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 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

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

February 2017

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.

For help in making a gift to the Center for Ethics, please contact Ann Barden at bardena@ohsu.edu or (503) 412-6355.
Founders
Center for Ethics in Health Care

Welcoming new Center for Ethics Founder, Barbara Sloop

Anonymous
Lisa Andrus-Rivera
Archstone Foundation
Amy Dundon-Berchtold & Jim Berchtold
Evona Brim
The California HealthCare Foundation
Alyce R. Cheatham
Gary T. Chiodo
The Collins Foundation
Kristin Collins
Maribeth W. Collins
Truman Collins
Samantha Davi
The Arthur Vining Davis Foundations
The Denison Family Fund of the OCF
Barbara Durkheimer
Bill & Karen Early
Margaret Watt Edwards
M. Lowell Edwards Foundation
John & Betty Gray
The Greenwall Foundation
Ned & Sis Hayes
Eric & Ronna Hoffman Fund of the OCF
Mary D. Hughes
The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation
John Kinsman
The Kinsman Foundation
Daniel & Margaret Labby
Meyer Memorial Trust
Joanne McAdam
Madeline Brill Nelson
Non Nocere Foundation
The Retirement Research Foundation
Barbara K. Rice
Carol Santesson
Barbara Sloop
Cherida Collins Smith
Cornelia Hayes Stevens
Summerville Fund of the OCF
Cyrus B. Sweet III
Hank Swigert
Susan Hawes Swindells
Susan W. Tolle
William B. Webber
Bill & Helen Jo Whitsell
James & Susan Winkler
Celia Bast Young

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

Anonymous
Lisa Andrus-Rivera
David Clarke & Linda Moraga
Barbara Durkheimer
Bill & Karen Early
Mary D. Hughes
Amy Ramm
M. Burke & Barbara K. Rice
Carol Santesson
Cornelia Hayes Stevens
Hank Swigert
Susan Hawes Swindells
Susan W. Tolle
Bill & Helen Jo Whitsell
Honor Roll of Donors
2016

Cumulative Giving of $500,000 +
Anonymous
Lisa Andrus-Rivera
Evona Brim
Alyce R. Cheatham
Karen & Bill Early
The Kinsman Foundation
The Meyer Memorial Trust
Madeline Brill Nelson
Carol Santesson
Cornelia Hayes Stevens

2016 Gifts & Grants

$10,000 to $24,999
Truman Collins
Lee Diane Collins Vest
M. Lowell Edwards Foundation
Mary D. Hughes
Barbara Sloop
Susan W. Tolle

$5,000 to $9,999
Lisa Andrus-Rivera
Phyllis Beemsterboer & Joseph Jedrychowski
The Gilbert J. Martin Foundation
The Moraga Clarke Family Fund of the VCEP
Don & Joan Strand Foundation at FCGF
M. Burke & Barbara K. Rice
Storms Family Foundation
James & Susan Winkler

$1,000 to $4,999
Warren & Robin Anderson
Michael & Jane Baird
Gwyneth Gamble Booth
Evona Brim
Kay Bristow
Gary Chiodo & Robert Oster
Jean Cory
Barbara Durkheimer
Wayne & Sandra Erickson
Ferguson Wellman Capital Management
Michael & Anita Garlick
Barbara Glidewell
Rebecca Graham
Walter Grebe
Sis Hayes
Robert & Cecelia Huntington
Betty Lou Hutchens
Rie Kimura
Mary Lago
Nancie McGraw
Marilyn McIver
McMurchie Family Fund of the OCF
Gilbert & Laurie Meigs
Osamu Muramoto
Robert & Marilyn Ridgley Charitable Gift Fund at FCGF
Dick & Deanne Rubinstein
Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt, P.C.
John Shipley
Susan Hawes Swindells
Priscilla Wieden

Susan’s mother, Mary Hughes, will be remembered for her enthusiastic support and radiant smile.
$500 to $999
Anonymous
Elena Andresen
Mary Chita Becker
Sterling Dorman
Brigid Flanigan
Alan Goudy
Katherine Harris
Holzman Foundation
Valerie Mattson
James McDermott & Karin Immergut
Milo & Bev Ormseth
Jane S. Partridge
Robert & Anne Richardson
Mary Denise Smith
Barbara & Jim Snow
Helen Stern
Cornelia Stevens
Sandy & Elaine Weinstein

