Dear Friends,

I am filled with gratitude to each of the nearly 200 individuals and Foundations listed on the Donor Honor Roll for your gifts in support of the Center’s programs in 2016.

A personal thank you to each of you who have made gifts in memory of my mother. She took such pride in the Center’s work. I take comfort in knowing that she personally benefited from the improvements we have made in caring for those nearing the end of their lives.

The Center remains committed to further building on our national leadership in innovation related to POLST while expanding our commitment to both the Program in Compassionate Communication and Professionalism in Health Care.

With heartfelt thanks,

Susan W. Tolle, MD
Cornelia Hayes Stevens Chair
Director, Center for Ethics in Health Care
tolles@ohsu.edu
503 494-4466

POLST Program Growth

In 1991, the Center for Ethics convened a team of Oregon health care leaders to design a better way to honor patient wishes near the end of life. After several years of testing, we launched the Oregon POLST Program. Other states began expressing interest in Oregon’s pioneering POLST experience, and currently 21 states have endorsed POLST Programs (the most recent additions are Kansas and Missouri). In January, after 13 years of having the OHSU Center for Ethics serve as the fiscal home of the National POLST Paradigm, the National office became financially independent. The Center will continue to serve as the home of the Oregon POLST Program, with Susan Tolle as its Chair and Valerie Jimenez as its Executive Director. The Oregon POLST Program looks forward to the opportunity to deploy greater resources and energy in leading the next round of innovation and research.

Center for Ethics co-hosts more than 200 regional conferences

Since its establishment in 1989, one of the most important missions of the Center for Ethics in Health Care is to be a resource to all of the people of Oregon. The Center has done this by promoting health care that is compassionate and just. This commitment has led to a record of outreach activities stretching into every corner of the state. It would be fair to say that there are very few hospital ethics committees, ethics consultants, community advisory boards, or individual practitioners across the State of Oregon whose knowledge and skills in health care ethics have not been enriched and supported in some way by the Center’s programming. With a new three year grant from The Kinsman Foundation, the Center will be able to expand our outreach and collaboration to new communities. www.ohsu.edu/ethics

Dr. David Barnard is retiring on March 31, 2017

In 2012, Dr. David Barnard became the inaugural Miles J. Edwards Chair in Professionalism and Comfort Care. Here are a few examples of the programs that he developed and directed that have thrived under his leadership: the Living With Life Threatening Illness elective course has been over-solicited for the past two years; he has guided the creation of a fellowship program that has graduated ten faculty as Master Educators in Compassionate Communication; he planned and directed regional conferences in Astoria, Burns, Coos Bay, Enterprise, Klamath Falls, Lebanon, Madras, Pendleton, and Tillamook and a statewide conference in Eugene. He also convenes the All-City Palliative Care Lecture Series, and so much more. We are deeply grateful for his remarkable contributions and wish him joy in his retirement. He leaves large shoes to fill. The Center has begun a national search for his successor.
Honor Roll of Donors
2016

Susan’s mother, Mary Hughes, will be remembered for her enthusiastic support and radiant smile.

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The following friends have established planned gifts benefitting the Center or have told us that they have included the Center in their estate plans:

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