

2019

AOSW 35th Annual Conference

Passion
**Empowerment
& Leadership:**

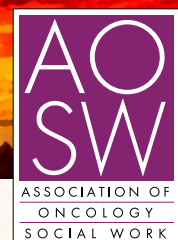
CREATING AN OASIS
IN CANCER CARE

Preliminary Program

June 5-7, 2019

JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass Resort & Spa

Tucson, Arizona USA



EXCELLENCE IN
PSYCHOSOCIAL ONCOLOGY



aosw.org

Passion **Empowerment & Leadership:**

CREATING AN OASIS
IN CANCER CARE

For more about AOSW or
information on becoming
an AOSW member, visit
www.aosw.org.

2019 Annual Conference Theme

The theme for our the 35th AOSW Annual Conference speaks to the specialized skills and talents that oncology social workers use to improve the quality of life for cancer patients, their families and communities. This knowledge, specialized training and comfort is highly valued by those we serve.

The AOSW Annual Conference provides an opportunity for us to learn, share our knowledge and offer support to each other. The presentations and educational sessions reflect the most important issues facing oncology social workers today.

AOSW Mission

To advance excellence in the psychosocial care of persons with cancer, their families, and caregivers through:

- **Networking**
- **Education**
- **Advocacy**
- **Research**
- **Resource Development**

AOSW 2019 Annual Conference Objectives

■ **Clinical Practice and Research**

Highlight the available avenues for social workers to lead and engage in clinical practice and research methodology at micro, mezzo, and macro levels to enhance the skills and visibility of oncology social workers as part of a multidisciplinary setting.

■ **Cultural Competency**

Identify culturally aware, evidence-based strategies to decrease the barriers to psychosocial cancer care for underserved, high-risk and diverse populations.

■ **Ethics**

Evaluate the impact of current ethical and legal challenges in accessing, receiving and advocating for patient-centered care.

■ **Leadership**

Create opportunities to engage and evaluate current leadership practices, mentorship and professional development strategies within psychosocial oncology care.

■ **Innovation**

Explore innovative interventions that empower and engage oncology professionals to create meaningful supportive care to patients and caregivers.

■ **Program Development**

Enhance the knowledge base of effective program implementation, in alignment with process and quality improvement tools, across the models of psychosocial and value-based care.

Conference Location & Hotel Information

With more than 350 days of sun a year, Tucson is a warm and welcoming backdrop for the AOSW 35th Annual Conference. Our host hotel, the JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass Resort & Spa, provides various activities for your stay, including their spa, nightly tequila toasts, and hiking and biking the trails that start at the resort. Take a dip in the multi-level pool. The lazy river and waterslide await you. Recharge in quiet luxury in the well-appointed rooms and suites. Every room benefits from desert-inspired decor, plush bedding, sitting areas and ample desks; many offer views of the red-tinged Arizona desert, the mountains, golf courses or lazy river. This year's hotel truly is an oasis of self-care for oncology social workers while they develop themselves professionally.

Dining, drinks, events and excitement are easy to find in the heart of Tucson. Tucson is only an hour and forty-five minute drive from the Phoenix area, but still an entirely different experience, free-spirited and authentic. If you haven't been to downtown Tucson lately, you're in for an incredible surprise. The streets are overflowing with lively music, art, food and a uniquely Tucson/Southwestern vibe permeates the air.

Connect all of Tucson's downtown districts via the **Sun Link Tucson Streetcar** and experience some of the culture and cuisines that have put our city on the map.

Climate

In Tucson, the average temperatures in early June range from a low of 67°F to a high of 96°F.

Attire for the conference is business casual. Because meeting room temperatures fluctuate, attendees may wish to bring a sweater or jacket.

Conference Hotel

JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass Resort & Spa
3800 W. Starr Pass Blvd. Tucson, AZ 85745 USA
+1-520-792-3500

Reservations: +1-888-236-2427

Be sure to mention "AOSW" when making your reservation.