$100 to $499
Vincent & Caroline Andrus
Rod & Amanda Ashley
Ann Barden
Tom & Mary Bartlett
John & Susan Bates
Nancy Bode
Paul & Nancy Bragdon
Donna Brownstein
Marianne Buchwalter
Thomas & Joan Buell
Linda Burton
Robert & Joyce Byerly
Center for Ethics in Health Care Staff
College of American Pathologists
Maurice & Billie Comeau
Chuck & Julia Cutting
Ann Dart
Toni Eigner-Barry
Diana Faville
Jacki Gallo
Marilyn Gatto
Jane Gray
Peggy Hammond
Harris and Bowker, LLP
Antoinette K. Hatfield
Gary & Jane Hibler
Jean Hoffman
Jim & Anne Holtz
Don & Lynnette Houghton
Jane Jarrett & David McCarthy
Anne-Marie Jones
Jan Kalberer
Don & Mary Kayser
Margaret Kline
Larson Family Foundation
Julie Lawrence & Michael Wells
Helen Lindgren
Joyce Loeb
Verona Lynam
Ruth & Joe Matarazzo
Denise C. Mathes
Lindsey McGrath and Tom Schneiger
Victor & Toinette Menashe
Ron & Muriel Mendonca
Frances Menlove
Jim & Lora Meyer
Suzanne Millis Berselli
Bob & Karen Morris
Sarah Newhall
Betty Norrie
Mary Oldshue
Nita Onustock
Pamela Pariani
Linda Peterson
Pierce Family Charitable Fund at FCGF
David & Kay Pollack
Jim & Ginny Post
Peter & Bonnie Reagan
Maxine Reinschmidt
Brian & Bambi Rice
Peter & Mary Roberts
Ronna & Eric Hoffman Fund of the OCF
Jerry & Bunny Sadis
Terri Schmidt
Richard Stetson
Virginia Tilden & John Benson
Allen Togut
Jane Wachsler
Doug & Jean Walker
Suzan Wapnick
Janet Westwood
William and Mary George-Whittle Fund at FCGF
Margie Willis
Mary Zehrung & Jim Spiekerman

Gifts and Grants under $100
Elizabeth Aitchison
Hal & Jane Ayotte
Bud & Norma Bardana
Cheryl Boyer
Elizabeth Gamble Caldwell
Ann Crumpacker
Tisa Dorsa
Patsy Feeman
Janice Gould
Kelley Harrington
Anna Storms Ingram
Nancy Kratochvil
Stuart & Barbara Lang
Lily and Harry Karansky Fund at FCGF
Loeta McElwee
Melissa Monner
Corrine Nelson
Nan Nelson
Delores Nunn
Oregon Jewish Community Foundation
Gary & Sylvia Pearlman
Rachel Richardson
June Rogers
James & Julianne Sawyer
John Robert Williams Jr.
Dear Friends,
Recent publications confirm that we are transforming the culture of end-of-life care. While the Center’s faculty receive recognition in prestigious journals and national media, profound change of this magnitude can only occur through the efforts of hundreds of volunteers in every part of our state and in all settings of care.

Thousands of hours of volunteer time fuel every aspect of the Center’s major programs. Our talented volunteers have taught and designed new ethics curriculum, developed policies, made quilts, hosted events, and made videos to educate and empower patients.

Our national impact is made possible by the compassion, hard work, skill, and dedication of each of our volunteers.

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with the Center, and those we serve.

In gratitude,

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

---

**Annual Kinsman Conference Convenes Ethics Leaders**

The Center for Ethics convenes leaders from across the state to tackle challenging ethical issues in healthcare. This year’s statewide Kinsman conference, *Emerging Issues in Bioethics and Government: Facing Ethical Challenges and Finding Solutions* was held in Salem. Thank you to the thirty-eight health care professionals from across Oregon who volunteered their time to serve as faculty. In keeping with our mission to serve the state, we continue to convene regional conferences. The fall series begins on August 4, 2017, partnering with PeaceHealth in Florence to present *Building Bridges to Compassionate Care for the Seriously Ill*.

**Oregon Continues to Lead POLST Innovation**

Oregon is leading the way in transforming health care, according to data published *New England Journal of Medicine*. In Oregon, people with serious illness or frailty are less likely to be hospitalized in intensive care in the last weeks of life, and are more likely to die at home compared to Washington state and the rest of the country. It takes all of us working together to make changes this far reaching. View the publication at [www.oregonpolst.org](http://www.oregonpolst.org).

