Funding for Centers of Geriatric Nursing Excellence Extended

In December 2010, the trustees of the John A. Hartford Foundation approved a renewal grant totaling nearly $1.8 million over 2 years to five Hartford Centers of Geriatric Nursing Excellence (HCGNEs): Oregon Health & Science University; University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; University of California, San Francisco; University of Iowa; and University of Pennsylvania. The grant focuses on three core activities: the development of faculty with expertise in geriatrics, the creation of sustainability plans for each center, and the formation of a collaborative Hartford center funding proposal in 2012. For more information about the HCGNEs, visit http://www.geriatricnursing.org/hcgne/hcgne.asp.

New Competencies Released on the Care of Older Adults

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), with Hartford Foundation support, has released the Recommended Baccalaureate Competencies and Curricular Guidelines for the Nursing Care of Older Adults (2010). AACN and the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing at New York University College of Nursing worked collaboratively with an expert panel to develop these competencies and curricular guidelines to serve as a supplement to the 2008 AACN Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice. This document provides the necessary information and guidance to assist nurse educators in continuing to incorporate geriatric nursing content into the curriculum to ensure that nursing students are able to provide quality care to the nation’s aging population. To access the competencies, visit http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/pdf/AACN_Gerocompetencies.pdf.

Nursing Leadership Conference & GSA Awards

The Hartford Foundation’s Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity program held its 2010 Annual Leadership Conference in New Orleans, in conjunction with the Gerontological Society of America’s (GSA) annual conference. Several Foundation grantees were recipients of awards presented at the conferences:

- Terry Fulmer, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean, New York University (NYU) College of Nursing, received the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) 2010 Nurse Leadership in Aging Award. This annual award recognizes leadership and significant achievements, contributions, productivity, competence, and mentorship in the field of aging.
- Mathy Mezey, EdD, RN, FAAN, of NYU College of Nursing, received the 2010 Donald P. Kent Award. This distinguished honor is given annually to a GSA member who best exemplifies the highest standards for professional leadership in gerontology through teaching, service, and interpretation of gerontology to the larger society.
- Marie Boltz, PhD, APRN-BC, Assistant Professor and Practice Director, The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, NYU College of Nursing, received the Springer Award in Geriatric/Gerontologic Nursing, for her and co-authors’ article, “Going Home Better Not Worse: Older Adults’ Views on Physical Function During Hospitalization.” This award recognizes a distinguished single work of research in applied geriatric nursing.

Journal of Gerontological Nursing Editor Kathleen C. Buckwalter, PhD, RN, FAAN, University of Iowa College of Nursing, was recipient of the 2010 Doris Schwartz Gerontological Nursing Research Award in recognition for her outstanding and sustained contribution to geriatric nursing research, particularly in improving mental health services and providing community-based care for chronically ill older adults.

About the Foundation

The John A. Hartford Foundation is at the forefront of pioneering advances in medicine and health care, funding research, and programs that have revolutionized medicine and shaped the delivery of health care during the past 75 years. The Foundation’s overall goal is to increase the nation’s capacity to provide affordable care to its rapidly increasing older population.

For additional information about the John A. Hartford Foundation, including grant announcements, program information, quarterly newsletters, annual reports, staff contact information, and grant guidelines, access the Foundation’s website at http://www.jhartfound.org. Readers can also follow the Foundation via

THE HONOR SOCIETY OF NURSING, SIGMA THETA TAU INTERNATIONAL
Call for Geriatric Nursing Leadership Award Entries
The Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) is now accepting entries for the 2011 International Awards for Nursing Excellence. The awards recognize achievements in the fields of technology, media, chapter excellence, research, and leadership. Award recipients will be honored during STTI’s 41st Biennial Convention in Grapevine, Texas, on October 29 through November 2. Members and nonmembers are encouraged to submit nominations by March 1.

One of the 28 available awards, the Geriatric Nursing Leadership Award, honors an emerging nurse leader who demonstrates significant contributions to the health care of older adults through exemplary vision, influence, critical thinking, communication, and role modeling. The award recipient will receive a $2,000 (USD) stipend, be invited to make a presentation of his or her work, and receive a commemorative award. The Geriatric Nursing Leadership Award is supported through a grant from The John A. Hartford Foundation.

For further information about the awards and to submit an entry, visit http://stti.awards.confex.com/stti_awards/intl2011/index.html.

New Grant Supports Research on Simulation-Based Education
To further advance the science of nursing through research focused on simulation to improve patient care, the STTI Foundation for Nursing and Medical Education Technologies, Inc. (METI) will award a $9,000 (USD) grant to an RN with a master’s degree who, on receipt of the grant, is ready to implement a simulation research project.

Multiple studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of simulation in the teaching of basic science, clinical knowledge, procedural skills, teamwork, and communication. It also improves skills assessment at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

RNIs interested in the grant may apply online (http://www.nursingsociety.org/Research/SmallGrants/Pages/SimulationinNursingResearchGrant.aspx) between April 1 and July 1. Applications are peer reviewed, and recipients are selected based on the quality of the proposed research, the future promise of the applicant, and the applicant’s research budget.

About the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International
The mission of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International is to support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide. Membership is by invitation to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship, and to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing. STTI has more than 130,000 active members. Learn more about STTI at http://www.nursingsociety.org.

THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION
National Campaign Launched to Advance Health through Nursing
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has announced the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action, which will work to address the increased demand for care by using all the skills, talents, knowledge, and experience of nurses. The purpose of the Campaign is to guide implementation of the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine’s (IOM) landmark report, The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health, released in October 2010.

Participants at the National Summit on Advancing Health Through Nursing met in November 2010 to discuss how to move forward with report recommendations pertaining to nursing education, interprofessional collaboration, scope of practice, and leadership.

The Campaign will work closely with five states (California, New Jersey, New York, Michigan, and Mississippi) to initiate implementation measures that can be successfully emulated later by more states. The Future of Nursing Regional Action Coalitions involved in these pilot programs will serve in long-term coalitions that will be used to move key nursing-related issues forward at the local, state, and national levels. Additionally, RWJF will work in collaboration with AARP to organize a nonpartisan coalition of partners dedicated to advancing the IOM committee’s recommendations.

About the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (http://www.rwjf.org) focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation’s largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 35 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves.

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