**AOSW Conference
rate available until
Monday, May 13, 2019**

The AOSW-negotiated rate is \$170 per night. Rooms and rates are based on availability and subject to state and local fees/taxes (currently 12.05 percent and 4.00 percent). A credit card is required to hold your reservation. Hotel check-in is 4 p.m. and check-out is 11 a.m.

The JW Marriott has graciously discounted the resort fee from \$29.00 to \$5.00 per room per night. The resort fee includes:

- enhanced high-speed and wireless internet in the guest room with the ability to connect up to 5 devices;
 - unlimited local and national long distance calls;
 - self-parking;
 - daily fitness activities at Hashani Spa;
 - kid's meal for dinner at Signature Grill (12 and under);
 - 15% off all gift and clothing purchases at Resort, Hashani and Golf shops and unlimited golf driving range.
- The resort fee also includes Hashani Spa facilities access as an exclusive benefit for Marriott Rewards Elite Members – a total value of \$149!

Covered amenities are subject to change, with the exception of guest room internet access, unlimited calling, access to spa facilities and self-parking.

The conference rate will apply for the nights of Sunday, June 2, through Monday, June 10, 2019 (three days prior and three days post-meeting). Rates are subject to daily incidentals and state and city taxes per room, per night. Cancellations must be made 72 hours before the day of arrival to avoid a cancellation fee of one night's room and tax.

To reserve a room at the AOSW conference [click here](#) or call the JW Marriott at 1-888-236-2427 and mention that you are part of the AOSW 35th Annual Conference.

AOSW conference rooms are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. Conference room rates apply only to AOSW attendee reservations received before **May 13, 2019**, provided rooms are still available in the AOSW room block. Reservation requests made after this date will be confirmed on a space available basis at prevailing hotel rates.

ADA Accommodations

For questions about accessibility or to request accommodations, contact Andrea Ward at +1-847-686-2282 or award@aosw.org. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.

Roommate Service

For assistance in finding a roommate, contact **Andrea Ward**, AOSW conference administrator. She will send you a list of other registrants looking for a roommate. It is your responsibility to contact someone on the roommate list and make your reservation with the hotel directly. When emailing Andrea, be sure to include arrival and departure dates, your gender, city and country you reside in and smoking preference to be included on the roommate list.

Getting To and Around Tucson

Discounted Airfare

Delta Air Lines offers special discounted airfares to AOSW attendees for both domestic and International travel in 2019. Discounts vary, depending on the class of ticket purchased, up to 10 percent off the fare for domestic travel. Go to www.delta.com > Click "Advanced Search" > Enter **NMSE9** in the "Meeting Event Code" box.

Area Airports & Transportation

Tucson International Airport (TUS) is a civil-military airport owned by the City of Tucson eight miles south of downtown Tucson, in Pima County, Arizona.

For your convenience, the following transportation options can provide airport transportation to and from the JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass & Resort:

VIP Taxi Service: +1-520-300-3000

Yellow Cab: +1-520-300-0000

Car Rental

Avis is the official car rental service for the 2019 AOSW Annual Conference. [Click here](#) for online reservations or call +1-800-331-1600 and indicate Avis AOSW Worldwide Discount Number **D015425** to receive special pricing.

The Avis Worldwide Discount number will be effective from seven days prior to the event until seven days after the event. *An advanced reservation is recommended.*

Parking

The JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass Resort & Spa provides valet parking at a fee of \$25 USD daily. On-site parking is available at a fee of \$15 USD daily.

Registration Information

What is included in the conference fee?

- Unlimited course selection beginning with the Opening Keynote Address on Wednesday, June 5, 2019, and continuing through conference adjournment on Friday, June 7, 2019.
- Entrance to Exhibit Hall, with breakfast provided each day.
- Lunch provided Wednesday and Friday of conference
- Admittance to the AOSW's Quality of Life in Cancer Care Lecture
- Annual Business Meeting
- Opening Reception and Poster Session on Wednesday, June 5, 2019
- Access to password-protected website where handouts will be available for download prior to and following the conference

Handouts

Session handouts will be uploaded to a password-protected page of the AOSW website, as well in the mobile event app. Before the conference, attendees can print handouts for the sessions they plan to attend. Detailed information will be sent to registered attendees on how to access handouts in May.

