

CENTER *for* ETHICS *in* HEALTH CARE

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Dear Friends of the Center for Ethics in Health Care:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your generous donations and support. Financial support of the endowed chair makes it possible for me to dedicate my time fully to building the exciting programs highlighted in this letter.

Thank you for supporting our mission to address some of the most challenging questions facing patients, their families, and the health care professionals who care for them.

It seemed fitting to send this brief overview of the recent events to you as I sign my name with my new title for the first time.

Thank you for making this work possible.



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

Spring 2005

The Endowed Chair Newly Named

The funding of an endowed chair for the Director permanently provides support for an independent voice to guide the growth of new programs in health care ethics. Gifts from more than 300 individuals and foundations created the endowment for this chair. The members of the Executive Committee and Development Council unanimously voted to name the Chair for Cornelia Hayes Stevens because Cornie personifies the work of the Center.

POLST Program Developments

In mid-March, we uploaded a new, informative, user-friendly POLST.org website about the POLST Program. Bill and Karen Early, in partnership with The Swigert Foundation, provided funding and encouragement to take the POLST.org website to the next level. The feedback from the media and those wishing to implement the program is most gratifying.

New Curriculum Approved

The John Benson Program on Professionalism recently received approval from the School of Medicine Curriculum Committee to create a new four-week elective entitled “Ethics and Professionalism in Action.” The course will be offered for the first time this fall for senior medical students. The development of a new communications-skills-based curriculum is funded in part by The Collins and Non-Nocere Foundations.

Upcoming Conferences

April 14 and 15 2005 – Salem Hospital – Annual Kinsman Conference
“Spirituality and Culture: Impacts on Health Care Across the Life Span”

April 20, 2005 – Portland – Daniel Labby Senior Clinicians’ Seminar
“Doctors in Trouble and Patients at Risk: Identifying the Physician Whose Disruptive Behavior Threatens Patient Safety.”

June 17, 2005 – Portland – Statewide Palliative Care Conference
“Strengthening Palliative Care Throughout Oregon”

The Kinsman Foundation supports the June 17th statewide conference as part of our *Oregon Hospitals Collaborating in Patient Comfort* grant, as well as conferences on September 9 in Bend, September 30 in Medford, November 4 in Salem, and December 9 in Eugene.

