

OREGON CANCER REGISTRARS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Greetings to all!

I have a question for ya'll...How did this year fly by so quickly? My term as President is coming to an end and I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your President this year. It was an honor. Once again I learned more about how well this organization can and does operate and I also learned more about member's passion for the cancer registry field. I really do appreciate everyone's cooperation in organizing and attending the Fall Workshop, suggestions for By-Law changes, and also member's willingness to run for office...we didn't have to twist too many arms. As this year comes to an end I want to leave you with some thoughts:

This is your Life. Do what you love and do it often. If you don't like something, change it. If you don't have enough time, stop watching TV. If you are looking for the love of your life, Stop; They will be waiting for you when you start doing things you love. Stop over analyzing. All emotions are beautiful. Life is simple. Open your mind, arms, and heart to new things and people. We are united in our differences. Ask the next person you see what their dream is, and share your inspiring dream with them. Travel often; getting lost will help you find yourself. Some opportunities only come once, seize them. Life is short. Life is about the people you meet, and the things & memories you create with them. So go out and start creating. Live your dream, and wear

your passion. Happy Holly-daze!! Deborah 2013 OCRA President

Winter 2013

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CTR exam scholarships:

MICHELE HENSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP available thru ORCA which pays for the cost of the exam up to the NCRA members' cost.

APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE OCRA WEBSITE: http://www.ocra-oregon.org



Interesting Tidbits

Annual Report: Cancer Death Rates in the US Continue to Decline These Three Companies Are Paving The Way To Breast Cancer Treatment

CAnswer Forum/SEER

None submitted

Registry News

OHSU has filled the 2 open positions.

A big welcome back to Kim Young who left last October to go exploring and finally found herself w/her hubby in the Lone Star state. She moved to Texas purely for warmer, sunnier weather. And she states she came back to work for OHSU because of the great people in the registry and the interesting, challenging cases.

And welcome newcomer Kristin Lakin from the far end of Washington.

Kristin graduated from University of Washington in 2007 with a BA in Public Health. During her last year of college she worked at Fred Hutchinson in the Cancer Surveillance department doing data entry. Upon graduation she was offered a full time position as an abstractor/coder in the same department. She did the abstracting and coding of new cases that were collected within 13 counties of Washington. After 7 years at Fred Hutchinson she decided to accept a position at OHSU in the cancer registry as a tumor registrar. She and her hubby with their new baby boy wanted to be closer to extended family in Vancouver, WA; She was looking for a position that not only matched the work she did at Fred Hutchinson, but also offered significantly new challenges and learning opportunities. She tells us that she has really been enjoying working at OHSU. And that she has already gained more knowledge about cancer then she knew before and she is looking forward to the new challenges this job brings. She earned her CTR March of 2009

OSCaR's Page

OSCaR is happy to announce the addition of two new staff members.

Linda Shan has joined our team as a Medical Records Consultant. Linda has a Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in Biology and Psychology and a Master's degree in Business Administration. Linda has worked in healthcare clinics and hospitals in various positions including clinic manager at OHSU. Lastly, Linda worked as an adjunct instructor teaching healthcare billing procedures and public health courses at several colleges around the metro area. Linda will be reviewing cases submitted from the hospitals and giving feedback to the abstractors when the text does not match the coded information. She is learning all the fine detail of cancer abstracting on the job and will be a wonderful addition to Quality Assurance Team.

Shannon Evangelista has most recently joined our team in the role of Cancer Database Specialist. Shannon has worked for the State since 2000 and has been trying to transfer to the Oregon Health Authority for 2 years and has now successfully landed a job within OSCaR. She has a degree in Health Information Management. Her goal is to learn how to perform her job beyond expectations. As soon as all the appropriate software is loaded onto Shannon's computer she will be the OSCaR contact for case downloads, giving out new Nurse Practioners numbers, Fall Workshop planning and assisting the Research Analyst Team We are very excited to have filled these positions with two very qualified individuals.

Please welcome them to OSCaR.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Let it snow, let it snow because I am dreaming of a white Christmas.

Merry Christmas to all. Have a great holiday and may the new year be bright and beautiful.

Shannon





2013 Elected Officials

President (Duties) Deborah Towell, CTR <u>deborah.j.towell@state.or.</u>us

President Elect (Duties) Bonnie Kubli, CTR bkmedr@bayareahospital.org <u>Treasurer (Duties)</u> Philip Woods <u>pwoods@bayareahospital.org</u> <u>Secretary (Duties)</u> Melissa Alvarado, CTR <u>alvarado@ohsu.edu</u>

Past President (Duties) Norie Vogt, LPN, CTRvogt4566@comcast.net