

## Recognizing Outstanding Service Excellence



**Jill D'Aubery, P.I., S.P.  
School of Medicine**

**Lisa Regan-Veinop, M.P.H., from the Breast Health Education program, submitted the following nomination...**

Imagine a doctor who has been practicing medicine for 20 years. When he was in medical school he learned a circular or wedge technique for clinically examining women's breast. Now through reading journal articles, talking to colleagues or attending conferences he knows that research supports a newer or methodical pattern of searching and screening for breast abnormalities. What might be an awkward situation, being retrained in a skill he is currently practicing, is made into an interactive learning experience by the assistance of Jill D'Aubrey. The personal touch of being able to give targeted, individual feedback is something that a computer program or learning video just can't do. Jill works as a Patient Instructor for Clinical Breast Exam workshops. In this role she teaches medical students, residents and practicing clinicians throughout Oregon, by, as she puts it "donating her body to science while she's still alive." She's been dubbed a Standardized Patient in the past, but this doesn't even begin to capture the commitment that Jill has to her role. She has taken what might be seen by some as a passive role and turned it into an opportunity to create something bigger. She calls herself a Medical Actress. As a medical actress Jill brings humor and humanness to her role as a "patient" when medical and nursing students, medical residents and doctors are learning about physical exam skills and procedures. In her capacity as a Patient Instructor for the Breast Health Education program she is team teaching about the vertical strip 3-pressure method of clinical breast exam while she is lying on an exam table having her breast tissue palpated. She has traveled to many small community clinics. Each of these providers leaves the training with proficiency in a new skill. So women who have cancer detected at an earlier stage, have fewer false positives from a clinical breast exam, or have their breast health managed in a high quality manner unknowingly have Jill to thank. She frequently "goes the extra mile", shares her experiences with others in a way that provides inspiration and has set the bar higher with her enthusiasm and willingness to take her teaching role to new levels. It is such a privilege to work with Jill.



# Award Recipient - January 2010