Please print all documents before arrival. Handouts will not be distributed at the conference. There will be no printers available at the conference.

Continuing Education

There will be an additional fee of \$35 per attendee for those interested in earning CEs. See the Registration Form for details.

After completion of the online post conference evaluations and proper scanning into sessions, Continuing Education certificates will be issued to those who registered for CEs.

Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB)

This organization, Association for Oncology Social Workers (AOSW), provider #1351, is approved as a provider for social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) www.aswb.org, through the Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. AOSW maintains responsibility for the program. ASWB Approval Period: 11/11/2016 – 11/11/2019. Social workers should contact their regulatory boards to determine course approval. *Social workers participating in this conference will receive a maximum of 26.00 CE's, which may include up to 8.5 Cultural Competency, 6.0 Ethics and/or 26.0 Clinical continuing education clock hours for participating in this training.*

Florida Department of Health, Division Social Work, MFT, Counseling

In accordance with the criteria outlined in the Florida Statutes Chapter 491 and by the Florida Department of Health, Division of Medical Quality assurance, the Florida Society of Oncology Social Workers (FSOSW) Provider #50-775, expires 03/31/2021, will be applying for CEs for clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, and mental health counselors for Licensure renewal. There is no fee for FSOSW members; other Florida non-members will need to pay \$5 per CE or join the organization for \$35. Florida registrants may obtain an exact list of approved clinical and non-clinical sessions or more information by contacting Cara Kondaki, LCSW, at +1-954-659-5604 or by email at kondakc@ccf.org.

National Association of Social Workers (NASW)

AOSW will be applying Continuing Education Units, some of which will be for Ethics, from NASW. Final number of credits will be available at the conference.

New York State Education Department's State Board of Social Work

Association of Oncology Social Work, Inc., SW CPE is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #0320.

Ethics Disclaimer: It is the responsibility of the attendee to check with their state board to determine if the ethics hours offered meet the regulations of their Board. Certificates of attendance and verification of credit will be issued to those who registered for CEs after completion of the online post-conference evaluations.

Non-Credit Events:

CE credit is not offered for committee meetings, poster sessions, networking sessions, and registration/breaks. Other sessions may not carry credit and will be indicated with an **.

Instruction Methodology

Didactic, audio-visuals, demonstrations, experiential exercises, case examples, small and large group discussions.

Target Audience

Oncology social workers and other social workers who work with cancer patients and their families.

Grievance Policy

Grievances regarding conference sessions, content, abstract selection and presentation can also be submitted to any member of the conference planning committee and are escalated appropriately to the conference chair, director of education, board of directors or home office staff. Grievances are responded to in a timely fashion with the goal of mitigation of the issues brought to the leadership. If a registered participant is unable to attend a meeting after registration, refund requests are processed on a case by case basis. If an attendee has a complaint or grievance, it must be submitted in writing by the participant to: AOSW, One Parkview Plaza, Suite 800, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. The letter will be reviewed by organizational members consisting of the social worker consultant, and other organizational members based on geographic distribution, experience, professional specialty, etc. The Organization will respond to the attendee in writing.

Educational Levels of Presentations

Introductory level presentations include an introduction to content area in oncology social work practice. These sessions may include providing information about a particular condition, treatment method, or issue related to oncology social work. Beginner level presentations are appropriate for all, but with specific applicability to BSW's, new MSW graduates or those new to the practice of oncology social work.

Intermediate level presentations include sessions which build on knowledge that practitioners with some experience already have. These sessions focus on skill-building or adding knowledge; possibly with a brief overview of basic information. These sessions are appropriate for mid-career level practitioners as well as more advanced practitioners interested in exposure to new skill sets and research.

