

PEOPLE & EVENTS

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Associate Editor

Coleman to Be Inaugurated as Elizabeth Stanley Chair in Oncology Nursing



Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Elizabeth Ann Coleman, PhD, RNP, AOCN®, will be recognized for her achievements in research, teaching, and service on April 29 when she is invested as the inaugural recipient and steward of the Elizabeth Stanley Chair in Oncology Nursing in the College of Nursing, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), in Little Rock.

Coleman graduated from the University of Mississippi with a BSN in 1963. She received her MSN in 1979 and her PhD in 1989 from the University of Texas at Austin. She completed a three-year postdoctoral fellowship in Cancer Prevention and Control at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health (NIH), and postgraduate work in cancer genetics at the Children's Hospital Medical Center in Cincinnati, OH, and the Jackson Laboratory in Bar Harbor, ME. Coleman has been with the UAMS College of Nursing since 1980 and served on the task force that developed the PhD program in nursing at UAMS.

Coleman is internationally recognized for her work in oncology nursing, with programs of research focusing on patients with breast cancer and multiple myeloma. Achievements in research include studies showing that the MammaCare method of breast examination was most effective, developing the International Breast Cancer Screening Network in 21 countries, and laying the groundwork for the startup of the Breast Cancer Surveillance Consortium in the United States. She was instrumental in redesigning the data collection protocol for the national cancer registry Surveillance, Epidemiology and End Results Program that affected breast cancer statistics. Her research funding from NIH, the American Cancer Society (ACS), ONS, private foundations, and industry amounts to more than \$5.5 million. She has authored 58 publications in refereed journals and 14 books, chapters, or special projects.

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Other areas of Coleman's service include serving as a consultant to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ACS, and ONS to improve cancer screening and treatment and education and research in oncology nursing. She currently serves on the Governor's Advisory Board for the Arkansas Breast Cancer Control Program and the Arkansas Cancer Registry Board.

Van Gerpen Receives Distinguished Nurse Award



ONS Director-at-Large Ruth Van Gerpen, RN, MS, CNS, OCN®, received the prestigious First National Bank of Omaha Distinguished Nurse Award on November 20 during the March of Dimes Excellence

in Nursing Awards in Omaha. The award is the highest presented to a Nebraska nurse through the statewide competition.

Van Gerpen, a nurse at BryanLGH Medical Center in Lincoln, NE, for 28 years, received a nursing diploma from Bryan Memorial School of Nursing in 1976, a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Nebraska Wesleyan University in 1987, and a master of science and clinical nurse specialist degree from Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha in 2001.

Van Gerpen's previous involvement with ONS includes serving as Southeast Nebraska Chapter president, vice president, program chair, and newsletter editor for 13 years. She has served on the *ONS News* Editorial Board and 1999 Congress Team and as the 2001 Congress Team leader. She also is actively involved in the ACS's Speakers Bureau, Relay for Life, and "I Can Cope" program. In addition, she recently served as chair of the Nebraska "Every Woman Matters" Advisory Board.

The March of Dimes Excellence in Nursing Awards, presented by Children's Hospital of Omaha, is designed to recognize and honor the nursing profession in Nebraska. For more information, visit www.marchofdimes.com.

Ott Receives Outstanding Nurse Educator Award



ONS member Carol Ott, PhD, RN, OCN®, an associate professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, Kearney Division, recently received the Nebraska Nurses

Association's Outstanding Nurse Educator Award. The award recognizes innovation and expertise in the nurse educator role.

Ott's nursing career spans more than 30 years in helping others attain their dream of becoming an RN. "I love being a nursing faculty member," she said. "It is the best of several worlds—one never loses sight of the people to whom we offer competent nursing care, and I have the opportunity to influence both undergraduate and graduate nursing students to keep striving to learn more."

Ott's nominators said that she personifies the traits of innovation and expertise as an educator who "has lived the philosophy of lifelong learning in all of her academic pursuits."

"Carol Ott knows firsthand what can be achieved in the nursing profession and believes that each student can be successful," wrote one nominator and former student. "She has the special ability to spark the minds and souls of her students. Furthermore, she willingly shares her special gift of knowledge and compassion."

Ott, whose specialty area is oncology and chronic illnesses, also conducts research, most notably with cancer support groups, cardiac rehabilitation, and collaboratively as a coinvestigator of a \$2.9 million, five-year federal grant to evaluate a new approach to prevent osteoporosis in breast cancer survivors after menopause.