**Remembering Madeline Brill Nelson**

Madeline Brill Nelson left a legacy that extends the Center’s work in Ethics Education beyond end-of-life care. Through her generosity, the Center for Ethics in Health Care sponsored Dr. Stephen Post’s presentation, “Why Deeply Forgetful People Matter: Hope, Self-Identity and Health Care Ethics for Individuals with Dementia.” Dr. Post spoke on how empathic care contributes to patient outcomes and professional well-being. View Dr. Post’s presentation at [www.ohsu.edu/ethics](http://www.ohsu.edu/ethics).

**Save the Date: Center for Ethics Annual Community Lunch**

The 2017 Center for Ethics Annual Community lunch will be held on September 18, 2017 from 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM at the Multnomah Athletic Club. We hope you will save the date and join us as we share our vision, progress and a demonstration of the importance, need and impact of the Program in Compassionate Communication.
The Program in Compassionate Communication: Advancing the Vision

On September 18th, the Center for Ethics welcomed over 180 friends to our annual luncheon celebrating The Healing Relationship: Cultivating the Art of Skillful Communication. Professional actors from the Mark Richardson Interprofessional Simulation Center at OHSU helped to deliver scenarios reflecting both detached and engaged communication, giving the viewer a glimpse of the importance of the Program in Compassionate Communication. A generous grant from The Storms Family Foundation, has allowed us to hire faculty to advance our curriculum work as we prepare to test students on their mastery of communication skills. Through the kindness of our donors, we have surpassed the one million dollar mark, and are on our way towards our goal of three and a half million dollars to fund the future endowed Chair in Compassionate Communication. To view our luncheon presentation on Compassionate Communication, please go to https://vimeo.com/234868676 and enter the password CenterforEthics.

Remembering Maribeth Wilson Collins (1918-2017)

Maribeth Collins’ radiant smile was a hallmark of the gracious and open-hearted generosity she brought to her life. For 41 years, from 1964 to 2005, Maribeth served as President of The Collins Foundation, wisely shepherding its clear yet powerful mission to improve the quality of life for all Oregonians. Maribeth was both quietly resolute and extraordinarily generous in her desire to support the Center for Ethics in Health Care’s mission to ensure that compassion remains at the heart of all health care. We will miss her wise and gentle spirit greatly.

Oregon continues to lead POLST innovation

Kaiser Health News recently featured one of Oregon’s newest electronic POLST innovations (https://khn.org/news/in-oregon-end-of-life-wishes-are-just-a-click-away/). The story included an interview with Sallie Cutler, who courageously shared how helpful it was to find her mother’s POLST form in the midst of an emergency. Alyce Cheatham’s end-of-life wishes were honored because her POLST was instantly retrieved in the OHSU Emergency Department. In addition to technological innovations, we successfully tackled a regulatory barrier which delayed hospice submission to the Oregon POLST Registry. It was a year-long process, but on October 13, the regulation was revised to allow the submission of POLST forms with verbal orders. This amendment makes it possible for hospice programs to rapidly submit to the Oregon POLST Registry. Another POLST program achievement was the creation of a new video for Spanish speaking families. The video is narrated in Spanish and shows the process of decision making over a six year period of time for a family (https://www.youtube.com/user/ORPOLST).

Dear Friends,

We have so much to be thankful for and build upon as the Center for Ethics implements and advances each of the core programs of our strategic plan. With the support of OHSU leaders, our Steering Committee and more than 300 generous donors we will soon launch the first major accomplishment in the Program in Compassionate Communication, testing the medical school Class of 2018 in their mastery of communication skills as a graduation requirement. This is a unique and monumental achievement in medical education nation-wide.

By now, you have likely heard the news that Joe Robertson, M.D., M.B.A., will retire as president of OHSU after nearly 40 years of service. Last month, Joe shared with the OHSU Board of Directors and campus community that he was diagnosed with a mild form of multiple sclerosis. During his tenure, Joe has been a steadfast supporter of the Center for Ethics in Health Care. He provided essential support for OHSU’s highest standards related to conflict of interest and not accepting gifts from health care industry sources.

With gratitude for your support and all you make possible,

Susan W. Tolle, MD
Cornelia Hayes Stevens Chair
Director, Center for Ethics in Health Care
tolles@ohsu.edu
Dear Friends,

What a treat it is for me to be writing you with such good news about the Center. It has been some time since I have authored our newsletter and it is very satisfying to be able to share so many wonderful achievements.

