

## PEOPLE & EVENTS

**Diane M. Otte, RN, MS, OCN®**  
Associate Editor

### King Honored With *New York Times* Tribute to Nurses Award



Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Pauline King, APRN, RN, director of children's programs at The Ohio State University James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute in

Columbus, has been recognized for outstanding patient care with one of four *New York Times* Job Market Tribute to Nurses awards. The awards recognize nurses and nurse educators nominated by their peers and patients for extraordinary achievements in the nursing profession and in patient care. The four winners were featured in a special advertising section of *The New York Times Magazine* on Sunday, November 19.

King, a pioneer in using art therapy to help grieving children, was selected from more than 500 award nominations collected through a print and online campaign. Award winners were determined by a panel of nurse professionals and by *The New York Times*.

During the past 12 years at The James, King has designed and developed the Healing Journey for Children program, which helps children ages 2–19 cope with the illness and death of family members from cancer. The program serves more than 250 children each year. She has created a variety of programs to help children understand cancer and has shared her expertise with audiences worldwide. Some of the most popular programs at The James include Balloon Brigade, which introduces children to cancer treatment and prevention through a hands-on tour of the cancer hospital; Hand in Hand, where children learn to cope with a family member's diagnosis and treatment; Good Grief, which helps children deal with the death of a loved one; and Good Grief and Beyond, a monthly support group open to children for one year after a loved one's death.

King presented the 2003 Mara Mogenson Flaherty Memorial Lecture, "Listen to the Children and Honor Their Pain," at ONS's 28th Annual Congress in Denver, CO. One of her goals is to teach others via the "Honoring Pain Institute: Developing a Continuity of Care Model to Help Children Grieve During the Illness and Death of a Loved One," which will be held May 7–11. For more information

about the training institute, visit [www.jamesline.com/go/children](http://www.jamesline.com/go/children).

### Kaplan Appointed to American Cancer Society's Manhattan Regional Board of Advisors



In September 2006, ONS member Marcelle Kaplan, RN, MS, OCN®, AOCN®, was appointed to the Manhattan Regional Board of Advisors of the American Cancer Society's (ACS's)

Eastern Division as its first nurse member. In her role, Kaplan brings nursing insights to the work of the board, raises awareness of the contributions of oncology nurses to quality patient care, and informs patients, community members, and healthcare professionals about the educational and support services available from ACS. Kaplan is a clinical nurse specialist in breast oncology at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Weill Cornell Medical Center in New York, NY.

In July 2003, Kaplan was recognized for her contributions to the Reach to Recovery program of ACS's Manhattan office. She received the New York Mets Magic Award for outstanding volunteer work on the field at Shea Stadium, where she threw the first ceremonial pitch of a winning game. In addition, she was instrumental in encouraging and facilitating a \$10,000 patient donation to support oncology nursing certification activities at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Weill Cornell Medical Center. A portion of the funds has been used to sponsor an onsite OCN® review course for more than 20 nurses.

### Rogers Named 2006 Hematology-Oncology Nurse of the Year



ONS member Barbara Barnes Rogers, CRNP, MN, AOCN®, recently was named the 2006 Hematology-Oncology Nurse of the Year by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Eastern

Pennsylvania Chapter. The award, now in its fourth year, recognizes a professional nurse for exemplary practice in caring for patients with blood cancers.

Rogers has been a dedicated oncology nurse for the past 28 years and an advanced practice nurse in oncology for the past 22 years. A retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, Rogers has cared for and educated patients with cancer and their families across the nation about hematologic malignancies and how diseases are best managed. Since 1988, she has been a staff member at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, PA, and has held the positions of clinical manager of the Clinical Research Unit, clinical nurse specialist and adult oncology nurse practitioner of the Peripheral Blood Stem Cell Program, and, most recently, adult hematology-oncology nurse practitioner.

Rogers has authored numerous publications and provided hundreds of presentations regarding the care of patients with malignancies, including presentations on chronic myelogenous leukemia sponsored by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. She is an active ONS member at the local and national levels and has held various leadership positions within the organization as well as serving as its representative to the U.S. Pharmacopeia.

