

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FRANCISCO CONDE, APRN, PhD, AOCN



**Francisco Conde,  
APRN, PhD, AOCN.  
Hawaii  
ONS President**

Results of our chapter's needs assessment survey are in. Members were asked to complete the online needs assessment survey from June 26 to July 11 this year. The good news is that over 84% of the respondents were satisfied (37%) or very satisfied (47%) with the benefits they receive as a Hawaii ONS chapter member. The top four

reasons for joining the chapter were education (89%), professional growth (79%), maintaining oncology contacts (79%), and networking (74%).

The majority (74%) were able to attend one or more chapter dinner meetings this past year. Motivating factors for attending the dinner lectures were presentation topic, CNE credit, location,

and convenience.

Suggestions given for future topics include pediatric cancers, genetics and genomics, sexuality, pain and palliative care, nutrition, complementary alternative medicine, quality of life, and legal issues. Barriers cited to attending the dinner meetings were work and time constraints.

(cont on page 3)

## WILD ABOUT ONCOLOGY GAIL SMITH, RN, ONC



The #1 cancer nursing conference, "Wild about Oncology Nursing" was held in San Diego, CA on May 13-16 2010. The conference was four days filled with the latest and greatest education on today's hot oncology topics. It provided opportunities to network with nurses from other hospitals. We shared our ideas and experiences and learned about the newest treatment and therapies that we could use in our daily practice. I was very fortunate to share my travel experience with four other oncology nurses from Queens. This year's conference topics ranged from identifying

ways to integrate and disseminate information to support evidence-based cancer care, to identifying strategies to support and sustain self-care and spiritual growth. Due to the range of topics, we separated and attended the breakout sessions of our interest. At the end of a long day, we got together over dinner or in our rooms and shared our personal experiences of the day.

Selinza Mitchell was the keynote speaker for the conference opening ceremony. Her speech was titled "Fingerprints: The Art of Exceptional Professional Performance." As nurses, we are the fingerprints in our

patient's lives. Our presence is as important as the skills we bring to the bedside. She had everyone laughing at the humor in her stories, and crying for the compassion she had while caring for her patients. Her message... we do make a difference in our patient's life.

Dr. Francisco Conde, Hawaii ONS president, was a speaker for one of the breakout sessions. His presentation was on a study done on humor and cancer patients receiving chemotherapy in the Cancer Center at the Queen's Medical Center. He was an excellent speaker and

(cont on page 3)

## MY ONS CONGRESS PAULA GALLAGHER, RN



I recently attended the 35<sup>th</sup> annual congress in San Diego, sponsored by ONS. There were over 300 nurses from all over the country that attended, all dedicated to oncology nursing.

The conference was a 4-day event dedicated to all aspects of cancer care and there were enough classes to choose from to satisfy everyone's interest. It went from dawn to dusk and it was up to you as to how much or how little you wanted to do.

Classes were broken up into morning and afternoon sessions with approximately 18 classes to choose from. Each class was 1½ hour in length. In addition to the lecture, there was a hall with booths set up with drug representatives from different pharmaceutical

companies. It was another opportunity to gain valuable information in a relaxed informal setting.

We started at breakfast with a meal and lecture then on to the convention center where the classes were held. Breaking for lunch, you could either do on your own or attend another lecture. Then it was back to the convention center for the afternoon session, which usually ran until 5pm.

On 2 occasions, we ventured on the gaslight district to sample some of the local cuisine. We had a great Mexican dinner, which I guess is no surprise considering the proximity to Mexico. Another night, we attended an award dinner sponsored by Cure magazine. The award was presented to

a nurse, nominated by a patient. It was truly inspirational and it made me realize how much of an impact we can have on a patient's life.

Attending congress is a great way to stay current, and aside from the obvious educational opportunity, it is another way to connect with your fellow co-workers as you are seeing them in a different light, outside of work.

I highly recommend you attend at least one congress in your career. You can use PPL days [QMC employees] and/or apply for grants that are available from our local ONS chapter to help defer costs



## HAWAII ONS ANNUAL CONFERENCE DIANE NAKAGAKI, RN, BSN, WOCN, OCN



I had the great experience of being the Chairperson for the Annual Oncology Conference titled "A Kaleidoscope of Care: The Many Facets of Cancer." The conference was held on August 20, 2010, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village for the second year in a row, which is such a beautiful venue.

A conference of this magnitude does not happen without the help of many minds and






hands. The planning committee was made up of such a fantastic group of professionals that included Sheryl Ikeda, Co-Chairperson, Sharon Shigemasa, Brenda Hiromoto, Dorothy Coleman, Francisco Conde, Jeanne Foster, Joanne Itano, and Mary Nakasuji. We are so proud of the fact that not only was it a terrific conference, but every one of the 137 registered nurses, (100%) actually attended, along with 11

"walk-ins." I believe it is the first time we have ever had a perfect attendance!

