

PEOPLE & EVENTS

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Associate Editor

Gullatte Named 2004 Georgia Nurse of the Year



Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Mary Magee Gullatte, RN, MN, ANP, AOCN®, FAAMA, director of nursing for inpatient oncology and transplant services at Emory Hospitals and the Winship Cancer Institute in Atlanta,

GA, has been awarded one of the state's top nursing honors—the Georgia Nursing Association's 2004 Nurse of the Year.

Gullatte, a 26-year employee of Emory University Hospital, has served in various roles, ranging from staff nurse to multiple management positions. She also has served on the boards of the American Cancer Society and ONS and as a volunteer for countless organizations, such as the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, and Georgia Special Olympics.

During her career at Emory, Gullatte completed her master's of nursing degree and her credential as an advanced practice nurse practitioner from Emory's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing. She currently is pursuing doctoral studies in cancer nursing research supported, in part, by a National Cancer Institute training grant from the University of Utah School of Nursing.

Emory Healthcare Chief Nursing Officer Alice Vautier, RN, EdD, nominated Gullatte for the award. Vautier cited Gullatte's many contributions to the nursing profession, including her promotion of the image of nursing; impact on local, regional, national, and international nursing and health care; mentoring; and advocating for access to affordable, safe patient care.

"Mary is a consummate professional who has a way of inspiring others to act and brings out the best in their professional achievement," Vautier said. "She is a tireless worker as she strives to make a difference in the profession for patients and nurses and within the communities she serves."

Gullatte's experience has allowed her to make many contributions to health care in Georgia. She educates nurses and consumers about health promotion and disease prevention throughout metro Atlanta. She formed a

nurses' guild and a cancer survivor support group in her church community, taught AIDS classes at Morris Brown College, conducted cancer prevention and early-detection programs throughout the state, and conducts a health promotion seminar at the Marietta Alternative School once a year. Her work has garnered several national and local awards for her focus on health care within the community. She is a seasoned presenter and a widely published author.

"I have found nursing to be a professionally fulfilling and personally enriching career choice," Gullatte said. "I have had the opportunity to learn so much from each patient and family encounter. I feel they have touched my life perhaps as much as I have touched theirs. I have no regrets in my career choice and I encourage anyone who would like to have the opportunity to learn, to grow, and to experience the joy of making a difference in the lives of so many at such a critical time in their life to choose nursing as a career."

Murphy Awarded for Innovations in End-of-Life Care



ONS member Mary Murphy, RN, MS, AOCN®, CHPN, a palliative care nurse specialist at the Hospice of Dayton in Ohio, has received the Hospice and Palliative Care Nurses Association (HPNA) Award

for Innovations in End of Life Care. Murphy accepted the award at the National Conference of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Care Physicians and HPNA in Phoenix, AZ, on January 23.

The award is given to a nurse who has made a difference in end-of-life care by implementing a program or service to support end-of-life care for patients. Murphy provided education to more than 195 nurses at the Hospice of Dayton and gave a state and national presentation, "Palliative Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy for the Hospice Patient," for the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. Murphy also implemented ongoing patient teaching materials, resource staff, and a self-learning packet to support the project.

Murphy is the immediate past president of ONS's West Central Ohio Chapter, for which she also has served as treasurer. She is an au-

thor, a lecturer, and a reviewer for the *Oncology Nursing Forum*. She also contributed chapters in *Telephone Triage Nursing for Oncology Nursing*, recently published by ONS.

Newton Receives Outstanding Alumni Award



ONS member Susan A. Newton, RN, MS, AOCN®, field manager of oncology nursing for Ortho Biotech Products, LP, recently received the Outstanding Alumni Award from Wright State University (WSU)—Miami

Valley College of Nursing and Health in Dayton, OH. A 1990 WSU graduate, Newton earned her master's of science degree in oncology nursing from the University of South Florida in 1995. Her position provides the education that oncology nurses need to help patients with cancer.

Newton is chair of the *ONCC News* Editorial Board and writes a regular column on the benefits of nursing certification. She has written a chapter for a medical-surgical textbook and is co-editor of the ONS publication *Telephone Triage Nursing for Oncology Nursing*. Newton has served as a preceptor for graduate students attending WSU in the clinical nurse specialist program. She is a past president of ONS's West Central Ohio Chapter and the current scholarship committee chair. She also is a past member of the American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer Task Force.

Newton has spoken in Washington, DC, for the Society's Hill Day and was the recipient of the 2001 FIRE® (Fatigue Initiative Through Research and Education) Excellence Award, which is supported through a grant to ONS from Ortho Biotech Products, LP.

Distress Management Training for Oncology Nurses Now Available

The American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS) and the Individual Cancer Assistance Network (ICAN) recently launched the online continuing education accredited program, ICAN: Distress Management for

Oncology Nursing. ICAN is a philanthropic program of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Company to build community-based cancer counseling services for patients and their families.