### Higgins to Lead Dana-Farber's Women's Cancers Program



ONS member Joy Higgins, RN, MSN, MBA, has been named the new nurse program leader for the Women's Cancers Program at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, MA. Higgins moved into the permanent position in August 2006 after serving in an interim role since May, when Wendy Makrides, RN, BSN, MSc, OCN®, left Dana-Farber.

A nurse for 33 years, Higgins has experience as a staff nurse and research nurse, in addition to clinical operations and management skills. She joined Dana-Farber in 2005 as a nurse leader for the New Patient Access

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Initiative, a program that seeks to simplify the processes that new Dana-Farber patients must take before their first appointment. Prior to Dana-Farber, Higgins managed clinical operations for the 13-year, National Institutes of Health-sponsored Women's Health Initiative clinical trial at Brigham and Women's Hospital. The national trial of 5,600 postmenopausal women examined the effectiveness of hormone replacement therapy to prevent heart disease.

In her new role, Higgins supervises 24 clinicians and manages clinical operations in collaboration with Craig Bunnell, MD, and Operations Manager Nina Brodie. "We are working with staff at all levels to continually improve the experience for our patients and families," said Higgins.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is a principal teaching affiliate of the Harvard Medical School and is among the leading cancer research and care centers in the United States. It is a founding member of the Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center, designated a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute. For more information, visit [www.dana-farber.org](http://www.dana-farber.org).

### Watkins-Bruner Named Penn School of Nursing Endowed Chair



ONS member Deborah Watkins-Bruner, PhD, RN, a professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, has been named an endowed chair in the School of Nursing, a designation that recognizes excellence in the field of nursing. Watkins-Bruner was named to the Independence Chair in Nursing Education.

Watkins-Bruner was recognized for her work in symptom management, quality of life, and outcomes in the area of radiation oncology. The Independence Chair in Nursing Education endows Watkins-Bruner with full professorship in the School of Nursing. Her current research focuses on patient preferences for treatment, symptom management, quality of life, and prostate cancer. Watkins-Bruner is also the director of the Recruitment, Retention and Outreach Core Facility at the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania.

### Dean and Lally Join University of Buffalo School of Nursing Faculty

Two ONS members recently joined the faculty of the School of Nursing at the University of Buffalo in New York.



Grace E. Dean, PhD, RN, has been appointed assistant professor. She received her PhD from the University of California, Los Angeles, and recently completed two years of post-doctoral study at the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Sleep and Respiratory Neurobiology. Her areas of research involve quality of life and symptom management in patients with cancer. She is interested in identifying biobehavioral mechanisms that result in cancer-related fatigue. Currently, her research centers on examining circadian rhythms and sleep in patients with lung cancer. An ONS member since 1988, Dean has served on a number of national and local chapter committees throughout the years.

Robin M. Lally, PhD, RN, BA, AOCN®, CNS, has been appointed research assistant professor. Her research goal is to understand the experience of women newly diagnosed with breast cancer to develop appropriate postdiagnosis nursing interventions and to determine the effects of early interventions on long-term survivorship. Lally recently earned her doctorate from the University of Minnesota School of Nursing, where she was a recipient of an ONS Small Grant and the Midwest Nursing Research Society's Doctoral Dissertation Grant. While pursuing her education, Lally worked for the past eight years as a breast cancer clinical nurse specialist at the Park Nicollet Jane Brattain Breast Center in St. Louis Park, MN. Additionally, she serves as a contributing editor currently for *ONS Connect*, ONS's news magazine.



### Komen Foundation Names Lewis Professor of Survivorship



The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation named ONS member Frances Marcus Lewis, RN, PhD, MN, FAAN, as a 2006 Professor of Survivorship during its annual Mission Conference, "Many Faces, One Voice," held June 11-13, 2006, in Washington, DC. The Professor of Survivorship Awards are given annually to individuals

who have made significant contributions to the field of breast cancer survivorship. Linda Burhansstipanov, MSPH, DrPH, executive director of Native American Cancer Research in Pine, CO, also was named a Professor of Survivorship.