Advanced level presentations include sessions which address content for advanced level practitioners who have been working in oncology social work for some time and have a clear understanding of a wide range of concepts, practice, research and administrative issues that impact practice. Covers complexities involved in oncology social work and intervention to address them and influence change.

Course Designations

Cultural Competency
Ethics
Clinical

Silent Auction

Please think about upholding our AOSW tradition of supporting the annual silent auction. The silent auction will be held during the Opening Reception on Wednesday, June 5th, from 7:00-8:30pm. We will be holding a silent auction to support AOSW awards and scholarships for future conferences. We welcome any contributions by conference attendees or organizations! Past donations included small, easily packable items such as gift cards, handcrafts, or jewelry. We also appreciate baskets of local goodies.

The auction will be set up and silent bids will be taken during the poster sessions. **If you have items to donate, email Jordan Burghardt at jburghardt@aosw.org by May 3, 2019.** All proceeds will support AOSW scholarship programs.

AOSW Imprinted Products

Looking for a way to show your pride in being a member of the AOSW community? Our imprinted AOSW T-shirt or sweatshirt convey your pride in being an AOSW member or supporter. Plus, all proceeds benefit AOSW programs and services.

Choose from:

- T-shirt (light gray, with chest imprint)
- Sweatshirt (white, with chest and sleeve imprint)

Simply indicate which items you'd like to order on your Annual Conference Registration Form or when registering online. Your items will be waiting for you when you check in at the Annual Conference Registration Desk.



Special CE Offerings

AOSW is pleased to offer three special CE offerings for attendees.

First, AOSW is offering **half-day and full-day workshops on Tuesday, June 4, for up to 8.0 additional CEs.** Attendees seeking additional CEs can register for either a half-day workshop (4.0 CE) or full-day workshop (8.0 CE).

Next, **all SIG meetings offer CEs.** The 90-minute sessions will include 30 minutes of networking and 60 minutes of presentations, for an additional 1.0 CE. You can attend any SIG meeting of your choosing – you do not have to be a member of the SIG to attend. Find a subject that's interesting to you and learn more about the subspecialties of oncology social work!

Finally, AOSW will host **Clinical Practice Intensives sessions (CPIs).** Comprised of two 90-minute sessions, the CPIs allow you to get more in-depth, thorough training from content experts. This year's CPI topics include:

- Career Transitions
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Gender and Sexual Minorities
- Leadership
- Research

Earn 3.0 CEs while developing skills you can incorporate into your work.

Special Events and Offerings

Full-Day Pre-Conference Workshop

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (8.0 CE, 1 hour lunch on your own)

Navigating Cancer: Work and Insurance, *Rebecca Nellis, MPP; Joanna Morales, JD*

Summary: Approximately 50 percent of cancer survivors are working age and many find themselves confronting questions and challenges specific to their individual circumstances. Those who are employed must often address the central question of whether and/or how to continue working through treatment, take time off or return to work. Additionally, studies show that history of a cancer diagnosis increases the likelihood of unemployment compared to healthy peers; and both a drop in employment-related income and a loss in health insurance coverage are significant factors of financial toxicity. This innovative, full-day training provides up-to-date practical and legal information about the various issues that sit at the intersection of work and cancer. Topics include working through treatment and/or taking time off, returning to the workplace, maintaining both income and insurance, and more. Attendees will leave equipped with tools and enhanced clinical skills to empower all patients in improving work-related outcomes.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Financial Toxicity, Patient Navigation

Presentation Level: Introductory

Full-Day Pre-Conference Workshop

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (8.0 CE, 1 hour lunch on your own)

Becoming and Sustaining a Passionate Leader: To Be or Not to Be... A Manager, *Sage Bolte, PhD, LCSW, CST; Penny Damaskos, PhD, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Alison Mayer Sachs, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW*

