

Recognizing Outstanding Service Excellence



Kimberly Wilcox
Clinical Genetics Labs

Helen Lawce and Linda Nay from Clinical Genetics Labs submitted the following nomination...

Kim has worked for OHSU for 27 years, starting out as a Medical Technician/Research Assistant for the Biochemical Genetics Lab (formerly Pediatrics Metabolic Lab). As the lab grew and changed, she took on the role of Lab Manager, and when the three genetics labs combined in 1999 (DNA Diagnostic and Cytogenetics joined Biochemical Genetics as the OHSU Clinical Genetics Labs), she went from managing a lab of seven people to forty. Our lab, Cytogenetics, was crushed under the load of new chromosome and Fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH) tests that resulted from Dr. Brian Druker's clinical trials. We had hundreds of clinical tests waiting for results. Kim may as well have been charged with climbing the glass mountain and cleaning the Aegean Stables as it was such a huge mess. But with her steadfast cheerfulness and energy, Kim dug right in and began finding solutions to our problems. She brought us out of the dark ages into being a cutting edge lab with excellent teams, wonderful turnaround times, great quality improvement programs, and new computerized systems for chromosome and FISH analysis. Kim helped bring cohesion and improved morale to a diverse group by creating fun ideas and traditions like Soup-er Mondays and singing her annual Lab Holiday Song.

What is even more amazing is that at the same time she managed to earn two advanced degrees; a Master in Health Administration and a Master in Business Administration.

We congratulate Kim, who is moving on to her new challenge as the Laboratory Information Systems (LIS) manager for Pathology Laboratories. We feel that we speak for everyone here when we say she truly deserves the Golden ROSE Award and we will REALLY, REALLY miss her!!

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