Lewis is the Virginia and Prentice Bloedel Professor in the School of Nursing at the University of Washington in Seattle. She received \$20,000 for use in advancing work related to breast cancer survivorship. The term of the professorships is one year.

"Dr. Burhansstipanov and Dr. Lewis have brought greater understanding of survivorship issues and challenges to all of us through their clinical and research endeavors," said Rebecca Garcia, PhD, Komen Foundation's vice president of health sciences. "Through the work of these two pioneering women, breast cancer survivors enjoy a better quality of life and healthcare professionals gain a better understanding of the challenges breast cancer survivors often face."

Lewis is recognized for her work with women and families affected by breast cancer and significant contributions to quality of life and survivorship. Her work and research have resulted in the development of family programs offered to the community through Cancer Lifeline and at Seattle Cancer Alliance, among other agencies. She has been invited to present her study results at the U.S. President's Cancer Panel twice and is respected internationally for her research and commitment in the field of breast cancer survivorship.

### Daly Selected as Edge Runner in American Academy of Nursing's Raise the Voice Campaign

The American Academy of Nursing (AAN) recently launched the Raise the Voice campaign at its annual meeting in Miami, FL, in November. Longtime friend to the nursing community Donna E. Shalala, PhD, president of the University of Miami and former secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, serves as honorary chair of the year-long program.

"Health care in America is inaccessible to many, expensive for most, and fragmented for all," said AAN President Linda Burnes Bolton, DrPH, RN, FAAN. "Making the current system of healthcare delivery better is not the answer. Transforming it is. We need a system that delivers effective, convenient, personal, and holistic care to patients, families, and communities. Nurses can lead this transformation. To do it, we must make our voices heard."

A component of the Raise the Voice campaign is its incorporation of Edge Runners, a term coined by the noted health futurist Leland Kaiser. As Joanne Disch, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Karlene Kerfoot, PhD, RN, FAAN, co-chairs of the AAN annual meeting and architects of the Raise the Voice

campaign, explained, “We challenged the members of the Academy to highlight examples of interventions, programs, and projects that nurses have designed and used to integrate mental and physical care for patients, families, and communities. Academy Edge Runners are nurses who develop innovations and programs that evolve into mainstream infrastructures and initiatives.”

ONS member Barbara Daly, PhD, RN, FAAN, a professor in the Schools of Medicine and Nursing at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH, was selected as an AAN Edge Runner. Recognizing that chronically and critically ill patients often need holistic care that intensive care units are not designed to provide, Daly has established nurse-managed special care units. Such units provide the best that technology has to offer and allow nurses to attend to patients’ emotional and social needs. Nurses can make sure, for example, that patients find treatment for depression if they need it or that they are linked with various sources of community support. Currently, Daly’s research focuses on family members and decision makers to ensure they have the necessary information and resources to care for patients after discharge.

### **Morra Appointed to American Cancer Society’s Volunteer Board of Directors**

The American Cancer Society (ACS) has elected ONS honorary member Marion E. Morra, MA, ScD, of Milford, CT, as chair-elect of the 2006–2007 National Board of Directors. The National Assembly and the National Board of Directors are ACS’s governing bodies and have been comprised of locally elected volunteers since the organization’s inception in 1913.

“ACS’s history of progress in the fight against cancer is unmatched, and its pursuit of its mission to eliminate cancer as a major health issue is as aggressive today as it has ever been,” said Richard C. Wender, MD, the Society’s new president. “It is a great honor and privilege to lead an organization that is making a significant difference in the lives of millions of Americans touched by cancer, and working to ensure that fewer of them will ever hear the words ‘You have cancer.’”

Morra is co-principal investigator of the Cancer Information Service Research Consortium and an associate clinical professor in the School of Nursing at Yale University. She is founder and president of Morra Communications, a medical and health communications consulting firm; the coauthor of four best-selling self-help books for patients with cancer; and an internationally recognized expert in cancer control and health communications.

ACS is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by saving lives, diminishing suffering, and preventing cancer

through research, education, advocacy, and service. For more information, call toll free 800-ACS-2345 or visit [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

### **Newly Revised *Genetics/Genomics Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice* Now Available; Greco Serves as Work Group Chair**

Nursesbooks.org, the publishing program of the American Nurses Association, in collaboration with the International Society of Nurses in Genetics (ISONG), has released a newly revised *Genetics/Genomics Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice*, last published in 1998. The book broadly describes genetic and genomic nursing practice and delineates the scope of genetic clinical nursing practice in the United States.

ONS member Karen Greco, PhD, RN, ANP, serves as work group chair and provided the leadership for developing *Genetics and Genomics Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice*. Greco is a longtime member of both ONS and ISONG. She currently chairs ISONG’s Professional Practice Committee. She is a past newsletter editor for the *ONS Cancer Genetics Special Interest Group Newsletter* and has served in other ONS leadership roles. She received her bachelor of science in nursing from the University of Nevada and her master’s in nursing and doctorate of philosophy from Oregon Health and Science University in Portland. She is conducting research related to how older women with a family history of breast cancer make breast health decisions. She has given numerous presentations related to genetics and is lead author for three published book chapters, 11 publications, and 3 abstracts related to genetics and cancer risk. Greco received the 2003 ISONG Founders Service Award, 2004 *MEDSURG Nursing Genetics Nursing Writer’s Award*, 2005 ISONG President’s Award, and the 2005 Sigma Theta Tau Award for her work in genetics nursing. Greco is currently an instructor in the School of Nursing at Oregon Health and Science University.

*Genetics/Genomics Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice* is primarily for practicing nurses, but it is also an essential resource for others in related healthcare work. For more information, visit [www.nursesbooks.org](http://www.nursesbooks.org) or call toll free 800-637-0323.

### **National Human Genome Research Institute Funds Assessment of Public Attitudes**

The National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), has awarded \$2 million to the Genetics and Public Policy Center of the Berman Bioethics Institute at Johns Hopkins University to conduct a public

discussion about potential large, U.S. population-based studies examining the roles of genes and environment in human health.

A large, population-based study likely would involve the participation of hundreds of thousands of U.S. volunteers, who would be followed for a period of many years to ascertain and quantify the major environmental and genetic contributors to common illnesses. Researchers would analyze genetic risk factors; environmental exposures, such as smoking and dietary intake; and the healthcare experiences of a wide cross-section of people in the United States. The study also would provide the opportunity to dissect some of the causes of health disparities between different groups, a topic of much concern.

As part of its two-year pilot project, the Washington, DC–based Genetics and Public Policy Center plans to obtain input on issues related to large, population-based studies through a series of focus groups in Jackson, MI; Kansas City, MO; Middletown and Philadelphia, PA; Phoenix, AZ; and Portland, OR. In addition to the focus groups, the center will carry out a national Web-based survey of 4,000 individuals and conduct town hall meetings attended by 1,000 people in the five states. Community leaders will be interviewed as well. The grant will be used to develop educational materials for the participants, providing them with information about large, population-based studies for the focus groups, survey, and town hall meetings.

For more information about NHGRI’s Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications Research Program, visit [www.genome.gov/10001618](http://www.genome.gov/10001618). For more information about NHGRI, visit [www.genome.gov](http://www.genome.gov).

### **Columbus Hospice Named Employer of the Year**

The National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses (NBCHPN®) has announced that Columbus Hospice is the 2006 recipient of the Employer of the Year Award. The NBCHPN Employer of the Year Award recognizes the work of an employer who has provided exemplary, sustained support of the certification programs for hospice and palliative caregivers. The recipient is selected from eligible organizations and facilities within NBCHPN’s Employer Support Program.

“Columbus Hospice serves as a model for hospices everywhere,” said NBCHPN President Bonnie Morgan, RN, CHPN®. “The quality care they provide their patients, and their continued efforts to improve palliative nursing through certification and other means, demonstrates their ongoing commitment to superlative palliative care.”