First, thank you so much to everyone who donated to the Center for Ethics in Health Care. We have an amazing Donor Honor Roll for 2015. So many names and such generosity. It is a particular pleasure to welcome new Founders Amy Dundon-Berchtold and Jim Berchtold and Gary Chiodo, DMD. Amy and Jim are outstanding philanthropists who are making a better future for us all through their vision and generosity. Gary is one of the original faculty members at the Center and his engagement with the Center spans more than a quarter century. Welcome Amy and Jim and Gary!

And now, what your generosity has made possible...

Dr. David Barnard led the Living with Life Threatening Illness class to new success. Always acknowledged as a class with deep meaning and often life and career changing inspiration, the Living with Life Threatening Illness was oversubscribed this year and, sadly, students were turned away. Please see some of the moving comments from students on the back of this page.

Dr. Lynn A. Jansen and Dr. Phyllis Beemsterboer are working with a team to build materials and assessment tools that will be used as the first cohort of medical students move into their clinical training years. This effort impacts the new School of Medicine curriculum entitled “Your MD.” This is the first major revision of curriculum at OHSU in about 20 years. Lynn and Phyllis are providing a voice for the Center for Ethics’ values and teachings, raising the bar on ethics and professionalism education at OHSU. As Phyllis expressed to me, “This increased emphasis on accountability will enhance the profile of ethics for those doctors in training now and as they approach graduation.”

POLST continues to be in the headlines. 42 states attended the national conference in early February and, of course, Oregon continues to lead the way in innovation. At the conference, Susan was honored with the inaugural Susan Tolle, MD Award for Outstanding Service. This award is in recognition of her vital role and leadership in promoting and supporting the national POLST effort. Congratulations, Susan! You have done us proud! But, as you always say, “There is still much work to be done.”

Thank you, again, for your generosity, kindness and vision in supporting the Center for Ethics in Health Care at OHSU. As one of those who started over 25 years ago with a dream of a better way within the practice of health care, I am so grateful to see this success that goes so far beyond what any of us could have imagined as we set down the path to change the world.

Yours in gratitude,

Cornelia Hayes Stevens
Dear Friends,

It is a great pleasure to “guest pen” the Center for Ethics in Health Care newsletter honoring our outstanding volunteers and to add my profound thanks for the vital work that you have done in support of the Center. The list of volunteers this year totals over 200, representing thousands of hours of time given by caring and generous hearts. The Center would not exist without this force for good.

When I began this visionary work with Dr. Susan Tolle over 25 years ago, we could not have imagined the profound impact that the Center would have not only in Oregon but throughout our nation. It is the faithful support of the Ethics volunteer community that has promoted and supported our work and has made so much of the Center’s work possible.

Thank you,

Gary T. Chiodo, DMD, FACD
Steering Committee Chair, Center for Ethics in Health Care

Kinsman Conference a Success

The annual Kinsman Ethics Conference, held at a different Oregon venue each year, this year attracted 212 participants in Hood River. The conference was over-subscribed and while it was exciting to have such interest, it was disappointing to have to turn away ethics leaders who would have liked to participate. Those in attendance agreed that the theme of “A Conversation about Ethical Issues across Rural and Urban Health” provided valuable insights and a call to action to promote greater collaboration.

Awards and Accolades

Congratulations are in order for our own Susan Tolle who was presented with the Esther Pohl Lovejoy Leadership Award by the OHSU School of Medicine Alumni Association on May 6th. Esther Pohl Lovejoy was the second woman to graduate from our Medical School and the first to practice medicine. Dr. Lovejoy’s influence was both national and global, setting standards for community health and providing the antecedents to global medical relief efforts. Susan was selected for this award because her remarkable leadership has had both a national and a global impact. Thank you, Cornie Stevens, for advocating for Susan’s selection so eloquently.

And even more congratulations, this time for Dr. Phyllis Beemsterboer, Associate Director at the Center for Ethics. Phyllis received the Faculty Senate OHSU Leadership Award following her nomination by the School of Dentistry. Her leadership skills are being put to good use as she partners with Drs. Lynn Jansen and David Barnard in the development of new Ethics and Professionalism curriculum for the School of Medicine. She is also taking a critical leadership role in the formation of the Center’s new Program in Compassionate Communication. Additionally, Dan Kennedy, a pharmacist and Associate Director with the Center, has been invited to help develop ethics curriculum in the School of Pharmacy on Ethics and Professionalism for 2017. The Center for Ethics is playing a pivotal role in curriculum development at OHSU, an activity that traditionally occurs about once every 20 years.

ONE MILLION POLST FORMS!