Ott earned her bachelor's degree from Midland College in Fremont, NE, a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, and her doctoral degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Digital Object Identifier: 10.1188/05.ONF.227-228

Anderson Honored With Texas Partnership for End-of-Life Care Champion Award

ONS member Corrine M. Anderson, MSN, RN, recently was honored with the Texas Partnership for End-of-Life Care (TxPEC) Champion in End-of-Life Care Award. This statewide award program honors an individual who, through his or her community and professional efforts, is committed to ensuring that people of all cultures and communities in Texas have access to compassionate, self-directed care at the end of life. Anderson was honored at TxPEC's High Flight of Champions Gala on November 12, 2004, at the Frontiers of Flight Museum in Dallas.

Anderson is an advanced practice nurse for palliative care at Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth. Her commitment to professional education began with her own 30-year career, earning a nursing diploma and then bachelor's and master's degrees in nursing. She is the founding president of the Fort Worth Regional Group of the National Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association. Since 1999, Anderson has served as an instructor, a researcher, and an investigator in phase III/IV pharmaceutical trials for pain management, a speaker, and an accomplished published author on palliative and end-of-life care.

"Anderson's selfless sharing of her time and energy to lessen suffering has improved her community and lessened the burdens of her professional colleagues through her high-quality nursing care, medical education, and selfless volunteerism in her community and throughout Texas," said Daniel Handel, MD, Palliative Care Medicine Fellowship director and NIH senior clinical staff.

TxPEC was established in 1999 to raise public awareness and enhance professional knowledge of end-of-life care. For more information, visit www.txpec.org.

Latsko Honored With Cameo of Caring Award

ONS member Joan M. Latsko, MSN, CRNP, OCN®, was among 43 western Pennsylvania nurses recognized by the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing's 2004 Cameos of Caring Awards. Nominated by their peers, the 2004 awardees demonstrate an extraordinary commitment to quality pa-

tient care through their practice. Latsko is a bone marrow transplant nurse practitioner at Hematology and Oncology Associates, West Penn Allegheny Health System, Western Pennsylvania Hospital, in Pittsburgh.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Cameos of Caring Endowed Scholarship at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. This year, more than \$75,000 was directed to the scholarship fund, bringing the total amount raised to more than \$300,000. The scholarship is awarded annually to nurses who want to enhance their education. For more information about the Cameos of Caring and its endowed scholarship, visit www.nursing.pitt.edu.

Unique Campaign Launched to Raise Awareness About Prostate Cancer Treatment Options

Theragenics Corporation® recently launched a unique national campaign to raise awareness about proven prostate cancer treatment options, in association with one of the fastest growing spectator sports in America—professional bull riding.


Professional Bull Riders (PBR) fans will receive specially created blue ribbons that designate prostate cancer awareness at PBR Built Ford Tough™ Series events throughout the nation. The campaign officially began at the first Built Ford Tough Series event of 2005 in Worcester, MA, on January 7. With more than 100 million viewers annually and more than one million live event attendees,

professional bull riding provides an outstanding platform for reaching a large segment of the American public.

Two professional bull riders, Owen Washburn and Lee Akin, will serve as spokesmen for the campaign and spread the word about prostate cancer treatment during special appearances and events in cities throughout the United States. Both riders are sponsored by Theragenics and will wear shirts and protective vests featuring the specially designed blue ribbon during each of their rides throughout the 2005 PBR season. Theragenics also will launch an advertising campaign in key cities to complement this grassroots effort.

"It's important for men to know about their options," Washburn said. "Men like me can't afford not to work for weeks or months at a time. I want to let them know about proven treatment options that will get them back to their daily routine as soon as possible."

"Being part of this awareness campaign is especially important to me," Akin said. "African American men are at a higher risk of developing prostate cancer, and it often strikes at an earlier age. I hope I can make a difference in someone's quality of life."

Theragenics is a prominent advocate of the need for men to understand all clinically proven options, when making their treatment decisions. The company played a lead role in securing Congressional adoption of both Senate and House resolutions in 2004, encouraging doctors to inform patients of all proven treatment options, including brachytherapy. For more information, visit www.theragenics.com or www.theraseed.com. 

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 Patricia F. Jassak, MS, RN, AOCN®, via phone (773-350-2234), fax (773-583-3477), or e-mail (pjassak@aol.com).