Dear Friends,

I would like to extend a personal thanks to everyone listed on the 2013 OHSU Center for Ethics Donor Honor Roll. As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Center, we have planned an exciting series of events and conferences to meet the needs of OHSU students, our former ethics fellows, and ethics leaders across the region. We also will honor those who, through their generosity, have made all that we have accomplished a reality.

As we look to our next 25 years and the new challenges facing health care today and in the years to come, we remain committed to achieving the greatest possible impact for each dollar you have generously given the Center.

With heartfelt thanks,

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Center for Ethics 25th Anniversary Begins
2014 marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Center, and as befits this milestone, we are celebrating all year long. Everything we do this year simultaneously honors our past and points toward our very vibrant future. The Interprofessional Ethics Program described in the next paragraph was our kick-off event. It will be followed May 1-2 with a statewide Kinsman conference in Bend entitled “Ethics, Difficult Conversations and Palliative Care: New Tools for Integrating Human Values into Future Health Care.” This year’s conference will feature nationally renowned keynote speakers Jodi Halpern MD, PhD and Michael Rabow MD. For more information, email jeppesem@ohsu.edu. The third event will be held September 18th with our first reunion conference for current and past Ethics Fellows. We are honored that Dr. Mark Siegler, Director of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago, will join us.

Health Professions Students Solving Ethical Issues Together
The Center began its 25th anniversary year on January 10 by teaming up with the Provost’s Interprofessional Initiative in teaching a campus-wide session on healthcare ethics. The four-hour session involved over 500 students from the schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, and allied health care. This event assembled 56 small groups of students and mentors from diverse health care backgrounds to learn together for the first time how to solve ethical problems effectively and respectfully, with the shared goal of safer and better-coordinated care. The success of the event was due in no small measure to its use of an innovative ethics curriculum developed by the Center’s Teaching Interprofessional Education (TIE) committee and to the committed involvement of all of the Center’s faculty, senior scholars, and friends.

Master Educators Program Begins
A full year of planning came to fruition on January 24-25, 2014 with the opening session of the year-long curriculum for Master Educators in Compassionate Communication. The six specially selected faculty trainees from the Schools of Medicine and Nursing gathered at The Kennedy School in Northeast Portland for a deep immersion in communication skills training, personal reflection, and relationship building. With support from The Collins Foundation, the Center’s interprofessional faculty of communication skills experts will be helping these trainees sharpen their skills as communication skills educators, champions, and leaders in their own programs and departments.