The morning sessions featured talks on several tumor sites, along with pharmaceutical updates. We were so very honored to have had Carlton Brown, PhD, RN, AOCN, and President of the Oncology Nursing Society, as our keynote speaker. He addressed an "Overview and Management of Oral  
(con't on page 4)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT

### Results of The 'Needs Assessment Survey'

How satisfied are you with the benefits you receive as a Hawaii Chapter member?				
Responses	%	Percentage of total respondents		
Very satisfied	47.37%			
Satisfied	36.84%			
Neutral	15.79%			
Dissatisfied	0%			
Very dissatisfied	0%			
<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>20%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>60%</b>
			<b>80%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Our chapter currently has 224 members, and recruitment of new members is always ongoing. From the survey, ideas for recruiting new members were:

- ◆ "Invite a colleague" dinner where the invited colleague is free.
- ◆ Conduct a membership drive at each major institution.

- ◆ Increase publicity by posting flyers and brochures in clinics and hospitals.
- ◆ Use video teleconferencing to encourage members from neighbor islands to join and participate in chapter programs.

Meeting members' satisfaction is our top priority. Results of the survey have been given to all board members and we are in the process of formulating action plans for improvement. Mahalo to those who participated in the survey. We truly appreciate all your input and suggestions.

## WILD ABOUT ONCOLOGY CONT

we were so proud of him. The vendors also offered opportunities for learning. While visiting the different booths we learned about the newest drug treatments

and latest equipment that would improve our practice. Drug handouts, journals, and sometimes books were given to reinforce this information. The annual oncology

congress is a must for all oncology nurses. At the end of the four days you walk away feeling renewed, energized and proud to be an oncology nurse.



## HAWAII ONS ANNUAL CONFERENCE CONT

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*I highly encourage you to come and join this committee of dedicated professionals.*

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Mucositis and Xerostomia in Patients Receiving Radiotherapy for Head and Neck Cancer". Dr. Linda Wong and Dr. Naoky Tsai shared their knowledge and research on hepatocellular cancer. Lori Kaneshige, RN, GCNS-BC, gave a very detailed and interesting review of the controversial 2009 Breast Cancer Screening Guidelines. We also learned the latest pharmaceutical updates from Marc Takemoto, Pharm. D.

During lunch, as has become tradition, we held the very touching Mana`olana (Nurse of Hope) Ceremony. There were four very deserving nurses who were nominated, and Leilani Karasaki of Queen's Medical Center, is the 2011 Mana`olana. We had a very articulate patient speaker, who addressed how we, as oncology nurses, really do make a huge difference in our patients' lives.

The afternoon sessions were also well presented and well received. Francisco Conde, APRN,

PhD, AOCN, shared about the Cancer Survivorship program he is involved in. Selinza Mitchell, LVN, CNE, sponsored by Pfizer, "acted out" in a most entertaining manner, "The Art of Professional Performance: Making a Difference in Patients' Lives." To close the conference, Carlton Brown shared "What Can ONS Do For You?"

We also had a fantastic Silent Auction that added to the fun of the day. Suzanne Ditter, Mary Nakasuji, Jeanne Foster, and myself, were able to gather a very nice variety of items to bid on. Amongst the hot ticket items were beautifully hand crafted jewelry pieces, awesome blankets, great art pieces, a stainless steel BBQ grill made especially for ONS, terrific baskets of goods magically put together by Suzanne, and a two-night stay at the Hilton Hawaiian Village in an ocean-view room. The monies earned from the Silent Auction are used for scholarships for ONS members to attend conferences and for

educational opportunities, so do apply for this financial assistance. The local chapter would like to thank all of you for bringing your cash and checkbooks in making the Silent Auction a very successful part of the conference.

Lastly, the committee and I would highly encourage you to come and join this committee of dedicated professionals. It is a terrific opportunity to network with others who work with special oncology patients and a great training ground for personal and professional growth. I do believe that many of you would like to be involved and find a way to "give back" to our wonderful organization, so this is a fantastic opportunity to satisfy your need.

In closing, I would like to thank each and every one of you for all that you do for our patients and our community! I am very proud to call myself an ONCOLOGY NURSE in our great state of Hawaii!



# HAWAII ONS SILENT AUCTION 2010



Suzanne Ditter  
RN, MSN, OCN

The Silent Auction 2010 at the Hilton Hawaiian Hotel was the most successful ever! Our grand total this year was \$2,300.00. These monies are targeted for YOU - the oncology nurse! Through the ONS Chapter, you can apply for funding for a mainland conference or receive reimbursement for your OCN certification! Applications

can be obtained through the ONS Oahu chapter website or by contacting Cindy Kaneshiro at [ctkaneshiro@gmail.com](mailto:ctkaneshiro@gmail.com).

