

PEOPLE & EVENTS

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Dow Receives 2006 Pegasus Professor Award



Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) member Karen Hassey Dow, PhD, RN, FAAN, professor and the Beat M. and Jill L. Kahli Endowed Chair in Oncology Nursing in the School of Nursing at the

University of Central Florida (UCF) in Orlando, has received the 2006 Pegasus Professor Award. The award, the most prestigious bestowed by the university to a faculty member, honors individuals for going beyond the ordinary and consistently delivering an extraordinary level of excellence in teaching, research, and service to students, the community, and the profession.

For five years, Dow has been conducting a study aimed at improving the quality of life of breast cancer survivors. The \$1.6 million study is funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research and the National Cancer Institute. Dow also is the lead researcher on a Web-based study about fertility after breast cancer, and she spearheaded the development of WebO.N.E., an online oncology nursing education project that has benefited nurses internationally.

In her nomination letter, College of Health and Public Affairs Dean Belinda McCarthy, PhD, wrote of Dow, "Her human intervention research has had such positive effect on cancer survivors and their families. She possesses remarkable dedication and strong determination to improve the lives of this vulnerable population."

Dow has received many of UCF's awards and recognitions for outstanding faculty, including the Teaching Incentive Award twice, the President's Special Merit Award, the Research Incentive Award, and the Distinguished Researcher Award for the College of Health and Public Affairs. Her research funding has supported tuition reimbursement and salaries for graduate research assistants across three colleges: Health and Public Affairs, Engineering, and Arts and Sciences. She is also a research mentor for junior faculty at UCF.

Dow has received state and national recognition for her work in cancer research. She is a recipient of the Distinguished Researcher Award from the Florida Nurses Association,

the Research Excellence Award from Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, and the Excellence in Cancer Research and the Excellence in Breast Cancer Education Awards from ONS. She edits or has edited several scholarly journals and is an internationally recognized writer and editor, having authored or coauthored four textbooks and more than 100 publications and book chapters. She has made more than 130 presentations on cancer-related topics since 1995, including presentations in Australia, Japan, Singapore, China, the Philippines, Great Britain, Norway, and Italy.

Robinson Named 2006 Yoplait Champion



Yoplait®, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and *SELF* magazine have honored ONS member Fran Robinson, RN, among the 2006 Yoplait Champions. The

individuals are honored for extraordinary service in their local communities to help in the fight against breast cancer.

Robinson's history with breast cancer education began in 1986 when she was hired to open the nursing department at the San Juan Regional Cancer Center in Farmington, NM. As the only nurse, she cared for all of the women diagnosed with breast cancer in the community. Because of the large Navajo population in her area and their high mortality rate from breast cancer, Robinson became interested in breast cancer in Navajo women. She partnered with a local Navajo breast cancer survivor, and together they received a grant from the San Juan Medical Foundation to develop a movie in Navajo with English subtitles about early detection of breast cancer. They later received a second grant from the National Cancer Institute to produce a video in Navajo with English subtitles about treatment options.

Robinson has continued her work with the Navajo Nation as a breast health specialist. She works with the Department of Health, coordinating the New Mexico Breast and Cervical Cancer Detection program for San Juan County in New Mexico, a program that helps

low-income women get necessary screening for early detection. As part of a team at San Juan Regional Cancer Center, Robinson has developed a MammaCare® breast self-examination program for high school girls and adult women as well as a clinical breast examination program that teaches and certifies providers in the MammaCare method. All efforts are aimed at early detection and the standardization of breast examination with a research-based method that has been proven to be superior to other methods.

Robinson has been a nurse for 32 years, the past 18 of which have been dedicated to oncology. She facilitates the Women's Cancer Support Group and sits on the Cancer Committee as outreach coordinator. "Breast Cancer Education for Native American Women: Creating Culturally Relevant Communications," written by Robinson and coauthors Nellie Sandoval, BS, MS, Julie Baldwin, PhD, and Priscilla R. Sanderson, PhD, CRC, received the Gold Award in the Scholarly Journals, Feature Article, category in the 2006 Society of National Association Publications EXCEL Awards Competition. The article appeared in the December 2005 *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*.

"It is an honor to recognize the Yoplait Champions for their dedication to the fight against breast cancer," said Camille Gibson, vice president of Yoplait. "These real-life heroes are truly inspiring, and I am in awe of their courage and strength."

For more information about the Yoplait Champions, visit www.yoplaitusa.com/breast_cancer_champions.aspx.

Bauer-Wu Honored With Distinguished Alumna Award



ONS member Susan Bauer-Wu, DNSc, RN, director of the Phyllis F. Cantor Center for Research in Nursing and Patient Care Services at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, MA, was honored with the Distinguished Alumna Award from her alma mater, State University of New

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