxwell's vast expertise in collaborative oncology practice along with her knowledge of palliative care, curriculum development, scientific writing, and research have positioned her as a national expert in end-of-life clinical care and science, making her a unique asset to the team," said Calvin H. Knowlton, RPh, MDiv, PhD, chair and chief executive officer of excelleRx. "Our company is built on the depth and breadth of our research, and we believe Terri will continue to keep our team on the cutting-edge of research."

Prior to joining excelleRx in 2004, Maxwell served as executive director of the Center for Palliative Care at Thomas Jefferson University. Throughout her 23 years of experience in the healthcare industry, Maxwell has held positions with Bellevue Oncology/Hematology Associates and Princeton Medical Center and was named a Project on Death in America Faculty Scholar by the Soros Foundation. Maxwell earned her doctoral degree in nursing at the University of Pennsylvania.

In her new position with excelleRx, Maxwell will contribute her knowledge and expertise to excelleRx's research team, one of the pillars of the company's foundation.

For more information, visit www.excelleRx.com.

Johns Hopkins School of Nursing Creates Academic Departments, Names Chairs

The Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing (JHUSON) in Baltimore, MD, recently has structured three School of Nursing areas of excellence as academic departments and named three faculty members as department chairs.

Professor Fannie Gaston-Johansson, PhD, RN, FAAN, will lead the Acute and Chronic Care Department. Gaston-Johansson holds the JHUSON Elsie M. Lawler Endowed Chair and serves as the director of the SON Center for Health Disparities. She also leads the Global Health Promotion Research Program, an international, interdisciplinary research and educational program that attracts nursing, medical, public health, and arts and sciences students from universities throughout the country.

ONS member and professor Victoria Mock, PhD, RN, FAAN, will chair the new Department of Health Systems and Outcomes. Mock leads the school's National Institutes of Health-funded Center for Collaborative Intervention Research and serves as director of nursing research at the Kimmel Cancer Center. Previously director of the SON Center for Nursing Research, she is well known for fostering collaborative, interdisciplinary biobehavioral research initiatives among JHUSON and Johns Hopkins Hospital, including faculty, staff, and students.

Associate professor Phyllis W. Sharps, PhD, RN, FAAN, former director of the SON master's program, will head the third department, Community and Public Health. Sharps' research targets underserved audiences, and she currently is the principal investigator on a multimillion dollar National Institute of Nursing Research community-based study aimed at helping at-risk pregnant women and their infants.

For more information about JHUSON, visit www.son.jhmi.edu.



Fannie Gaston-Johansson, Victoria Mock, and Phyllis W. Sharps (from left) have been appointed as new department chairs in the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing.

US Oncology Honors ONS Members for Leadership and Service

US Oncology, one of the nation's largest cancer treatment and research networks, recognized three ONS members during its annual meeting held in March in Houston, TX.



Molly Mullins, RN, received the Pearl Moore Excellence in Nursing Leadership Award. The award is given to an oncology nurse who personifies the qualities of Pearl Moore, MN, RN, FAAN, former chief executive officer of ONS. Those qualities include courage, the ability to effect change, and the ability to ensure the needs of patients are placed before the needs of anyone else.

Mullins, an oncology nurse at Texas Oncology-Texas Cancer Center since 1997, was chosen because she emulates true leadership and serves as a role model and trusted mentor. She was instrumental in establishing the center's Look Good, Feel Better® classes, along with bimonthly chemotherapy classes and other patient education events. Because of her support, every nurse at the clinic has achieved the OCN® credential.

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Sherry Taylor, RN, OCN®, was honored as the winner of the Betsy York Memorial OCN® of the Year Award. The award is given to a staff nurse who exemplifies excellence in oncology nursing.

Recipients are chosen based on their ability to display the courage, determination, and character that was personified by Betsy York, an oncology certified nurse at the Cancer Centers of the Carolinas in Greenville, SC.

