

2011 Beta Mu Chapter Awards of Distinction

Excellence in Leadership

Elizabeth (Betty) Falter, RN,MS, NEA-BC is the 2011 Beta Mu Excellence in Leadership recipient. Betty is passionate about leadership and believes that sound and effective leadership creates a better work environment, improves patient safety, and enhances care. Betty developed her own consulting practice, Falter & Associates, Inc., in 1990. The focus of her practice was integrating leadership training with nursing operations. In 2001 Betty relocated from New York to Tucson and re-incorporated Falter & Associates, Inc. establishing a relationship with the Arizona Healthcare Leadership Academy in 2004. Currently, she serves as the Executive Director of the Arizona Healthcare Leadership Academy, a not for profit educational program for front line and middle healthcare managers. In addition to her administrative duties, Betty is an instructor in both the basic and advanced courses. Betty brings a unique blend of operations knowledge and outstanding presentation skills to create a positive, highly interactive and real learning environment. She has been published in numerous professional journals and is a frequent presenter and educator. Betty is the issue editor and published author in the February, 2011, issue of AONE's "Nurse Leader." Her article is entitled, "RN CEOs: The Arizona Experience." It will be the subject of a podium presentation at AONE's 2011 annual meeting. Betty also serves on the board of Nursing Administration Quarterly and was the book review editor managing her own column for over five years.

Excellence in Research

The 2010 award for Excellence in Research was awarded to Elaine Jones, PhD, RN, Associate Professor at The University of Arizona College of Nursing. Dr. Jones is a passionate advocate for the deaf community and has maintained a program of research for over 25 years with a focus on improving the quality of life for deaf individuals. She has published extensively in this area. Some of her publications in the last 5 years include: Jones, E., Renger, R. & Firestone, R. (2005). Deaf community analysis for health education priorities. *Public Health Nursing*, 22 (1), pp 27-35. Jones, E., Ouelette, S., & Kang, Y. (2006, Spring). Perceived stress among deaf adults. *American Annals of the Deaf*. 151 (1): 25-31. Jones, E., Mallinson, K.R., Phillips, L. & Kang, Y. (2006). Challenges in language, culture, and modality. *Nursing Research*, 55(2), 75-81. Jones, E., Renger, R. & Kang, Y. (2007). Self efficacy for health-related behaviors among Deaf adults. *Research in Nursing & Health*. 30, 185-192. Crogan, N., Jones, E.G. & Kang, Y. (2007). Nutritional health among deaf adults. *JADARA (Journal of the American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association)*, 40(1): 49-72. Trinh, H. & Jones, E.G. (2007, fall). Fruit and vegetable intake among Deaf adults and risk of heart disease. *Journal of Undergraduate Nursing Scholarship*. Harrington, J., Jones, E., & Badger, T. (Mar,2009), Creating and Testing a Deaf- Friendly, Stop-

smoking Web Site Intervention. *American Annals of the Deaf* 155 (1): 96-102.
Jones, E. & Boyle, J.S. (2011). Working with Translators and Interpreters in Research: Lessons Learned. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*. XX(X) 1-7.
Additionally, Dr. Jones is recognized as an expert in translating questionnaires from written English into visual American Sign Language.

Excellence in Education

The 2011 winner for Excellence in Education is Ms. Roxanne Moutafis, Roxanne Moutafis has been a faculty member at The University of Arizona College of Nursing for over 19 years and created the Summer Student Nurse Externship Program for senior nursing students for University Medical Center (UMC) in 1998 which she continues to coordinate and oversee each summer. On a national level, Roxanne was appointed as the academic representative from The University of Arizona in 2001 to assist in the development of a post Baccalaureate Nurse Residency Program. This program was initiated in June 2001 as a national demonstration project supported by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and University Healthsystems Consortium. The program supports new BSN-prepared nurses throughout their first year in practice and encourages leadership development in clinical nursing. In 2008, Ms. Moutafis was appointed as a national site evaluator for the Commission on Colligate Nursing Education (CCNE), a nationally recognized accrediting body responsible for the evaluation of post-baccalaureate nurse residency programs. She participated as a member of the evaluation team involved in the evaluation of the initial institutions receiving national accreditation. Currently Ms. Moutafis serves as an appointed member of the Arizona State Board of Nursing Education Committee. Ms. Moutafis is widely recognized for her expertise in new graduate nurse residencies and is an invited speaker for national program training sessions and consults nationally for the program.