Yes, approximately one million POLST forms have been completed in the United States. This landmark accomplishment means respect of wishes for individuals nearing the end-of-life and greater comfort and guidance for millions of their family members. Please take a moment to reflect upon this accomplishment and another moment to take pride in having supported the work that has made it possible.

For help in making a gift to the Center for Ethics, please contact Ann Barden at bardena@ohsu.edu or (503) 412-6355.
Members of the Steering Committee and Advisory Council gratefully acknowledge the numerous community and professional hours contributed to the Ethics Center’s programs.

Terry Andersen
Lisa Andrus-Rivera, PhD
Pam Arvidson
Amanda Ashley
Kam Atwal, MD
Sharl Azar, MD
Judith Baggs, RN, PhD
Diya Bappanad, MD
Ann Barden
Penelope Barnes, MD
John Bauer, JD
Patra Behary, MD
Elizur Bello
Jim Berchtold
David Berger, JD
Suzanne Millis Berselli, JD
Susan Bigcraft, JD
Mark Bonanno, MPH, JD
Ella Booth, PhD
Gwyneth Gamble Booth
Kyle Bozentko, MTS
Morgan Bresko, MPH, MSW
Evona Brim, RN
Linda Brown, MS, RN
Kristin Burdick, MD
Julie Burri, RN
Andrea Cano, MDiv, BCC
Margaret Carley, JD
Tina Castañares, MD
Gary Chiodo, DMD
David Clarke, MD
Fred Coccodrilli, JD
Brenda Colfelt, MD
Steve Conklin, JD
Jennifer Cook, GCPH
Rachel Cook, MD
Rick Cook, MD
Carey Critchlow, JD
Tiffany Culbertson, RN, MSN, ANP-BC
Alice Cuprill-Comas, JD
Laura Daniel
Jason Davis, JD
Josh Davis
Sophia Davis
Gwen Dayton, JD
Dawn Deering, PT-A
Joyce DeMondin, MPH
Dawn Dillman, MD
Kevin Dirksen, MDiv, MSc
Jesse Dobson
Martha Driessnack, PhD, PNP-BC
Amy Dundon-Berchtold, MBA
Patrick Dunn, MD
Barbara Durkheimer
Patricia Duty
Renee Dversdal, MD
Karen Early
Lori Eckel, LCSW
Elizbeth Eckstrom, MD, MPH
Woody English, MD
Lyle J. Fagnan, MD
William Finney, RN
Daren Ford, LCSW, CADII
Kristine Keough Forte, DBe, MA, MS
Elizabeth Foster
Erik K. Fromme, MD, MCR
Elizbeth Giele, SW
Barbara Glidewell, MBS
Robert Gobbo, MD
Kerry Gonzales
Lorena Gonzalez
Sarah Goodlin, MD
Gwen Goodner
Geoffrey H. Gordon, MD
Paul Gorman, MD, MPH
Patty Goss
Alexander Granat
Walter Grebe, JD
Jovonni Grossi, MDiv
Ruth Gulyas, MHA
Lynda Haakenson
Kelly Hagan, JD
Stephen Hale, MD
Kathleen Haley, JD
Daleasha Hall, MDiv, BCC, CHM
Bill Hamilton
Barbara Hansen, MA, RN, CWON
Kurt Hansen, JD
Lissi Hansen, RN, PhD
Joseph Hardman, MD
Dear Friends,

The MacLean Center Prize in Clinical Ethics and Health Outcomes is the largest ethics prize in our field. Being awarded the MacLean prize capitalizes on the high quality of work of each of the Center’s faculty and our remarkable collaboration with colleagues statewide and across the country.

Vision, skill and hard work coupled and fueled by your generosity made the MacLean prize and the Center’s many accomplishments possible.

Thank you so much!

Susan

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

Kinsman Bioethics Conference Focuses on Population Health

We remain deeply grateful to The Kinsman Foundation. With their support, we partnered with leaders in Astoria, Coos Bay and Enterprise to host conferences in 2014. Under the leadership of David Barnard, we plan to work with health care leaders in Lebanon, Burns and Tillamook to host conferences in 2015. This year’s statewide annual Kinsman Bioethics Conference will be co-hosted with PeaceHealth with Jan Heller as conference Chair. The theme is population health under the title: “From Health Care to Health: Ethical Obligations and Communication Strategies in a Shifting Landscape.” Save the dates from May 14-15, 2015 and register to join us at the Oregon Convention Center.

