

Oncology Nursing Society Member Named Health Policy Fellow



Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Margaret C. Wilmoth, PhD, MSS, RN, FAAN, has been selected by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) as a

Health Policy Fellow for 2009–2010. Wilmoth, a professor in the School of Nursing in the College of Health and Human Services at the University of North Carolina–Charlotte, has joined nine other health professionals in Washington, DC, for the 2009–2010 academic year, learning about the health policy process at the federal level. Fellows have been immersed in the theoretical aspects of the policy process during the fall semester and joined the American Political Science Association in November to complete their orientation to the federal policy process. Lectures will be conducted by key policy makers and other experts in health and public policy. Following interviews with members of U.S. Congress and other federal agencies in December, Wilmoth is spending the rest of the fellowship engaged full-time on Capitol Hill participating in the policy process.

RWJF focuses on the pressing health and healthcare issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, RWJF works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful, and timely change. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation Announces 2009 Grant Recipients

Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) announced the awarding of the 2009 Nurse Researcher Grants. The grants, designed to improve the quality of care and life for young patients

with cancer and their families, will total almost \$250,000 over the course of a two-year period. Among the 2009 grant recipients are Rita Secola, RN, MSN, CPON®, for Mentored Nurse Researcher and Mary Nelson, MS, RN, CPNP, for Intermediate Nurse Researcher, both at the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles in California and Ki Moore, DNSc, RN, FAAN, at the University of Arizona in Tempe and Tina Baggott, PhD, at the University of California at San Francisco, both for Independent Nurse Researcher.

ALSF added the Nurse Researcher Grant program to an already successful and innovative pediatric research grant program in 2007. Having awarded medical research grants to leading hospitals and institutions across the United States, ALSF felt it was important to invest in helping nurses find better ways to care for children undergoing cancer treatment. ALSF plans to expand on this commitment to helping pediatric oncology nurses in 2010 with the first ALSF Nurse Researcher Workshop. The free workshop, slated for April 26–27 in Philadelphia, PA, will be designed to help nurses learn the mechanics of creating a research proposal, securing funds, carrying out research, and disseminating findings. ALSF also will cover travel and lodging expenses for those eligible.

"Along with funding cutting-edge medical research to find causes and cures for childhood cancer, we think it is equally important to improve the quality of care and life for childhood cancer patients and their families," said Liz Scott, Alex's mom and Director of Development for ALSF. "Nurses have direct interaction with cancer patients as they undergo treatments, giving them a unique view into ways their patients' lives can be improved; we are here to help them do just that."

"This funding from ALSF comes at a critical time in my research on the effects of treatment for childhood cancer on the central nervous system," said Moore, an Independent Nurse Researcher grant recipient. "Support from the Foundation will allow us to explore the long term effects of chemotherapy, specifically cognitive development, on children with cancer."

"I am thrilled and honored to receive funding for my research from ALSF, an organization dedicated to funding research in the quest for improved childhood cancer care and cures," said Nelson, an Intermediate Nurse Researcher grant recipient.

For more information on the Nurse Researcher Grant Program and the upcoming workshop, visit www.ALSFgrants.org.

ONS Members Inducted Into American Academy of Nursing

ONS members Patricia Berry, PhD, APRN, FAAN, and Barbara Summers, PhD, RN, were formally inducted into the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) along with 96 other nurse leaders at AAN's Annual Awards Ceremony in Atlanta, GA.

Berry is an associate professor in the College of Nursing at the University of Utah in Salt Lake. She also is a certified gerontological nurse practitioner, an advanced practice palliative care nurse, and the associate director of education and practice for the University of Utah's Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence. With 32 years of experience in hospice and palliative care, Berry has contributed to critical policy, educational, and scientific initiatives to improve the management of pain and symptoms, particularly for patients with life-limiting illnesses and their families. She is a member of the national faculty for the Geriatric End of Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) and serves on the research committees of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization and the American Board of Nursing Specialties.

"The AAN invites topnotch nursing leaders to become fellows of the academy," said University of Utah College of Nursing Dean and Louis H. Peery Presidential Endowed Chair Maureen R. Keefe, RN, PhD, FAAN. "This honor is indicative of



Patricia Berry,
PhD, APRN, FAAN