Dear Friends of the Center for Ethics in Health Care:

The need for our programs in health care ethics has never been greater. Please take a close look at the photos on the donor honor roll as they highlight several current initiatives.

For example, half of the United States has implemented or is developing POLST-like programs based on materials developed by the Oregon POLST Task Force (see polst.org for details). We are asked daily to share what we have learned with Oregon colleagues and those across the country, and we rejoice in their growing successes.

We are most thankful for the strong and ongoing support of our community and realize the personal sacrifice that many of you have made to continue to give so generously during these adverse economic times.

This year, we honor the Ethics Center’s 31 Founders, the 2008 donors and for the first time, those who have allowed us to acknowledge that they have included the Ethics Center in their estate plans.

Our deep thanks to all who have given so generously to the Center and who continue to partner with us to assure the future of our programs.

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

Building the Model POLST Registry Begins in Clackamas County
Filming of the POLST Registry DVD has been completed, and educational programs are planned over the next two months in facilities throughout Clackamas County. Clackamas County residents with POLST forms will be given the opportunity to authorize having a copy entered into the Registry. To create a statewide Registry, legislation is needed and a bill is in process. The bill was submitted by Governor Kulongowski and is House Bill 2132 which is currently under consideration by the Health Care Committee. Having an electronic Registry will offer a back-up system to assure that medical orders are available in a time of crisis.

Partnering to Teach Palliative Care Skills
With support from The Kinsman Foundation, we are co-hosting conferences with hospitals all over Oregon. This month brings us to Silverton and Corvallis. Each community faces both similar and unique challenges in caring for those with advanced illness. By bringing experiences and solutions from one hospital and health system to another, we can all provide better care.

Expanding the “Living with Life Threatening Illness” Elective
We are expanding the educational programs as rapidly as we can; even though the Miles J. Edwards Chair endowment is not yet fully funded. For example, we have added more medical students to the “Living with Life Threatening Illness” elective more than doubling the first year’s enrollment. In addition, we have selected patient-teachers from a wider range of backgrounds. Some are young, some are deeply spiritual, and some have a family in conflict. The students’ experience is further enhanced by sharing their experiences with their patient-teachers in small groups.

Upcoming Events

Feb. 13, 2009  Palliative Care Conference - “Palliative Care: Working Together,” Co-Sponsor: Silverton Hospital, Silverton, OR
Feb. 20, 2009  Palliative Care Conference – “Palliative Care: The Art of Caring and Medicine,” Co-Sponsor: Good Samaritan Medical Center, Corvallis, OR
April 16-17, 2009 19th Annual Kinsman Conference – Organizational Ethics: Mission Under Fire,” Co-Sponsor: Southwest Washington Medical Center, Vancouver, WA
May 7, 2009  Madeline Brill Nelson Ethics Education Lecture
Speaker: Dr. Matthew Wynia, Director, Institute of Ethics, American Medical Association, OHSU Auditorium
May 18, 2009  40th Daniel Labby Senior Clinicians’ Seminar-
“Health Care Professional’s Relationship to Industry,” 10:00AM – Noon, Casey Eye Institute, OHSU
June 13, 2009  Annual Statewide Palliative Care Conference - “Palliative Care Across the Life Span,” Co-Sponsor: OHSU Doernbecher Children’s Hospital, Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR
Founders of the Center for Ethics in Health Care

Lisa Andrus-Rivera
Evona Brim
Samantha Davi
Alyce R. Cheatham
The Collins Foundation
Maribeth W. Collins
Truman and Kristen Collins
The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations
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Cherida Collins Smith
Cornelia Hayes Stevens
Summerville Fund at OCF
Cyrus B. Sweet III
Susan W. Tolle
William B. Webber
Celia Bast Young

The following friends have set up a Charitable Remainder Trust or have told us that they have included the Center in their estate plans.

Lisa Andrus-Rivera
Stuart Durkheimer
Madeline Brill Nelson
Burke and Barbie Rice
Carol Santesson
Honor Roll of Donors
2008

 Gifts and Grants of $100,000 or more
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Evona Brim
The Kinsman Foundation

 Gifts and Grants of $50,000 to $99,999
The Greenwall Foundation
Madeline Brill Nelson

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Maribeth Collins
Cherida Collins Smith
Cornelia Hayes Stevens

 Gifts and Grants of $10,000 to $24,999
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Susan W. Tolle

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Carol Thomas
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We have made every effort to list everyone who has given during 2008 and recognize your name accurately. We deeply regret any omissions we may have made. If we have made an error or if you would prefer to be recognized differently, please let Émilie Eckert know at eckerte@ohsu.edu or 503-494-4435. We welcome corrections so that we can better reflect your wishes in future publications.