Oregon POLST Program Develops New Materials

In response to a growing number of inquiries from other states, Dana Zive and Susan Tolle developed a document that outlines step by step Oregon’s pathway to designing, pilot testing, and launching the Oregon POLST Registry. We welcome the opportunity to provide practical guidance to policy makers in California and other states as they explore options for statewide registry implementation. The document outlining Oregon’s path can be found at www.or.polst.org/registry-information-for-healthcare-professionals. The Oregon POLST Program released a new video in January for those with advanced illness whose first language is Spanish. The video Cómo Comprender el POLST can be found at www.or.polst.org/espanol.

Center Faculty Win National Leadership Grant Awards

Winning two highly competitive national grant awards speaks to the growing national status of all of the Center’s faculty. Lynn A. Jansen, Madeline Brill Nelson Chair in Ethics Education, has been selected for "The Greenwall Foundation: Making a Difference in Real-World Bioethics Dilemmas" grant award for her project, “The Normative Significance of the Optimistic Bias for Informed Consent to Clinical Research.” Amy Vandenbroucke, Executive Director of the National POLST Program received a Practice Change Leaders for Aging and Health grant, funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation and the Atlantic Philanthropies. This project, “Transforming End-of-Life Care Through ePOLST Implementation,” facilitates the launch of the ePOLST system at OHSU for online POLST completion and direct POLST Registry integration.
Dear Friends,

The Center for Ethics in Health Care faculty publish in prestigious journals and receive local and national media recognition for the Center’s leadership and innovation in health care ethics. While they may be most visible to those who view the Center from afar, a closer look reveals the hard work and tremendous support of so many in our community who make the Center’s national leadership possible.

Thousands of hours of volunteer time fuel every aspect of the Center’s major programs from new innovations in the POLST Program, to outreach conferences, to co-teaching law and ethics, to making quilts, to hosting events in one’s home, to designing new programs, helping design new policies and making videos.

Our national impact is made possible by the compassion, hard work, skill and dedication of our volunteers. THANK YOU!

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

June 2015

Moving to a Fully Integrated ePOLST Program

OHSU is partnering with Vynca and the Oregon POLST Registry to develop and pilot test an electronic ePOLST system. ePOLST can be directly accessed while logged on to the patient’s medical record, completed electronically, and directly submitted to the Oregon POLST Registry. The system was built with the capacity ultimately to be able to query the Registry directly while preserving integration with the trauma system to assure EMS access in a crisis. The system launched on April 7th with plans to integrate just-in-time patient education in the coming months. We are grateful to those who volunteer their time to support Oregon’s continuing POLST innovation, dissemination and quality improvement.

Statewide Outreach and Collaboration

Partnering with colleagues throughout the region remains a high priority for the Center for Ethics. This year’s Annual Kinsman Ethics Conference drew over 250 attendees and focused on ethical issues in population health. Each year, Dr. Lynn A. Jansen serves as co-chair with a different health system partner. This year’s conference was in Portland and was co-hosted with PeaceHealth. In 2016, we will be in Hood River with the Providence Center for Health Care Ethics co-hosting the conference. In addition to the annual conference, Dr. David Barnard, with support from The Kinsman Foundation, is convening regional conferences during 2015 in Lebanon, Burns and Tillamook. Each regional conference is different because they are planned with health care professionals from the region to feature the talents each region brings, and to address local communities’ unique concerns.

Save the Date of October 26th

We are grateful to The Collins Foundation for supporting the “Developing Master Educators in Compassionate Communication” grant. Ten gifted faculty will graduate on June 19th, enhancing the teaching capacity of OHSU in communications skills training in the Schools of Medicine and Nursing: Elizabeth Bower, MD; Linda Brown, MS, RN; Sarah Green, MD; Joe Hardman, MD; James Hayden, MD, PhD; Katherine Iossi, MD; Catherine Rutledge-Gorman, BSN, M Div; Alex Verdieck, MD; Jennifer Watters, MD; Melissa Weddle, MD, MPH. This is a first step in an expanding initiative. Join us for the Center for Ethics Annual Community Luncheon on October 26th to learn about our broader vision for the Center’s new Program in Compassionate Communication.
Dear Friends,

With your support, we are able to advance the work of the Center for Ethics into new areas that meet patient needs for more humanized health care. The Center is nationally known for its work in improving care for those near the end of life and we are continuing to invest in leading new innovations in the POLST Program, as well as bringing back the Statewide Palliative Care Conference and continuing to partner in statewide outreach and collaboration.

