

Oncology Nursing Society Member Receives Franciscan Skemp Healthcare Education Award

As part of the annual celebration of National Nurses Week, nurses from across Franciscan Skemp Healthcare system gathered in Marycrest Auditorium in La Crosse, WI, for the “Your Excellent Service” awards ceremony. The awards were presented in four categories: team, research, education, and practice.

Among the winners was Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Mary Kron, RN, BSN, OCN®, who received the award in the education category. Those who nominated Kron for this award said she “consistently demonstrates a commitment to the development of colleagues and students by sharing her knowledge. Her real life examples are great for helping the students integrate the new knowledge. Part of Mary’s role as a chemotherapy nurse is to provide education to patients regarding their chemotherapy and possible side effects. She does this teaching in a manner which is specific and sensitive to the unique needs of that patient.”

Other recipients included the Emergency Medical and Trauma Care/Urgent Care Nurses in the team category, Sharon Trussoni, RN, for research, and Mary Fisher, RN, for practice. Special recognition also was given to Marjorie Resler, RN, a continuing care coordinator, who retired after 38 years of service to Franciscan Skemp and the nursing profession.

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Franciscan Skemp Healthcare Education Award recipient Mary Kron, RN, BSN, OCN® (left), and Vice President of Patient Care Services Diane Holmay, RN, MS (right)

American Pain Society Announces Recipients of Clinical Centers of Excellence in Pain Management Awards



Judith Paice, PhD, RN, FAAN, president of the American Pain Society

The American Pain Society (APS) announced the recipients of its second annual Clinical Centers of Excellence (CCOE) in Pain Management Awards, recognizing the nation’s outstanding pain care centers. Six multidisciplinary pain programs were recognized, including the Richard Barrett Pain Management Center at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, NH; the Pediatric Pain Management Center at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland; the Productive Rehabilitation Institute of Dallas for Ergonomics in Texas; the Stanford Pain Center in Palo Alto, CA; the University of Minnesota Fairview Pain and Palliative Care Center in Minneapolis; and the University of Wisconsin Health Pain Care Services in Madison.

Forty-nine applications were judged by a panel of prominent pain management experts. APS established the program in 2006 to recognize progressive teams of health professionals who address critical, sometimes unmet, needs in pain management within their communities. Multidisciplinary programs in the United States offering direct patient care in pain management are eligible to apply. Award recipients were honored at a gala on May 8, 2008, at the APS Annual Scientific Conference in Tampa, FL.

“In our second year, the Clinical Centers Excellence Awards drew applicants from every part of the country with excellent performance in relieving suffering and restoring everyday function to those whose lives are burdened with persistent pain,” said APS President Judith Paice, PhD, RN, FAAN, director, cancer pain program, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine and ONS member.

A recurring quality of leading pain programs, according to Paice, is success in helping patients enhance overall function and quality of life. “Combining cognitive-behavioral and physical therapies with medi-

cations and other approaches is the major advantage of the multidisciplinary approach. We treat the whole person, not just the pain. The award recipients and other centers are proving every day that integrated, multidisciplinary pain care yields the best long-term outcomes medically, psychologically, and socially,” she said.

APS is a multidisciplinary community that brings together a diverse group of scientists, clinicians, and other professionals to increase the knowledge of pain and transform public policy and clinical practice to reduce pain-related suffering.

For more information, visit www.ampain.soc.org.

M.D. Anderson Collaborates With the German Cancer Research Center

The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center signed a sister institution agreement with the German Cancer Research Center, Germany’s premier cancer center, which is renowned particularly for excellence in basic cancer research. The mission-driven agreement formalizes long-standing academic relationships among faculty at both institutions, and solidifies plans to work collaboratively toward groundbreaking achievements in cancer research and care for the benefit of patients worldwide.

The signing ceremony for the sister institution agreement took place at the German Cancer Research Center in Heidelberg and was presided over by John Mendelsohn, MD, president of M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, and Otmar D. Wiestler, MD, chair and scientific director of the German Cancer Research Center. The ceremony culminated a day-long educational workshop featuring presentations from faculty at both institutions on topics including glioblastoma, physics, and image-guided surgery.

“The German Cancer Research Center is an outstanding partner that contributes state-of-the-art science and technology and exceptional faculty to our mission to eradicate cancer,” said Mendelsohn.

The German Cancer Research Center, located within the University of Heidelberg campus, is renowned as a world leader in

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