



November 2021

Dear Friends:

The past months have exacted unprecedented demands on our health care systems and on many of those in our community, and the pandemic has revealed all too starkly how much work is still needed to ensure more compassionate and respectful care. At the same time we have many reasons to feel extremely fortunate at the Center for Ethics. We have been deeply honored by a new generous gift from the **Storms Family Foundation** to launch an important new initiative. We are celebrating an endowment gift from **Helen Jo and Bill Whitsell** that will enable us to do important work in maintaining the integrity of our independent voice. Soon we will be welcoming the new **Madeline Brill Nelson Chair in Ethics Education, Maureen Kelley, PhD**, who joins us from the University of Oxford. And we are delighted that so many of our supporters have shared in our virtual community event.

In this season of thankfulness we look to the future with renewed hope and purpose, profoundly grateful to each of you whose commitment makes our work possible.

*Susan*

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### Storms Family Foundation Endowment Gift Launches Exciting New Program

A major endowment gift from the Storms Family Foundation launches a groundbreaking new program, **RELY (Resilience and Empowerment in Later Years)**. Addressing the insidious issue of ageism in health care, this program blazes a new trail in health care by expanding serious illness education to teach health care professionals how to communicate more compassionately with older adults and how to empower patients as they face major life changes. We are deeply indebted to the Storms Foundation for their leadership and vision in launching RELY. There is much more work to be done that will need additional investment, but we are filled with excitement to begin this important initiative.

#### Dr. Robert 'Hugo' Richardson

It is with great sorrow that we reflect on the death of one of the Center's most treasured mentors and friends. Dr. Hugo Richardson, a beloved palliative care physician and ethics consultant, unfailingly embodied the principles that form the core teaching of the **Miles J. Edwards Chair in Professionalism and Comfort Care**. A close friend of the late Miles Edwards, MD, Hugo also worked tirelessly to complete the Chair, ensuring that these principles would be taught in perpetuity. Humble as he was, Hugo has left a giant imprint on the Center's work.

#### POLST News

The Oregon POLST program continues to lead innovation. We are delighted to announce the launch of an entirely new, more informative and user-friendly **website** with individual tracks for health care professionals, policy makers and patients and families providing access to important information about the POLST program <https://oregonpolst.org/>. A recent article in **the Journal of Palliative Medicine, The Expanding Role of Nurse Practitioners in the Completion of Oregon Portable Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment**, showcases Oregon's leadership in making POLST more inclusive. Two decades ago, Oregon was the first state to authorize Nurse Practitioners as signers of POLST. NPs now sign 1/5 of all Oregon POLST forms.

#### Virtual Community Event

Pivoting to a virtual event again this year created exciting new possibilities for us. We were able to include more voices and provide a more comprehensive picture of the growing team of leaders at the Center. Many in our community have told us how much they learned from and enjoyed the video, which is now posted on our website, and we warmly invite you to share it with your friends. [www.ohsu.edu/center-for-ethics](http://www.ohsu.edu/center-for-ethics)

For help in making a gift to the Center for Ethics, please contact Liz Arrington at [arringtl@ohsu.edu](mailto:arringtl@ohsu.edu) or 503-552-0716.

