

ELNEC-Graduate Award Winners
(2004 Course)

Elizabeth Arnold, PhD, RN, CS-P
University of Maryland School of Nursing

Once Elizabeth returned from the ELNEC-Graduate course, she worked with other faculty members to do a content mapping of end-of-life palliative care in the graduate program. She has incorporated some of the ELNEC content into the family therapy course in graduate mental health nursing. Plans have also been made to offer a three-hour class on palliative care in the Family Nurse Practitioner program. Elizabeth has also been working on a graduate level course in end of life care that will cover the lifespan. She partnered with an ELNEC-Pediatric Palliative Care trainer and a geriatric specialist to develop this elective graduate course. Taking the ELNEC curriculum out into the community has been a goal for Elizabeth, too. She has met with the cancer coordinator at a local hospital to discuss plans to provide in-services based on ELNEC content to staff as they develop a new palliative care unit. Lastly, Elizabeth is co-authoring a textbook entitled "Interpersonal Relationships: Communication Skills for Nurses" that will be based on the content and competencies that she learned at ELNEC.

Anita Catlin, DNSc
Sonoma State University

Holding family meetings and obtaining advance directives can be very difficult tasks. Because of that, Anita makes sure that all master's students who take her ethics course practices these two tasks as a part of a class assignment. Anita has two graduate students who are working to become palliative care specialists. Both students have completed certifications and are working in the field of pediatric hospice, where there is currently no work. Anita is particularly interested in neonatology. Some of the activities she has orchestrated in regards to end-of-life issues in neonatology have included the following: Presented palliative care information at an obstetric nurses course for 200 nurses; chaired National Perinatal Association national conference on palliative care for newborns; consulted with local hospital three times regarding palliative care for newborns, participated in a national conference on Pediatric Palliative Care; consulted on a Canadian grant for neonatal palliative care; represented Kaiser on television to six sites on neonatal palliative care. Anita has also been an outspoken advocate for excellent end-of-life care in her community. She recently spoke to approximately 250 people on end of life choices and issues. Seeing the poor role-modeling from staff nurses' that students witness in regards to the care of the dead patient, Anita is writing an article on how to attend to the patient who has already died and how to maintain the patient's dignity while tubes are being removed and the patient is getting prepared to be sent to the morgue and/or funeral home.

Catherine Crabtree, DNSc
Oregon Health & Science University

Traveling half-way across the world to Thailand for a sabbatical leave after attending the ELNEC-Graduate course, Catherine has been very busy accomplishing her many goals. While in Thailand, she developed a power point presentation for 200 Thai nursing students on end of life care. She also visited a nationally known AIDS hospice in Lopburi, Thailand that is staffed by AIDS patients and includes facilities for families as well as individuals dying of AIDS. Despite the high incidence of HIV in Thailand and the government's educational efforts, patients with HIV are very much stigmatized and rejected by their families. Catherine also visited a Palliative Care Educational Center and Hospice in Taiwan. The hospice was 100 years old and has three locations, modeled after the Cicely Saunders hospice in England. Witnessing the relationships between nurses and patients, the family involvement and opportunities for care by volunteers were all inspirational to Catherine. Developing a certificate program for baccalaureate nurses and proposing a master's curriculum in palliative care for nurses in Thailand are additional goals Catherine has achieved. In addition to all of her many activities in Thailand, Catherine has worked with others in establishing the Special Interest Group (SIG) on End of Life in the National Organization of Nurse Practitioners (NONPF). The first meeting took place in April, 2005 in Chicago at the annual conference. Catherine was elected convener of the SIG. She worked with others to establish goals and activities to submit to the NONPF Board for approval. She is working with two other ELNEC-Graduate trainers to propose a pre-conference on end-of-life training based on ELNEC at the next NONPF conference in April 2006. In addition, she and the other ELNEC-Graduate trainers are reaching out to other organizations who are involved in end of life care and hope to refine competencies and curricula for advanced practice nurses in palliative care. Lastly, Catherine is committed to excellent palliative care in her hometown. She will be conducting a market analysis for a palliative care advanced practice program in Portland, OR.

