



THE GOLD CONNECTION

Gold Humanism Honor Society

An Initiative of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation – www.humanism-in-medicine.org

Founders: The Russell Berrie Foundation – The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation – Anonymous

New at GHHS

This fall Dr. Norma Wagoner, founding member of the Gold Humanism Honor Society and its first director, announced the appointment of a full-time Executive Director. In



September, **Jacqueline Mintz**, Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley and founding director of centers for excellence in teaching and learning in higher education at UC, Berkeley, Princeton

University and the New School joined the Arnold P. Gold Foundation. The GHHS marked this transition by extending heartfelt thanks to Dr. Wagoner who became Director Emerita and Consultant to GHHS.



Ideas and Inspiration

What To Give This Holiday Season: A Recommendation From The New Executive Director

As a new and ardent supporter, I am keenly aware that you as Gold Humanism Honor Society members are in a unique position to share your bounty this holiday season. In the face of a dismal economic climate with worsening daily forecasts for the foreseeable future--and the inevitable consequences to people's personal lives--as GHHS members, you can choose any and all among a GHHS treasure chest of thoughtful gifts for everyone on your list.

GHHS is distinguished as a service community of exceptional individuals united by values universally recognized, celebrated and, paradoxically, both abundant and in short supply. The transformative gifts of encouragement, compassion, altruism, and respect are all too infrequently exchanged. However, these gifts with which GHHS members are generously endowed are sought both inside and outside the medical community and by young and old alike.

In trying times such as these, individuals and relationships are susceptible to added stressors. By nurturing ourselves and those around us with behaviors that reflect GHHS' values, we can restore our selves, strengthen

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GHHS Biennial Meeting

Sharing dreams and bringing them to reality created the palpable excitement and camaraderie that described the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) Biennial 2008, *Creating Cultures for Humanistic Medicine*. One hundred fifty-three delegates, including 57 medical students, 42 residents, and 54 faculty and administrators—along with representatives of 31 non-chapter institutions, cleared time in their busy schedules to join together September 25-27 in Chicago.

Participants began with guided reflections on their own experiences and roles within their institutions and the profession. They then worked for three dedicated sessions - across titles and roles - to create "Dream Projects" that they would like to accomplish at their institutions. Over 36 projects were generated, e.g.



Sandra and Arnold Gold with the Boston University School of Medicine GHHS Biennial Team.

- how to bring humanism into the medical school curriculum,
- have first and second year students work with chronically ill patients over a period of time,
- nurture residents as they face daily challenges,
- link residents and faculty members of GHHS to form a teaching and service corps, and
- insure that no patient dies alone.

Cameron's Arc, a documentary shown after the final session, illustrates the relationship between the family of a child born with Tay-Sachs and their physician. It is a model for how the profession can support patients and their families confronting ultimate challenges. Each chapter received a copy.

The Biennial Committee, co-chaired by Drs. Peggy Dupey, University of Nevada Medical School, and Joe O'Donnell, Dartmouth Medical School, invited a group of presenters who addressed issues and trends in humanism in medicine and society. Keynoters included Dr. David Leach, President Emeritus, ACGME, Dr. Molly Cooke, Professor of Medicine at University of California, San Francisco and co-author of the Carnegie Report on the Professional Preparation of Physicians, and Dr. Reed Tuckson, APGF Board member and Executive VP, United Healthcare.

The holistic design of the conference, including poems, art, music and stories addressed medical education, social issues and the participants themselves.

Attendees had this to say:

- ❖ *...For a number of years I have been a fierce champion for the inclusion of arts and humanities in our pre-clinical and clinical curriculum...and what happened over the three days of the meeting was that my definition of humanism expanded...became richer. ... I met and formed warm, supportive networks with clinical and non-clinical colleagues and saw wonderful examples of humanism in action all around me. Most importantly, however, I left with a commitment to set up a chapter of GHHS in my own medical school as well as a medical school in Nepal...*

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MAKE YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE (See bottom of page 2)

Ideas and Inspiration (Cont'd from page 1)

our relationships and acknowledge our interdependence and common humanity.

