

# CENTER *for* ETHICS *in* HEALTH CARE

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Dear Friends of the Center for Ethics in Health Care,

Thanks to each of you on the 2009 Donor Honor Roll. With a bit of belt tightening, the Ethics Center is emerging from the recession with greater strength and stronger leadership. The Oregon POLST Registry was built and tested with private philanthropy and has been launched statewide. Demand for our teaching programs has never been greater.

In celebration of our 20 year Anniversary, we have revised the donor board displayed outside the Ethics Center's main door to honor our 33 Founders. You will notice the names of two new Founders in 2009; John and Betty Gray and Bill and Helen Jo Whitsell.

The Ethics Center's programs are made possible by the generosity of so many in our community. As Valentine's Day approaches, it seems an ideal time to take a moment and thank each of you who has so generously given to the Center, partnering to ensure more compassionate and respectful care of patients.

*Susan*

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



February 2010

## Looking Forward: The Next 20 Years

2010 began with the appointment of two new Associate Directors who bring great talent to help the Ethics Center more effectively address the challenges of the coming decades. We are excited to announce that Robert Shook, MA has joined our leadership team as the new Associate Director/Manager. Bob comes to us with extensive experience in health care administration, health policy development and project management. The appointment of Judith Baggs, RN, PhD as an Associate Director strengthens the academic voice of nursing on our Executive Committee. She is the Elizabeth N. Gray Distinguished Professor in the School of Nursing and serves as a member of the Teaching Interprofessional Ethics (TIE) Team.

## Selection Committee for the Madeline Brill Nelson Chair in Ethics Education

An eight member selection committee with representation from medicine, nursing, dentistry and our donor community are actively reviewing applications from senior ethics leaders from all over the United States. The goal in recruiting for this newly endowed chair is to strengthen and integrate interprofessional ethics education across the schools and units at OHSU.

## The Oregon POLST Registry Launched Statewide December 3, 2009

Thanks to The Kinsman Foundation, intensive education about the Oregon POLST Registry has reached over 4,000 Oregon health care professionals. The results: a dramatic increase in POLST form orders (over 20,000 in December alone) and a rapid rise in Registry submissions (over 8,000 to date, with 100 more each day). Thanks to a prior grant from The Greenwall Foundation and pilot testing in Clackamas County, the systems are in place to respond to this intensive demand. Newly submitted forms are entered into the Registry within 48 hours, and Emergency Medical Service callers are provided with requested information in two minutes or less. Recently, Susan Tolle was a keynote speaker at a daylong conference to expand POLST use in Los Angeles and will speak about POLST at a Princeton conference in May.

## Upcoming Events

- March 15, 2010**      **41<sup>st</sup> Daniel Labby Senior Clinicians' Seminar**  
*"Personal Risk vs. Professional Duty: A Collision of Conscience"*  
10:00-11:30 am, Casey Eye Institute, OHSU
- April 15-16, 2010**      **The Kinsman Conference: 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Bioethics Meeting**  
*"When the Bough Breaks: Disaster Preparedness, Public Health, Decision Making Capacity and Reproductive Health Care Issues"*  
St. Charles Medical Center, Bend, OR
- May 20, 2010**      **Madeline Brill Nelson Ethics Education Speaker Series**  
*"The Family Experience of Genetic Testing: Ethical Issues"*  
8:00-9:00 am, University Hospital, Room 8B60  
*"Learning about Ethics and Genomics: A Case-Based Approach"*  
Noon-1 pm, School of Nursing, Room 144  
Speaker: Marcia Van Riper, RN, PhD, Associate Professor, Chair of the Family Health Division, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- June 11, 2010**      **Annual Statewide Palliative Care Conference**  
*"Hope and Acceptance: The Human Struggle"*  
Keynote Speaker: Michael Kearney, MD, FRCP (I)  
Hospice Director, Author  
Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR