

## **MILES J. EDWARDS CHAIR IN PROFESSIONALISM AND COMFORT CARE**

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### **Position Description**

The Miles J. Edwards Chair in Professionalism and Comfort Care is newly established in the Center for Ethics in Health Care at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) to lead innovations in professionalism and approaches to ethical issues near the end of life. The position will expand education, policy development and research in professionalism and care near the end of life at OHSU, in Oregon and nationally.

Beyond Chair responsibilities, the individual may have FTE in other OHSU units or possibly an entity outside OHSU. The position includes duties in areas of scholarship, teaching and service. The time allocation shown relates specifically to the 0.5 FTE Chair responsibilities only.

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### **TEACHING (60%)**

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Responsibilities include guiding and supporting the development of teaching about professionalism and ethical issues near the end of life to students and trainees of all OHSU schools and programs and to health care professionals in Oregon and nationally; translating educational and curricular materials into practice.

Specific responsibilities will include teaching personally-developed curricula on professionalism and comfort care to be included in many OHSU schools and program courses. Examples in the School of Medicine include: co-leading and assisting in the coordinating the curriculum for the *Living with Life-Threatening Illness* course for first and second year students, the *Transition to Residency* course on *Professionalism, Ethics and Law* for fourth year students, and teaching professionalism and comfort care to first year medical students in the *Principles of Clinical Medicine* curriculum. Lead the *Death Notification Role Play* training session for incoming medicine interns. Examples in the School of Nursing include lecturing in the courses *Nursing in Chronic Illness & End of Life* and *Nursing in Acute Care & End of Life*.

In addition, the Chair will lead and coordinate many interprofessional activities of the Center for Ethics. For example, the position will participate as a faculty leader in the Center's *Ethics Fellowship Program* in which OHSU's practicing health care professionals learn about clinical ethical issues and professionalism, later sharing their knowledge with unit colleagues. The Chair will participate in the education of Fellows to become the next generation of ethics leaders for the Center, OHSU and the community.

The Chair will also assume the leadership role in developing educational materials in the ethics content area of end-of-life care, and processes for clinical ethics teaching for the Ethics Center's outreach to health care professional in Oregon and nationally. Examples

include participation in planning and teaching for OHSU-sponsored conferences (e.g., the yearly *Kinsman Conference* and *City-wide and Statewide Palliative Care Conferences*) and presentations at selected national conferences, symposia and pre-courses. The individual will also participate in teaching at other Center events such as *Bioethics Study Group* and *Senior Clinicians' Seminar*.

Although the duties include teaching directly, a significant responsibility will be mentoring junior faculty in professionalism, ethics and end-of-life comfort care knowledge and teaching leadership process skills. The educational methods should promote collaboration and transparency consistent with deeply held values of the Center. Modeling intercultural competence and employing innovative technology to enhance the educational effectiveness of campus-based and distance teaching, learning and research will be increasingly vital.

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#### **SERVICE (20%)**

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The Chair's administrative service to the Ethics Center will be primarily in the areas of curriculum and policy development at OHSU and the community at large. This service will include: partnering with other schools to build interprofessional teaching opportunities on professionalism and comfort care; participating in the development of educational grant proposals and subsequent implementation; participating in key fund raising activities for the Center for Ethics; and participating in Ethics Center recruitment of faculty and staff. Other responsibilities will include serving on appropriate committees such as the OHSU Institutional Ethics Committee, and other opportunities for interprofessional ethics education; and facilitating the broader sharing of curricular innovation. The Chair will also serve on the Executive Committee of the Center for Ethics in Health Care.

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#### **SCHOLARSHIP (20%)**

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The Chair will engage in scholarly activities related to the field of professionalism and ethics issues related to end-of-life care, fulfilling all requirements for the ethical conduct of research, and complying with all rules, regulations and requirements of the sponsoring organization and OHSU. The Chair is expected to share project progress and research findings with the broader community through participation in the Center for Ethics in Health Care's research program and by submitting and presenting abstracts and papers at local, regional, and national meetings.

Scholarship activity supported by the Edwards Chair will focus on: 1) primary research, development of educational and other translational resources regarding professionalism and clinical ethics issues related to end-of-life care, and 2) development of innovative educational and curricular materials for application of professionalism and clinical ethics

issues related to end-of-life care across professions and the continuum of care settings. Ongoing activities will include continuing to translate theory and research in these content areas into practical usefulness in teaching, policy and patient care. Curricular innovations will be shared across the schools of medicine, dentistry, and nursing, and with the pharmacy and physician assistant programs.