Taylor has been the lead staff nurse at Texas Oncology Fort Worth for more than eight years. She was chosen for the award based on overwhelming recommendations and for her exemplary commitment to patient care and fund-raising efforts. Taylor is a committee member of the Fort Worth Cancer Survivors Day Celebration and the Fort Worth Cultural District Banquet. In addition, she is a camp counselor for Bluebonnet Retreat and a representative for Texas Oncology Fort Worth at the Puttin' on the Pink Breast Cancer Luncheon and Fashion Show.

Jeanne Schaffer, RN, BSN, OCN®, an oncology nurse at Willamette Valley Cancer Center in Eugene, OR, was honored as a finalist for the award.

US Oncology provides extensive services and support to its affiliated cancer care sites

nationwide to help them expand their offering of the most advanced treatments and technologies, build integrated community-based cancer care centers, improve therapeutic drug management programs, and participate in new cancer-related clinical research studies. For more information, visit www.usoncology.com.

Cherokee Uniforms Accepting Nominations for Inspired Comfort Award

For the past five years, Cherokee Uniforms has recognized the service, sacrifice, and innovation of outstanding nurses and other nonphysician healthcare professionals through the Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award. Nominations are being accepted through **May 31** for this year's award program.

Established by Cherokee Uniforms, a leading designer and manufacturer of healthcare apparel, the awards program has become one of the nation's premier nurse and healthcare honors, eliciting more than 4,300 nominations since its beginning.

"The nominations that we have received over the years have signified the diversity of the healthcare profession," said Michael Singer, president and chief executive officer of Cherokee Uniforms. "We are humbled by the stories, all of which call attention to the immense dedication, compassion, and skill that healthcare workers demonstrate every day."

To nominate a healthcare professional, visit www.CherokeeUniforms.com or pick up a nomination form from a Cherokee Uniforms retailer. Candidates may be nominated in two of the following categories but can only win in one.

- RNs
- Advanced practice nurses
- Licensed practical nurses/licensed vocational nurses
- Students enrolled in schools of nursing
- Nonphysician healthcare professionals

Nominations must contain an accurate description (100 words or more) of the nominee's exceptional service, sacrifice, or innovation. Cherokee Uniforms will make

a donation for every healthcare professional who is nominated through May 31 to three national charities: the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, and the Alzheimer's Association.

The grand-prize winner in each category will receive an all-expense-paid Caribbean cruise for two. Additional winners in each category will receive all-expense-paid trips to a 2008 U.S. medical conference of each winner's choice, an annual membership to their preferred clinical association, and a \$500 donation to the nonprofit organization of their choice.

Every award winner will receive a trophy, a medical wardrobe of Cherokee scrubs and Rockers footwear worth more than \$1,000, and a profile in the nationally distributed Cherokee Inspired Comfort Award 2008 calendar. Additionally, those who nominated the grand-prize winner in each category will receive a Cherokee medical wardrobe and a \$500 donation to the nonprofit organization of their choice. For more information, visit www.CherokeeUniforms.com.

Living With Advanced Breast Cancer Guide Available

The Wellness Community has released a free guide for women living with advanced metastatic breast cancer titled *The Patient Active Guide to Living With Advanced Breast Cancer*.

Although the cancer community has seen great advances in the detection and treatment of early-stage breast cancer, women living with advanced breast cancer continue to face their disease with few resources and scarce information. The guide aims to help women with the diagnosis know they are not alone, increase their understanding of the diagnosis, make treatment decisions, manage symptoms and treatment side effects, and make decisions regarding quality of life.

The guide, funded by an unrestricted educational grant from GlaxoSmithKline, can be obtained by visiting the Advanced Breast Cancer pages of www.thewellnesscommunity.org or by calling 888-793-WELL.

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? Are you helping to coordinate an event that is particularly relevant to oncology nurses? If so, the *Oncology Nursing Forum (ONF)* wants to share these and other achievements with its readers.

ONF 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 Diane M. Otte, RN, MS, OCN®, via e-mail at otte.diane@mayo.edu or ottedm@charter.net.