

Dellepoort Named International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care Trustee



The November/December 2000 issue of the *Oncology Nursing Forum's* "People and Events" feature included an item on several Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) members who were named to the International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care (ISNCC) 2000–2004 Board of Trustees. ONS member Wim Dellepoort, RGN, BSC, director of clinical care at Slingeland Hospital in Doetinchem, the Netherlands, was inadvertently omitted from this list.

Dellepoort was named secretary-treasurer at the 11th International Conference on Cancer Nursing, which was held July 30–August 3, 2000, in Oslo, Norway. More than 700 delegates representing 58 nations attended the conference.

ISNCC was founded in 1984 and has more than 60 member groups in 25 countries, representing more than 50,000 nurses specializing in cancer care.

Dow Appointed to Florida Biomedical Research Advisory Council



Oncology Nursing Society member Karen Hassey Dow, PhD, RN, FAAN, has been appointed to the Florida Biomedical Research Advisory Council by Governor Jeb Bush. Dr. Dow is an associate professor in the School of Nursing in the College of Health and Public Affairs at the University of Central Florida.

The Florida Biomedical Research Program was created by the 1999 Legislature, in the Florida Department of Health, and is funded by part of the income from the Lawton Chiles Endowment Fund. The purpose of the program is to increase the health of Floridians by providing grant funds to be used exclusively for research relating to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of diseases related to tobacco use, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease. Since

the program's inception 18 months ago, considerable progress has been made in organizing the Advisory Council, the subsequent development of overall program policies and procedures, establishment of the grant program, and various administrative operations within the Department of Health.

University of Florida Wins National Award for GatorSHADE™ Program



The University of Florida (UF) has received a national award for the GatorSHADE™ program, a College of Nursing skin cancer prevention project for elementary school students. The American Academy of

Nursing, the national honorary organization of North American nursing leaders, presented one of its six 2000 Media Awards to Oncology Nursing Society member Carol Reed Ash, RN, EdD, FAAN (pictured above), the UF College of Nursing Kirbo Endowed Chair and eminent scholar. Ash represented the university at the Academy's annual meeting in December.

GatorSHADE is the brainchild of Ash, who also is an American Cancer Society professor of oncology nursing, and Jill W. Varnes, EdD, CHES, a professor in UF's College of Health and Human Performance. Launched in 1994, the program began with the distribution of GatorSHADE hats and information cards to children attending UF football games. That led to the development of a complete curriculum package designed to teach elementary students about sun-safe habits and the hazards of overexposure to ultraviolet radiation. The package includes a 16-minute videotape, two-player board game, exercises, experiments, hat, sunglasses, and take-home information packet for parents. The curriculum was field tested for two years at P.K. Yonge Elementary School in Gainesville to ensure that it raised children's awareness.

"Skin cancer has become the number one cancer found in the United States today, and Florida has one of the nation's highest incidences of the disease," Ash said. She also stressed the importance of making the public aware of the potential damage that ultraviolet radiation causes.

Ash and Varnes plan to distribute the curriculum nationwide at no cost to schools if sponsors can be found.

Hockett Appointed to Florida Board of Nursing

Florida Governor Jeb Bush recently appointed Oncology Nursing Society member Keri Hockett, ARNP, MSN, AOCN®, coordinator of Sarasota Memorial Health Care System's Oncology Program, to a four-year term on Florida's Board of Nursing. The 13-member board, which operates within the Department of Health as part of the Division of Medical Quality Assurance (MQA), ensures that nurses licensed in the state are safe practitioners. Hockett, one of the top credentialed nurses on the Board, has worked at Sarasota Memorial for more than 20 years.

"I believe that Sarasota Memorial has prepared me well to serve on this board," Hockett said. "Our nursing leadership has set and maintained high standards of excellence in practice and degree of professionalism that is unsurpassed. This appointment is a great reflection on the commitment of this hospital to superior nursing care."

The prestigious appointment follows a lengthy application process requiring numerous references. The Board of Nursing is made up of seven RNs who have been engaged in the practice of professional nursing at least four years (one must be as an advanced RN practitioner, one a nurse executive, and one a nurse educator), three LPNs, and three lay members.

MQA and its boards develop policies to effectively regulate medical professionals while maintaining the primary goal of protecting and promoting the health of Floridians by regulating healthcare practitioners and facilities.

Vallerand to Lead Project to Improve Management of Home Healthcare Patients' Cancer Pain

A National Cancer Institute-funded grant will allow noted pain expert and Oncology Nursing Society member April Hazard Vallerand, PhD, RN, to teach home-health nurses, patients, and their caregivers how to properly manage patients' cancer-related pain. The three-year study will determine the impact of an educational intervention on nurses and their practice in the management of pain and opioid-related symptoms in home-care patients with cancer. Vallerand is an assistant professor in the College of Nursing at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI.

The target population of the study is home-health care patients who are between cancer diagnosis and hospice. Home-health nurses