Established in 1979 to provide loving, compassionate care to people of all ages with life-limiting illnesses and their families, Columbus Hospice is the only community-

based, nonprofit hospice serving 10 Georgia and 2 Alabama counties. Columbus Hospice is located in Columbus, GA, with a branch located in Phenix City, AL.

Columbus Hospice's primary focus is to provide coordinated care, enabling patients at the end of life to spend their final days at home with family and friends. Hospice services are provided in nursing homes, personal care homes, and retirement communities. Care also is provided in the hospice's 18-bed inpatient Columbus Hospice House. Whenever patients have special needs that cannot be met at home, they may be admitted to Columbus Hospice. Services provided by Columbus Hospice include social services, medication, medical supplies and equipment, respite care symptom management, spiritual care, bereavement counseling and support groups, home health aide services, dietary assessment, and physical, occupational, and speech therapy.

"Through this award, we are delighted to spotlight Columbus Hospice's outstanding work," said ONS member Judy Lentz, RN, MSN, NHA, executive director of NBCHPN. "The Hospice's commitment to excellence should serve as an inspiration to all those striving to enhance the quality of palliative care."

NBCHPN is part of the Alliance for Excellence in Hospice and Palliative Nursing, which includes the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association and the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Foundation. Together, the organizations are working to lead the way in the advancement of the rapidly growing and increasingly important hospice and palliative care nursing specialty. For more information, visit [www.nbchpn.org](http://www.nbchpn.org).

### **Komen Foundation Announces \$13 Million in Grants for New Focused Areas of Study**

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation has announced the availability of at least \$13 million in funding for the launch of its new Focused Areas of Study Grant

Program, designed to attract high-caliber, innovative research proposals addressing key questions in four specific areas of breast cancer: ductal carcinoma in situ, experimental model systems, biomarker identification and validation, and environmental research methods.

At least \$13 million will be awarded this year for qualified, nontraditional proposals of merit that have the potential to make a large impact in the four designated research areas. The \$13 million designated for the new Focused Areas of Study Grant Program is supplemental to the Komen Foundation's annual investment in research through its Research Award Grants Program.

For more information on the Focused Areas of Study grants, contact Chandini Porteus at 972-855-4393. To apply for a grant, visit [www.komen.org/focusedgrants](http://www.komen.org/focusedgrants).

### **Submit Entries for American Journal of Nursing Photo Contest by March 1**

The *American Journal of Nursing (AJN)* is accepting submissions for its 2007 photo contest, "Faces of Caring." Amateur and professional photographers are encouraged to take photos of nurses at work to help highlight the important work of nursing. The contest is cosponsored by the New York University College of Nursing, with support

from the Beatrice Renfield Foundation. First prize is \$2,000, second prize is \$1,500, and third prize is \$1,000. The winning photographs will appear in a special exhibition and on the covers of *AJN*. The submission deadline is **March 1**. For information or to obtain an application, contact Ruke Hidraj at [ruke.hidraj@wolterskluwer.com](mailto:ruke.hidraj@wolterskluwer.com) or 646-674-6609.

### **Apply for an International Award for Nursing Excellence**

Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI), the Honor Society of Nursing, is calling for entries for the 2007 International Awards for Nursing Excellence. The awards, which recognize achievements in the fields of technology, media, chapter excellence, research, and leadership, will be presented November 3-7 at STTI's 39th Biennial Convention in Baltimore, MD. In addition, STTI is accepting nominations for honorary membership.

The deadline for entries is 11:59 pm EST **March 1**. All nominations must be submitted online. Members and nonmembers are invited to apply. Self-nominations are accepted. For more information about the award categories, criteria, and submission guidelines, visit [www.nursingsociety.org/programs](http://www.nursingsociety.org/programs), e-mail [awards@stti.org](mailto:awards@stti.org), or call toll free 888-634-7575 (317-634-8171).

### **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](mailto:otte.diane@mayo.edu) or [ottedm@charter.net](mailto:ottedm@charter.net).