

CENTER *for* ETHICS *in* HEALTH CARE

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Dear Friends of the Center for Ethics in Health Care:

The Ethics Center has matured with enough projects and programs to require a strategic planning process.

Over a four-month period, the charge to its 12-member council is to discuss and to prioritize ethics education, research, consultation, and policy development. The recommendations will be presented to Provost Lesley Hallick by mid-November.

The daylong retreat held annually in September, hosted by The Kinsman Foundation, will convene the Center's 36 leaders to assess materials for the strategic planning committee.

It is exciting to have so much growth that we have to prioritize our energy and resources.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

Susan

Susan W. Tolle, MD
Cornelia Hayes Stevens Chair
Director
Center for Ethics in Health Care
August 2006

Teaching Methods Refined

Drs. Phyllis Beemsterboer and Robert Potter continue to refine and co-host the sessions on *Disclosure of Medical Errors*. New cases have been written for the presentations made to 24 different departments, with new inquiries coming weekly from other units at OHSU. Involving the leadership of each department in both case development and teaching creates a new standard of transparency. This will serve to enhance patient safety.

Progress on Building the Program in Bedside Teaching

As Dr. Miles J. Edwards approached the end of his life, he felt great urgency to ensure that patients and their families have the kind of support that is their fundamental right. Miles' wish aligns with the Center's mission, and we are dedicated to achieving our shared goal of bringing compassionate health care to the bedside of the critically ill. Consequently, we have begun both to build for the present and sustain for the future Miles' legacy.

We are already developing a palliative care program to balance and sometimes offset the pressure to use every technological advance available. We are collaborating with the Veterans' Administration to provide training of Fellows in physical and emotional support for the critically ill and their families. These Fellows will care for and learn from some of the 500 patients attended each year by the OHSU Palliative Care team. With the help of many of you, nearly \$1.5 million has been raised in less than a year toward the \$2.5 million needed to permanently sustain the program. We are transforming the culture of medical care as Miles wished. It is immensely rewarding to partner with so many of you to build this innovative and far-reaching program.

Scheduled Events & Activities

Three Palliative Care conferences will take place this fall. The first is for the southern Willamette valley region to be held in Eugene **September 22nd**. The second conference will be held **October 20th** in Medford, and the third in Salem will take place on **November 17th** with a more advanced curriculum.

On **October 11th**, our 34th Daniel Labby Senior Clinicians' Seminar will address, "*What Should You Do with Unexpected Incidental Findings?*" The Seminar will take place from 10 am to noon in the MacDonald Auditorium at Casey Eye Institute. If you are interested in attending, please call the Center (503) 494-4466 for parking arrangements.