The Center’s Steering Committee is moving forward on a major initiative to fund our ability to respond to the pressing ethics issues in clinical care across the life span and across all settings of care.

We need and welcome your support as we work together to advance compassion, integrity, and respect in health care.

Thank you!

Susan

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

November 2015

Launching the Program in Compassionate Communication
The enclosed article from the Portland Business Journal outlines the Center’s plans for a new and far reaching initiative to humanize health care. The 7-minute video illustrates our goals with three case stories: https://youtu.be/Um0vhph6iEg.

New POLST Video Corrects Misinformation
In partnership with nearly 40 local and national consultants, Susan Tolle wrote the script and directed the filming of a new video “POLST: Doing it Better,” which is now available on the Oregon POLST web site at https://youtu.be/zlqQgCBChn0. Rather than advocating for broader use of the POLST Program, this video corrects misinformation and offers a cautionary tone, promoting high quality and appropriate use of the POLST Paradigm, addressing such issues as offering POLST to healthy 65-year-olds who instead should be encouraged to complete an advance directive.

Living with Life-Threatening Illness
The Center’s course, “Living With Life-Threatening Illness,” continues to transform the experiences of first- and second year medical students. The School of Medicine demonstrated its strong commitment to the course this year by working with Course Director David Barnard to ensure that the course was available to students despite the tight schedules they have in the new undergraduate curriculum. Indeed, this year the class was actually oversubscribed and we had the difficult task of turning some interested students away.

Statewide Outreach and Collaboration
Thursday and Friday, April 14-15, 2016: 8 am – 5 pm
26th Annual Statewide Kinsman Bioethics Conference
Sharing the Stories of our Communities: A Conversation about Ethical Issues Across Rural and Urban Health
Hood River Inn, Hood River, OR; Registration required

Friday, June 17, 2016: 8 am – 5 pm
Statewide Palliative Care Conference
Palliative Care for All: Expanding Our Reach
Lane Community College, Center for Meeting & Learning Main Campus, Eugene, OR; Registration required
Dear Friends,

I would like to extend a personal thanks to everyone listed on the 2013 OHSU Center for Ethics Donor Honor Roll. As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Center, we have planned an exciting series of events and conferences to meet the needs of OHSU students, our former ethics fellows, and ethics leaders across the region. We also will honor those who, through their generosity, have made all that we have accomplished a reality.

As we look to our next 25 years and the new challenges facing health care today and in the years to come, we remain committed to achieving the greatest possible impact for each dollar you have generously given the Center.

With heartfelt thanks,

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

Center for Ethics 25th Anniversary Begins
2014 marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Center, and as befits this milestone, we are celebrating all year long. Everything we do this year simultaneously honors our past and points toward our very vibrant future. The Interprofessional Ethics Program described in the next paragraph was our kick-off event. It will be followed May 1-2 with a statewide Kinsman conference in Bend entitled “Ethics, Difficult Conversations and Palliative Care: New Tools for Integrating Human Values into Future Health Care.” This year’s conference will feature nationally renowned keynote speakers Jodi Halpern MD, PhD and Michael Rabow MD. For more information, email jeppsem@ohsu.edu. The third event will be held September 18th with our first reunion conference for current and past Ethics Fellows. We are honored that Dr. Mark Siegler, Director of the MacLean Center for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago, will join us.

Health Professions Students Solving Ethical Issues Together
The Center began its 25th anniversary year on January 10 by teaming up with the Provost’s Interprofessional Initiative in teaching a campus-wide session on healthcare ethics. The four-hour session involved over 500 students from the schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Pharmacy, and allied health care. This event assembled 56 small groups of students and mentors from diverse health care backgrounds to learn together for the first time how to solve ethical problems effectively and respectfully, with the shared goal of safer and better-coordinated care. The success of the event was due in no small measure to its use of an innovative ethics curriculum developed by the Center’s Teaching Interprofessional Education (TIE) committee and to the committed involvement of all of the Center’s faculty, senior scholars, and friends.

Master Educators Program Begins
A full year of planning came to fruition on January 24-25, 2014 with the opening session of the year-long curriculum for Master Educators in Compassionate Communication. The six specially selected faculty trainees from the Schools of Medicine and Nursing gathered at The Kennedy School in Northeast Portland for a deep immersion in communication skills training, personal reflection, and relationship building. With support from The Collins Foundation, the Center’s interprofessional faculty of communication skills experts will be helping these trainees sharpen their skills as communication skills educators, champions, and leaders in their own programs and departments.
Dear Friends,

The Center’s 25th anniversary year continues to unfold with educational events at OHSU, for our professional colleagues statewide, and a reunion conference for those who have completed an ethics fellowship.

