

## **GRADUATE '03 ELNEC AWARD WINNERS**

**Deborah Dunn, MSN  
Madonna University  
Livonia, MI**

Deborah presented two faculty development workshops in which she offered 6.0 contact hours per workshop. A curricular implementation plan was developed for integrating the Graduate ELNEC modules throughout Madonna University's new Advanced Practice Palliative Care Certificate Program and MSN Adult/Palliative Nurse Practitioner Program. Two teleconferences, sponsored by the College of Nursing and offered by Catholic Health Association, were held to address two specific palliative care topics: "Bringing Palliative Care to Your Healthcare System" and "Nutrition and Hydration at End of Life: Ethical Issues." Reaching out beyond the University, Deborah, along with her colleagues who completed a faculty development workshop on ELNEC Graduate, presented a continuing education activity to nurses in their community entitled "Spiritual Aspects of Palliative Care."

**Veronica Engle, PhD  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center  
Memphis, TN**

Veronica's primary emphasis has been on targeting clinical and research courses in the MSN curriculum that all students are enrolled in, regardless of their advanced practice specialty area. Writing an abstract to present at the 2004 annual meeting of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty (NONPF) was also on Veronica's list of goals. The abstract is targeted at looking at the under treatment of pain and poor end-of-life care and stresses that in order to change practice, the curricula for nurse practitioners should be evidence-based, pedagogically sound, and clinically relevant. From a clinical stand point, Veronica also is a role-model in working with the interdisciplinary team. For example, she collaborates with neurosurgeons and molecular biologists who are focusing on molecular interventions for persons with glioblastoma brain tumors and addressing quality of life and comfort issues with these patients. Veronica also developed and offered a 2-hour seminar on energy interventions to promote comfort, with end-of-life clinical examples for second-year PharmD students in the College of Pharmacy.

**Lucille Gambardella, PhD, RN, CS, APN-BC  
Wesley College  
Dover, DE**

Lucille was committed to have a course on palliative care in the graduate nursing program in Wesley. Her persistence and commitment paid off, as a palliative care course will be offered in the Fall '04 as an elective. Continuing with that

same commitment, Lucille is attempting to implement and contract with local long term facilities in teaching EOL content with graduate students. Reaching out to other nurses in her community, she helped to organize a one-day education event on EOL in conjunction with the Delaware Nurses Association. Other ELNEC trainers assisted her with this event that had an excellent turnout and positive evaluation feedback by the participants. Lucille serves on the Legislative Committee of the Delaware Nurses Association. This permits her to monitor pieces of legislation that relate to EOL issues and to actively be involved in the appropriate actions relative to the bills.

**James Pace, DSN**  
**Vanderbilt University**  
**Memphis, TN**

James was instrumental in seeing that the ELNEC Graduate curriculum was integrated in the GNP, ACNP, and Correctional Health coursework. In addition, in the Fall '04 semester, a clinical course has been approved by the curriculum committee and the "Palliative Care Focus" will be implemented within the ANP program. James has also shown interest in collaborating with other disciplines. For example, he is working with the Center for Pre-Study of Religion and Culture (CSRC) in collaboration with the School of Medicine and Blair School of Music. In addressing EOL issues, he would be interested in looking at the realistic care of persons with HIV/AIDS. James has also worked with Vanderbilt Divinity School to get a joint MSN/MTS degree approved. This joint program would include materials on palliative and EOL care.

**Marjorie Schaffer, PhD**  
**Bethel College**  
**St. Paul, MN**

Marjorie has not only taught ELNEC within her School of Nursing, but has also offered the course for CE credit. Upon her return from receiving the ELNEC Graduate training, she presented the ELNEC modules at a faculty meeting, where five faculty members requested copies of the modules and have been integrating the content into their teaching. Speaking at an Honor Society Meeting and a Nursing Research and Practice Symposium, Marjorie presented "The Last Hours of Life" and "Quality of Life at the End of Life" respectively. From February-May, 2005, Marjorie will be in Norway, where she has been awarded the Fulbright Award. This lecture/research award will allow her to do further research on end-of-life decision-making.