Summary: Many oncology social workers seek out growth opportunities as leaders both within the clinical area and in an administrative setting. In this growth trajectory there is a difference between becoming a manager and management from a leadership perspective. Authors on leadership have identified there is an important distinction to be made that a good manager can be a good leader, but a good leader may not be may not want to be a manager. More importantly, often a leader does not “manage” but rather guides and shapes the direction of a department or program. Through didactic, personal examples and interactive discussion this institute will identify key aspects, informed by research, of what makes a strong manager, management styles and “ego ideal” for leading. Opportunities within institutional settings for leadership, identifying champions outside of social work and how to become visible to key leaders in your organization will be explored.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

Pre-Conference Research Institute

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

8:00 a.m. – Noon (4.0 CE)

Demystifying the Publication Process: Writing and Reviewing for Peer-reviewed Journals, *Karen Kayser, PhD, MSW; Daniela Wittmann, PhD, LMSW*

Summary: This workshop will take the participants through the writing and publishing process, from the initial writing of a manuscript to submission to a journal, through the revise-and-resubmit phase on to publication. It will focus on 1) how to write a variety of articles (original research, case study, book review or commentary) and 2) how to be a peer reviewer for a journal such as the *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*. Participants will learn specific steps for writing a manuscript and how to write a good response when the journal asks for the author(s) to revise and resubmit the article. The workshop will be interactive with breakout groups to review manuscripts using a checklist that will be provided. Handouts of recommended readings, tip sheets for writing articles and examples of reviews will be given to participants.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Research, Education

Presentation Level: Intermediate

1/2 Day Pre-Conference Workshop

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (4.0 CE)

Essential Skills in Collaborative Care in Cancer Treatment, *Tiffany Courtnage, MSW, LICSW; Jesse Fann, MD, MPH; Taryn Lindhorst, MSW, LCSW, PhD*

Summary: Collaborative care is a model which integrates medical and psychosocial care by adopting a population-based, stepped care approach to identifying and treating problems such as depression, anxiety and other concerns. Social workers are at the core of this model acting as both care managers and brief intervention specialists. This half-day workshop will provide an overview of the collaborative care model, information on effective, population-based screening instruments and training in two core evidence-based practices (EBPs), motivational interviewing and behavioral activation. Participants will actively engage in assessing demonstrations and practicing skills with one another. We will end with participant evaluation of the potential champions and challenges to implementing collaborative care in their settings.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building; Leadership/Administration

Presentation Level: Intermediate

First-Time Attendee/New Member Social

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

BYOB (Buy Your Own Beverage) Informal Networking Event

Join AOSW leaders at **Salud** for an informal happy hour and networking event. Salud Lobby Lounge features more than 100 tequilas on the menu, plus a selection of “Starr Crafted Cocktails” handcrafted by the talented bartenders at Salud. Enjoy our complimentary evening ritual “The Legend of Arriba, Abajo” every night at 5:30 p.m.

The Legend of Arriba, Abajo

Every evening at sunset hotel guests gather on the Salud Terrace to watch the sunset and experience our nightly tradition – the Tequila toast. The legend of Arriba, Abajo begins with the tradition of a man asking his beloved’s father for her hand in marriage. To hear the rest of the legend, join us for this unique experience where we feature one of our more than 150 artisan tequilas and a complimentary toast: “Arriba, Abajo, al Centro, al Dentro, Salud!” (Up, down, out and in). This is the perfect way to celebrate with old friends and create new ones – “we are all related.”

CPI Speakers

Goodbye and Hello: Facing Career Transition When we are Honest with Ourselves, Patrice Al-Shatti, LMSW; Ellen Levine, LCSW, OSW-CE



Patrice Al-Shatti is a retired licensed oncology social worker. She is past AOSW Communications Director and a frequent conference presenter. Over a long career in geriatric and medical social work, she counseled many families facing medical crises, facilitated support groups, served as a university field instructor, designed and managed programs, and led the quality of life efforts of the Arizona Cancer Control Coalition. Currently she is an ordained deacon in the Episcopal Church, an emerging artist, and creator of the website FindingUp, a roadmap to healing for women facing the loss of a life partner to suicide.