Janet Craig, DHA
Clemson University – School of Nursing

In November 2004 and March 2005, Janet developed and offered an end-of-life seminar for graduate students from the practitioner, education, clinical specialist, and administration tracts. The conference, attended by 45 graduate students, offered such topics as pain management, issues of eating and drinking, and taking the lead in improving practice. Because of the success of these two programs, a June 2006 course is already planned. At Clemson University, there are currently five graduate students doing research projects dealing with end-of-life issues. Janet is serving as Chair of the committees for three of these students. Once Janet returned home from the ELNEC-Graduate course, she contacted other South Carolina ELNEC trainers to see if there would be interest in offering ELNEC training to interested nursing faculty at the South Carolina Technical College System and the South Carolina State University. As a result of this collaboration, a community provider assessment has been conducted by a committee of students drawn from these programs. These students revised the City of

Hope survey instrument to fit their community's needs. They completed the Institutional Review Board (IRB) process, conducted the survey (n=110), and analyzed the results. These results have been distributed to conference participants and are currently being used to shape future community provider conferences. In addition, a convenience survey of RN-perceived barriers regarding seamless transitions to Hospice is currently in process. To date, 70 useable surveys with participation from hospice RN's in 6 + states is on-going. In April 2005, Janet had an article on end-of-life care published in the *Journal of Nursing Administration*. Janet has also presented many lectures, including the South Carolina White House Conference on Aging, sponsored by the Lieutenant Governor's Office on Aging and a presentation at the Palliative Care Symposium with a panel discussion entitled "Seven Heads are Better Than One." This symposium was sponsored by the Medical Review of North Carolina, Inc. and Carolina Medical Review.

Jennifer Gentry, RN, MSN, ANP, APRN, BC, PCM, Duke University School of Nursing

Over the past year, Jennifer has precepted six graduate nursing students and seven medical students, using the ELNEC materials to supplement their clinical experiences. In addition, she has presented ten individual lectures, using ELNEC materials for graduate nursing students, as well as other groups. Jennifer also worked with her colleague, Cristina Hendrix, to offer a palliative care elective to graduate nursing students, based on the ELNEC graduate curriculum. Jennifer's work in the clinical arena has allowed her to work with an oncology nurse intern on the inpatient oncology unit. Together, they are working to develop a Palliative Care educational project.

**Cristina Hendrix, DNS
Duke University – School of Nursing**

Presenting to the curriculum committee, coordinating with various faculty members in offering a graduate palliative care elective, and communicating with nursing and medical directors in community institutions were three goals Cristina hoped to meet after attending the Graduate-ELNEC course. One year after attending the course, all three goals were met and exceeded. A graduate elective titled "Palliative Care in Advanced Nursing Practice" was presented to the Duke School of Nursing Curriculum Committee. That committee approved the elective and the Faculty Governance Association unanimously approved the course for Fall 2005. During the development of the elective course, faculty in the pediatric, neonatal and adult nurse practitioner programs were consulted on how this course should be structured to meet the needs of their students. Cristina also met with the nursing and medical directors of the Extended Care Rehabilitation Center at the Durham, NC Veterans Administration (VA) regarding end-of-life courses for their staff nurses. A 3-hour CE presentation to the VA staff nurses and APN's took place in Spring 2005. Another presentation is planned for later in 2005.

**Charon Pierson, PhD, APRN, GNP, FAANP
University of Hawaii – School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene**

When Charon returned from ELNEC training, she met with the Palliative Care Faculty in the Department of Geriatric Medicine to discuss ideas for integrating course content into nursing, medical, and fellowship programs. From those various meetings, a new multidisciplinary palliative care course was created. In addition to helping to develop this course, Charon organized a state-wide ELNEC program, with the help of several other ELNEC trainers in the state of Hawaii. Over 100 people attended this course. With a need to reach clinical nurse leaders in Hawaii, Charon, through a HRSA training grant, has offered a 1-hour CME/CEU monthly presentation over video conferencing to the entire state of Hawaii. Three of these presentations will be focused on end-of-life care. There were two additional goals Charon accomplished: She is currently planning another statewide collaborative ELNEC training with the help of Kokua Mau (statewide End-of-Life Coalition) and she is currently developing a module for medical students and residents/fellows on bowel and bladder care at the end-of-life.