ONS members Ruth McCorkle, PhD, RN, FAAN, of Yale University School of Nursing in New Haven, CT, and Jeannie Pasacreta, PhD, RN, CS, of Columbia University School of Nursing in New York, NY, serve as program faculty. They are leading experts in distress management and advocate for the active role of nurses in screening and referral processes for patient psychosocial care. Web cast presentations include the following.

- The Oncology Nurse's Role in Recognizing Distress in Patients and Family Caregivers
- Assessment Recommendations
- Treatment Strategies
- Principles and Guidelines for Psychotherapy and Referral

The program examines the dimensions and prevalence of patient distress; offers instruction on how to effectively integrate screening tools, such as the Distress Thermometer and Problem Check List, into the clinical setting; and discusses interventions and referral processes based on the National Comprehensive Cancer Network's Guidelines for Distress Management.

Jimmie C. Holland, MD, of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, NY, is cofounder of APOS and chair of the ICAN Board of Advisors. "Distress can have devastating impact upon patient quality of life, and nurses are in the unique position to detect, intervene, and refer to appropriate services at point of care," she said. "We believe that this program will reduce traditional barriers to clinical education and provide the oncology nursing community with an opportunity to learn directly from the experts in psycho-oncology."

APOS promotes the psychological, social, and physical well-being of patients with cancer and their families at all stages of disease and survivorship through clinical care, education, research, and advocacy. APOS member-

ship represents fields such as psychiatry, social work, psychology, nursing, and chaplaincy and has interactions with all clinical oncology specialties, epidemiology and cancer control, basic sciences, bioethics, palliative care, rehabilitation, clinical trials, and decision making. For more information, visit www.apos-society.org.

Call for Entries: "Oncology on Canvas: Expressions of a Woman's Cancer Journey"

Entries are being accepted for "Oncology on Canvas: Expressions of a Woman's Cancer Journey," an international art competition with an exhibition slated for public viewing on December 3 at the Royal College of Art in London, England. Presented by Lilly Oncology, the contest encourages breast cancer survivors and their oncologists, nurses, families, and friends to submit artwork that represents their experiences with cancer. Entries from both men and women are welcome and should portray a woman's cancer journey in ways that inspire others.

As part of the international competition, a U.S. regional art competition and the U.S. regional winner will be announced at the 27th Annual 2004 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium in Texas, which will be held December 8-11. Entries from U.S. contestants will automatically be considered for the international competition.

"Lilly Oncology is pleased to present 'Oncology on Canvas' because it brings to life our commitment to make a difference in the lives of patients with cancer," said Paolo Paoletti, MD, vice president of oncology clinical research at Lilly. "Unfortunately, many people have been touched by breast cancer, whether it's a person's mother, daughter, wife, sister, or friend. This program allows us to experience and celebrate the strength of everyone involved in a woman's cancer journey."

All entries should be submitted by **October 29** and will be centrally collected and cataloged by the contest's art secretariat. Media accepted include oils, watercolors, acrylics, photographs, pastels, and charcoal. A "Best of Exhibition" winner and two runners-up will be selected from all international entries. "Best of Category" winners and one "People's Choice" selection also will be selected. Each winner will be awarded with a sum of money donated to the cancer charity of the winner's choice in his or her name. Winners will be notified in November 2004. The "Best of Exhibition" winner will be flown to London to receive his or her prize at a special exhibition banquet on December 2. Competition is subject to applicable laws and regulations, which may vary per country.

Lilly welcomes the support offered by Vital Options® International, a global cancer communication, support, and advocacy organization. "The creative process plays a unique role in healing and coping," said Selma Schimmel, founder and chief executive officer of Vital Options International and a breast cancer survivor. "Art is a universal language that allows one to reveal aspects of themselves by bringing meaning and expression to the cancer experience in ways that spoken words often cannot."

For more information or to request an entry form or contest criteria, contact Art Exhibition Director Jeremy Parsons at 800-734-4131 (j_parsons@dial.pipex.com) or internationally at +44-149-141-0471.

Call for Abstracts: Fifth International Congress on Peer Review and Biomedical Publication

JAMA and the *British Medical Journal* invite abstracts for the Fifth International Congress on Peer Review and Biomedical Publication, which will be held September 15-17, 2005, in Chicago, IL. The congress will provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of new research on peer review and scientific publication. Abstracts on editorial peer review, scientific publication, and the dissemination of scientific information will be considered. Abstracts that summarize new research and findings will be given priority.

Instructions for preparing and submitting abstracts can be found online at www.jama-peer.org. All abstracts must be submitted via e-mail by **January 15, 2005**.

Publish Your Accomplishments!

The *Oncology Nursing Forum* 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 cell phone (773-350-2234), fax (773-583-3477), or e-mail (pjassak@aol.com).