Ellen Levine has had a diverse social work career in the health care field, primarily in oncology for 25+ years. She has been a frequent AOSW presenter and served in many leadership capacities in a hospital setting, comprehensive cancer center and local affiliate of a national nonprofit agency. She left her full time work with Cancer Support Community three years ago but has continued to facilitate groups and remain active with her New Jersey AOSW colleagues. She currently is studying Spanish, caregiving for her elderly parents and continually trying to find ways to maintain balance in her life.

In the Eye of the Beholder: Recognizing Our Unconscious Bias in Oncology Social Work Practice, Eucharia Borden, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Jennifer Dunn, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW



Eucharia Borden received her MSW from Temple University. She has a strong passion for working with individuals living with a chronic illness, including mental illness, HIV/AIDS, and for the past eight years, adults living with cancer in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Within AOSW, Eucharia was most recently Membership Director and previously served on the Education Committee. She has been a speaker for local organizations, actively participates in the Philadelphia area Social Work Oncology Group (SWOG) and is a member of the Cancer Transportation Advocacy Group (CTAG), advocating for the transportation needs of cancer patients in the Philadelphia area. Eucharia participated in the 2013 ExCEL in Social Work program. In 2012, she was one of 21 oncology social workers across the country that received a LIVESTRONG Foundation Community Impact Project Grant to teach a 10-week online coping skills training course called Pillars4Life™, which addresses the social and emotional challenges associated with cancer, providing patients with the tools they need to thrive in the face of cancer. She was also the recipient of the American Cancer Society's 2012 Look Good...Feel Better® State Sunrise Award for Pennsylvania's East Central Division. Eucharia has been a field instructor to several students over the years. She is currently serving as AOSW Board President.



Jennifer Dunn is a Certified Oncology Social Worker at Siteman Cancer Center in St. Louis. She is also a facilitator at the Cancer Support Community of Greater St. Louis and was a Leadership Fellow at NYU's Silver School of Social Work. An active AOSW member since 2015, Jennifer was a 2016 AOSW Scholarship recipient and is an active member of the AOSW Membership Committee. Since that time, she has assisted in the development of the AOSW State Rep Toolkit and AOSW's Diversity and Inclusion Statement. She received her MSW from Washington University in St. Louis.



Susan Hedlund has been a social worker in the health care field for 30 years and has extensive experience working with individuals and families facing life threatening illness and loss. She is currently the Director of Patient and Family Support Services at the Knight Cancer Institute at OHSU and is on the faculty of the School of Medicine at Oregon Health & Sciences University and the Graduate School of Social Work at Portland State University. She is a past president of the National Association of Oncology Social Work, and received their Leadership Award in 1999, and the national American Cancer Society Quality of Life Award in 2009. She also received the Cambia Health Foundations Sojourn's Award for Excellence in Palliative Care in 2013.

“We Treat Everyone the Same:” Fostering Health Equity for Sexual and Gender Minorities

Mandi Pratt-Chapman, MA



Mandi Pratt-Chapman, MA, is Associate Center Director, Patient-Centered Initiatives and Health Equity for the GW Cancer Center. Her research focuses on patient navigation, cancer survivorship and health equity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI) communities. She led the development of national, consensus-based core competencies for oncology patient navigators and a corresponding online training to provide navigators access to free training to build core competencies. She chaired the Oncology Patient Navigator – Certified Generalist process. She served as co-PI for the National Cancer Survivorship Resource Center (2010-2015) and has co-authored four holistic clinical practice guidelines on breast, prostate, colorectal and head and neck cancer survivorship care with American Cancer Society expert panels. She was primary investigator (PI) or Co-PI for three Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute-funded projects to inform health services standards for cancer survivorship; catalyze dissemination and implementation of evidence-based cancer survivorship and patient navigation practices; and build community-driven research in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) communities in Washington, DC. She also served as PI for a pioneering health equity initiative, the TEAM training, which successfully increased cultural competency for 91 health care providers from 24 organizations in 2018. Her personal mission is to make evidence-based cancer control strategies available to more people as quickly as possible.