We at GHHS and the Gold Foundation wish you a joyful holiday season.

~Jacqueline Mintz
jamintz@gold-foundaton.org

ALWAYS WE HOPE - Lao Tzu

Always we hope
Someone else has the answer
Some other place will be better.
Some other time it will turn out.

This is it.
No one else has the answer
No other place will be better
And it has already turned out.

At the center of your being
You have the answer,
You know who you are
And you know what you want

There is no need
To run outside
For better seeing.

Not to peer from a window

Rather abide at the center of your being;
For the more you leave it, the less you learn.

Search your heart
And see
The way to do
Is to be

Thank you Joe O'Donnell for sharing this poem (and others) at the GHHS Biennial meeting.

Send news, anecdotes and poems relevant to GHHS members – harriet@gold-foundation.org

Congratulations

NEW POSITIONS

Verna Yiu – Professor and Divisional Director for Pediatric Nephrology and Acting Vice Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry at Alberta University

Laurie Mereu – Chapter Advisor of GHHS at Alberta University Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

Cheryl Dellasega – Chapter Advisor of GHHS at Penn State COM

National Honorees inducted into GHHS at the 2008 AAMC Annual Meeting November 1, 2008:

Stephen Joseph Bergman, MD, PhD
Joel A. Delisa, MD, MS
Barry D. Mann, MD
Diane E. Meier, MD
Deborah E. Powell, MD
Norma E. Wagoner, PhD

GHHS Biennial (Cont'd from page 1)

- ❖ *I was struck by the spirit of collaboration that characterized the meeting, with shared goals of mobilizing together to respond to the challenges in our changing world of health care. I am grateful for the connections I made with other clinicians and educators who are dedicated to the humanistic sides of medical student education. We are...eager to take the next steps (led by our MS 4 students who attended the conference) to strengthen the GHHS chapter here.*
- ❖ *I thought it was stunningly successful; the organization... the fellowship, networking, and learning that took place among the participants made it one of the very best. I've already heard from four of the participants and am engaging with one of them in a research project that fits perfectly with your new research initiative. I've also reported to my boss about the success of the conference and our need to preserve and advance humanism in graduate medical education.*
- ❖ *The conference was precisely what I needed as a 4th year medical student slogging through rotations: invigoration.*
- ❖ *Absolutely outstanding content, the process of creating and walking away from the conference with a project to implement is one of the most effective tools I have seen in place at a conference.*



Communicate and Network

• GHHS DATABASE – We need your information.

All GHHS students, residents, faculty, as well as recipients of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award, Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award (HETA), ACGME Parker Palmer Scholars and other inductees **please register or update your profile.**

All Members and Chapter Advisors who are registered, please use login
<http://directory.ghhs-apgf.org/goldfoundation/Main.aspx>

Chapter Advisors not previously registered in the database, use this first time login to register
<http://directory.ghhs-apgf.org/GoldFoundation/Registration/ChapterAdvisorSignUp.aspx>

Members not registered contact Harriet Turner at harriet@gold-foundation.org or your Chapter Advisor.

• FACEBOOK

Thanks to Novie Sroa who set up a Facebook page for residents. Send your email address to her for inclusion at Novie.Sroa@osumc.edu.

• LISTSERV

Thanks also to Verna Yiu who constructed a listserv for chapter advisors. For more information, contact Verna at verna.yiu@ualberta.ca.

Announcements

“IMAGES OF HUMANISM IN MEDICINE” – A PHOTO CONTEST
Watch for details.

NEW AWARD COMING

A new self-nominated award for outstanding chapter contributions to humanism is in the works. More information will be on our website by year end.

www.humanism-in-medicine.org

Welcome New Chapters

WARREN ALPERT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE OF BROWN UNIVERSITY

SECURE FUNDING BY DECEMBER 31ST AND REALIZE YOUR DREAM PROJECT IN THE NEW YEAR.