In this issue of the newsletter we honor those who have given generously of their time and by sharing their skills and wisdom have made the Center what it is today.

Thanks!

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

National POLST Leadership Conference
Amy Vandenbroucke was undaunted when an ice storm in Atlanta in February forced rescheduling of the National POLST Leadership Conference to May. The May 15-16 conference drew leaders from 39 states and a representative from the country of Japan. Oregon continues to lead national innovation with new research demonstrating a strong match between orders documented on the POLST form and treatment that people receive.

Kinsman Conference Expanded in Celebration of 25th Anniversary
Over 250 ethics and palliative care leaders attended the May 1-2 Kinsman Conference in Bend with the theme, Ethics, Difficult Conversations and Palliative Care: New Tools for Integrating Human Values into Future Healthcare. In celebration of our 25th anniversary, the conference offered a broader range of workshops with content in ethics, communications skills and palliative care. Laura Mavity of St. Charles Health System served as Chair and, with Lynn A. Jansen as Co-Chair, recruited faculty from across our state. This conference builds bridges and fosters strong collaboration among colleagues in urban and rural settings on some of the toughest ethical issues facing health care today.

Training the Next Generation of Ethics Leaders
Under the direction of Barbara Glidewell, five Interprofessional Health Care Ethics Fellows have completed their program and are proceeding to graduation: Rie Kimura, DMD, MSW; Debbie Lamberger, MPH; Maureen McCarthy, MPH, RD, CSR, LD; Wesley McMahan, RN; and Berklee Robins, MD. Each Fellow completed a capstone project expanding ethics understanding within their clinical department. A reunion conference for all prior graduates of the ethics fellowship is planned for September 18th.

Enhancing Education in Compassionate Communication
David Barnard and colleagues are advancing communication skills training both on and off the OHSU campus. This fall, regional conferences are planned in Coos Bay (Sept 5th), Enterprise (Sept 26th), and Astoria (Oct 24th).
Dear Friends,

Community support with your time, talent, and gifts have fueled the remarkable accomplishments of the Center for Ethics first 25 years.

The Center’s Steering Committee has launched a major initiative to fund our ability to respond to the pressing ethical issues of the coming decade.

We need and welcome your support as we work together to advance compassion, integrity and respect in health care.

Thank you!

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

---

Celebrating the Center’s 25th Year: Highlights and Milestones

Throughout 2014, we have celebrated 25 years of the Center’s activity and leadership in bringing a focus on ethics and values into the heart of the health care conversation including: the first interprofessional ethics education program for over 500 students from all the schools and OHSU, the exciting two-day Kinsman Statewide Ethics Conference held in Bend, the 25th Anniversary Dinner at the Portland Art Museum with Mark Siegler from the University of Chicago as speaker and the forward-looking video on our homepage (www.ohsu.edu/ethics) featuring Center faculty, collaborators, and supporters; Daniel Labby’s 100th birthday and the 50th Daniel Labby Senior Clinicians Seminar. It has been a phenomenal year.

Major Achievements for the POLST Program

A landmark research article on the effectiveness of POLST in assuring that patient wishes are honored was published in the Journal of the American Geriatric Society. Written by Erik Fromme, Dana Zive, Jenny Cook, Terri Schmidt, and Susan Tolle, it gained national and international attention for POLST, including reports and interviews on NPR, in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Chicago Tribune, and Asahi Shimbun, one of the leading newspapers in Japan. In September, POLST received special mention in the prestigious Institute of Medicine’s report on Dying in America, singling out POLST as one of the genuine success stories in an otherwise difficult journey for our society in assuring respect for patients’ wishes and values in the face of advanced illness.

Training the Next Generation of Ethics Leaders

The Center has earned its national and international reputation by sensing emerging challenges in health care and health care policy, and mobilizing people and creative thinking to devise innovative ways to meet them. As technologies, health care delivery systems and the needs of patients and society continue to evolve in unpredictable ways in the future, it will be all the more important for the Center to prepare itself to foster the new thinking that these changes will demand. We look forward to advancing these goals vigorously in the years ahead, with our friends and colleagues at OHSU, and in our ongoing outreach to colleagues in rural areas and communities across our state.

November 2014

For help in making a gift to the Center for Ethics, please contact Ann Barden at bardena@ohsu.edu or (503) 412-6355.