Advancing Oncology Social Work Leadership in Today's Health Care System: Demonstrating

Leadership skills and Articulating Our Value, *Iris Cohen Fineberg, PhD, MSW, ACSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Shirley Otis-Green, LCSW, ACSW, OSW-C; Julie Ackerman, MSW, LCSW; Darah Curran, MSW, LCSW*



Iris Cohen Fineberg, PhD, MSW, OSW-C, FAOSW, is interim director for the PhD program and associate professor at Stony Brook University's School of Social Welfare. She began her oncology social work career as a clinician, working with patients and families facing bone marrow and stem cell transplantation, and palliative care. She earned her PhD in social work and sociology from Boston University, receiving a grant from the Project on Death in America, and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Cancer Prevention and Control Research at UCLA. She spent five years on faculty at the International Observatory on End of Life Care at Lancaster University, England. Dr. Fineberg has been the PI on several grants and has taught sociology, social work and medical students, as well as health professionals. Her research interests focus on palliative and end of life care, interdisciplinary education and practice, ACP, and family conferencing. She is a past-president of AOSW.



Shirley Otis-Green, MSW, ACSW, LCSW, OSW-C, is the clinical director of consulting services with the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California, a research consultant for the Psychosocial Oncology Specialization Program at the University of Louisville, Kent School of Social Work, and the founder of Collaborative Caring. Her education, research and consultation efforts focus on quality of life, palliative care, leadership development and the creation of meaningful organizational change.

Shirley's career is dedicated to enhancing excellence in the delivery of culturally-congruent, person-centered and family-focused interprofessional care through the implementation of effective learning principles. She has been the principal investigator on studies with over \$3.3 million in external funding. This work has been recognized with numerous awards and disseminated through more than 100 publications and 400 professional presentations. She is a California Health Care Leadership Fellow and serves on several editorial and professional boards. She is a Distinguished Social Work Practitioner in the National Academies of Practice, and was among the first to be awarded a Master's Degree in Health Research-Palliative Care from Lancaster University in the United Kingdom. Shirley is co-editor of the *Oxford Textbook of Palliative Social Work*.



Julie Ackerman received a BS in Business Finance from Virginia Tech and her masters in social work from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. In 2009, Julie began working as a health care social worker providing psychosocial support to patients affected by sickle cell anemia and HIV/AIDS. Currently she is the manager of oncology nurse navigation and counseling for Inova Life with Cancer at Inova Fair Oaks and Loudoun hospitals. In her role she oversees the care and delivery of programs for patients and families while also providing direct patient care. In 2018, Julie became the Virginia state representative for AOSW. Areas of interest include program development, adjustment to illness, and the use of mindfulness practice to reduce disease related anxiety.



Darah Curran joined Inova Health System's Life with Cancer department in September 2009. She has provided therapeutic support to both pediatric and adult oncology populations in inpatient and outpatient settings. She is presently the manager of oncology navigation and counseling and supports several Inova locations. She has previously presented at national conferences on the topic of insomnia and cancer. Darah has more than 20 years of social work experience, having worked in home-based counseling for 10 years before transitioning to medical oncology social work. She maintains a private practice in Northern Virginia.



Attending AOSW conference allows me to collaborate with colleagues on their current/best practices for oncology care. I am extremely excited to attend the workshop regarding the impact of cancer on children. My facility has implemented a premenopausal clinic, where many of our young women are looking for answers and effective ways to communicate news of diagnosis with their children. I look forward to what I will be able to bring back to my colleagues and patients.”