I cannot thank all of you, enough who donated to the auction to make it the success that it was. I also want to thank new committee member, Mary Nakasuji, MSW, for her hard work and dedication, and the ONS conference

committee for a fantastic event and all their support!

Mary and I have some new and exciting thoughts for raising money next year and we welcome your participation and ideas. You can contact me at 983-6090 if interested in joining the Silent Auction committee.



Mary Nakasuji  
MSW

Alison Matsuo asked me if I would be interested in joining the Hawaii ONS Annual Conference Planning Committee. I thought being on this committee would be a way of supporting the oncology nurses that I work with at the Queen's Cancer Center and so said "yes.

Well, what I initially thought and what was

reality was not the same. I thought I was doing this for others; however, in actuality, I gained from this experience. I had an opportunity to work with the most dedicated nurses from the community. My network has broadened. I learned how an efficient, organized group could plan a conference and have speakers confirmed

eight months prior to the conference, have a flyer/brochure completed and ready months prior to the conference, etc. The brochures were on the web site to give everyone lots of time to sign up.

The camaraderie, the teamwork, the smiling faces and the willingness by the committee to  
(cont on page 6)



## SILENT AUCTION CONT

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*I feel more connected to the members and the organization. It helped me to feel that I belong.*

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wake up extra early, be at the Hilton Hawaiian Village before 6:00 a.m. to have all the bags filled, and ready for the attendees, man the registration desk, etc., made me appreciate what goes on behind the scene.

The preparation for the silent auction was unbelievable. It started by of course asking for donations and collecting them. All the items collected filled my office, and they were assessed by Suzanne Ditter. She was able to make the gift baskets look so attractive and desirable.

She made it so there was a theme and was coordinated. This resulted in great sales and this money will go back to the nurses for their education.

Working on the committee allowed me to meet many new members, knowing them by name and not only by face. I feel so much more connected to the members and to the organization. It helped me to feel that I belong. This is a wonderful feeling.

I have since become active with my own Social Work

organization, I want to feel connected, and that I belong there too.

Therefore, I encourage every one of the ONS members to join in this experience of supporting your organization, learning to plan and coordinate the best conference from the talented planning committee members and having fun at the same time and to build connections and sense of belonging to the best group of nurses in Hawaii. I truly recommend it.

## 2011 MANA 'OLANA ~ "NURSE OF HOPE"



The Candidates

(Left to right): Janelle Todd, Rose Crisostomo, Cheri Uehara, and Leilani Karasaki.

# CONGRATULATIONS!



2011 Mana 'olana: Leilani Karasaki

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



As part of our strategic plan, HONS would like to collaborate with other organizations regarding professional and patient issues. Susan G Komen for the Cure Hawai'i Affiliate has been identified as one of these organizations.

The Hawai'i affiliate is asking our HONS members to assist on race day, October 17, 2010. Volunteers are needed for the first aid tent and the **I Am the Cure** education booth on race day.

**Tinkled Pink.** As another strategic goal to expand public awareness of HONS, we are sponsoring a Port-a-Potty for use at the Race. HONS members will be able to decorate our potty and turn it into an advertising opportunity. HONS can win a prize for the best Potty!

If anyone is interested in volunteering or helping with ideas and decorating can contact Cindy Kaneshiro at [ctkaneshiro@gmail.com](mailto:ctkaneshiro@gmail.com) or call 433-6505.



Susan G Komen for the Cure 6th Annual Survivorship Conference  
Saturday, November 13, 2010.  
Featuring Keynote Speaker Alexine Jackson,  
chairperson of the National Board of Directors for Susan G Komen for the Cure.



## NEXT ONS DINNER LECTURE

TOPIC: NUCYNTA      SPEAKER: Eric Hsu, MD  
DATE: Thursday, Sept. 16, 2010 ~ 6pm Registration ~ 6:30 lecture  
PLACE: Ruth Chris Steakhouse, Restaurant Row  
Sponsored by: Centocor Ortho Biotech  
RSVP to: [Amatsuo@queens.org](mailto:Amatsuo@queens.org)



## christmas Party

and membership meeting  
December 16, 2010



## STILL LOOKING FOR NOMINATIONS...

for President Elect, Secretary, Web Designer, and Board Members at large.  
Contact Cindy Kaneshiro at [ctkaneshiro@gmail.com](mailto:ctkaneshiro@gmail.com) or  
Connie Gazmen at [gazmen@hawaii.edu](mailto:gazmen@hawaii.edu) for more info.



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## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR ANNA ZIMMERMAN, RN, BSN

Aloha, looking for courageous oncology nurses that want to share stories, experiences, and laughter with their fellow oncology nurses. Please feel free to submit articles, information to pass on, and suggestions for future newsletters.

Mahalo