Excellence in Clinical Practice

The 2011 honoree for Excellence in Clinical Practice is Mary Anne Kinne. Ms. Kinne is an integral part of the Critical Care Team at Tucson Medical Center (TMC), and exemplifies skill and professionalism in her daily practice. Mary was the primary clinician in the development and implementation of the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner in the 40 bed Intensive Care Unit at Tucson Medical Center. Her patient population encompasses emergency department admissions, medical/surgical, cardiac and neuro patient. She expertly assesses, diagnosis, formulates and implements a treatment plan for these patients, and has become a highly sought after nurse practitioner who has earned the respect of both her nursing and physician colleagues. She leads the rapid response team on the night shift, and not only expertly cares for the patient, but provides comforting support to the family as well. She is a widely sought after resource by nurses and physicians. Ms. Kinne is an adjunct clinical instructor for the University of Arizona College of Nursing and St. Louis College of Nursing for advanced practice nurses and teaches residents as a member of the non-physician faculty for the training and evaluation of transitional research for the Tucson Healthcare Medical

Education Program. Additionally, she teaches "Fundamentals of Critical Care" for the Society of Critical Care Medicine. Ms. Kinne has been actively involved in TMC's first bedside nursing research study, entitled "Measuring Nurse Satisfaction with Bar Code Medication Administration," the results of which will be presented TMC's April Research Symposium.

Excellence in Ethical Behavior and Professional Commitment

Mary Steele, Director of Hospice/Palliative Care Services, received Beta Mu's 2011 Exceptional Ethical Behavior, Professional Commitment award. Ms. Steele's leadership is based on a foundation of personal and professional values. An example of compassion (honoring body, mind, and spirit) is the leadership role she takes with a community initiative entitled Caring for the Caregiver. Mary makes sure there are activities provided within her institution that support the community initiative, but also provide balance and levity for the caregiver. She works diligently to assure that everyone has an opportunity to participate in such activities. She is a frequent presenter at community churches, academic facilities, community groups e.g. Rotary Club and Eldercare, on the topics of palliative care and end of life issues. She has been a long term member of the American Heart Association, and served as a team leader for fundraising at Tucson Medical Center, Chair of the Heart Walk, Go Red for Women Luncheon, and has been a Board member for the Direct Caregivers Association. She is committed to professionalism and excellence, and is an effective mentor to her staff and managers. Mary indeed honors the legacy left us by our fallen colleagues in whose honor this award was created.

Graduate Student Award

Dr. Melanie Logue received the 2011 Beta Mu Graduate Student Award. She entered the DNP program at the University of Arizona in 2007. By the end of the first semester, she decided that she was also drawn to research so transferred to the PhD program. In 2010, the College of Nursing began to offer a Dual Degree option, allowing students to obtain both a DNP and a PhD and she became the first nursing student to graduate with the dual doctoral degree in May, 2011. Melanie demonstrates leadership within student or professional groups. She is chair of the Graduate Faculty Committee at Grand Canyon University, where she is currently an Assistant Professor. She is President Elect of Arizona Nurses' Association Chapter 6. She is a member of Arizona Nurses' Association Political Action Committee and a member of the Nursing Research and Quality Improvement Committees at Phoenix Children's Hospital. Professionally, she holds memberships in the Arizona Nurses' Association, Sigma Theta Tau International, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, Western Institute of Nursing, Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science and the National League for Nursing. Her membership and contributions to both clinical and professional organization provide evidence of her commitment to her profession and her practice.