~ Brittany Moore, LSW, OSW-C, former AOSW Conference Scholarship recipient and current AOSW Communications Director

Practice-Informed Research for Oncology Social Workers 101: From Practice Experience to Scientific Inquiry, Heather Honoré Goltz, PhD, LMSW, Med; Chiara Acquati, MSW, PhD; David M. Latini, PhD, MSW



Dr. Heather Goltz is an Associate Professor of Social Work at the University of Houston-Downtown. She earned a B.S. in Biology from the Louisiana Scholars' College at Northwestern State University; M.S.W. and M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Houston; and PhD in health education from Texas A&M University before completing post-doctoral fellowships at the Michael E. DeBakey VAMC and Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Goltz has co-authored more than 25 peer-reviewed articles, primarily focusing on genitourinary cancer survivorship and sexual health. She has also collaborated on research studies funded by the American Cancer Society, NIH, DoDand VA.



Dr. Chiara Acquati is an assistant professor of social work at the University of Houston. She received a master's in clinical psychology from Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, MSW from Boston College, and PhD in social work from University of Louisville and University of Kentucky. Her research examines impacts of cancer and relational processes on quality of life of patients, spouses/partners, and caregivers to develop evidence-based interventions. Her research interests include stress/coping across the lifespan, health disparities, couple-based interventions, and supportive care programs. Her work has been published in peer-reviewed journals and presented at national and international conferences.



Dr. David Latini is a clinical psychologist and oncology social worker focusing on quality of life and symptom management for bladder and prostate cancer survivors. An important aspect of his work focuses on understanding how to improve cancer outcomes for underserved groups, particularly persons with low health literacy and members of the LGBTQ+ community. Building on previous work, his research focuses on LGBTQ+ survivors of genitourinary and other pelvic cancers, particularly couples and caregivers. He is Clinical Director of the Montrose Center, Houston's largest LGBTQ+ community-based nonprofit, and associate professor of urology and psychiatry at Baylor College of Medicine.



As the only oncology social worker in our cancer center, AOSW provides the comradery, support and information I need to care for our patients and families to the best of my ability. Attending the conference and meeting other oncology social workers helps reduce the isolation I sometimes feel as a result of my position. The conference also inspires me to try new ideas and reach out to the network when I need help. Rarely do you find yourself surrounded by so many others that understand what being an oncology social worker means.”

– Lisa Barnes, MSW, LCSW-C, OSW-C

Welcome Breakfast

Wednesday, June 5

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

All attendees are invited to attend our Welcome Breakfast with AOSW Leadership on Wednesday morning before the Awards Ceremony and Opening Keynote. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with the AOSW Board and learn how to get the most out of the conference and membership.

First-Time Attendee/New Member Breakfast

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

If you're a first-time attendee, or you're still getting your bearings, this event will help welcome you to AOSW. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with the AOSW Board and Conference Committee and learn how to get the most out of the conference and membership. We want to meet and learn more about you!

Breakfast will also be provided Thursday, June 6, and Friday, June 7.

Welcome & Awards Ceremony

Wednesday, June 5

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Each year, AOSW presents awards and scholarships to members of the Association who have made distinguished contributions to the field of oncology social work. Please join us as we present our 2019 AOSW Recognition Awards at the Opening Ceremony. Awards and scholarships being presented include: LLS-Hematology-Oncology Social Worker of the Year Award (sponsored by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society), Oncology Social Worker of the Year Award (sponsored by Cancer Support Community), Leadership in Oncology Social Work Award (sponsored by the American Cancer Society), Naomi Stearns Scholarship, and Palliative Care and End-of-Life Scholarship.

In addition to the eight conference scholarships given each year, the Awards and Scholarships being presented include:



- Leadership in Oncology Social Work Award, sponsored by American Cancer Society
- Oncology Social Worker of the Year Award, sponsored by Cancer Support Community
- Hematology/Oncology Social Worker of the Year Award, sponsored by Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
- Naomi Stearns Conference Scholarship
- Pain, Palliative Care, and End of Life Scholarship
- This year we are also pleased to announce the inaugural LLS Hematology/Oncology Lifetime Achievement Award. This award provides a special opportunity to recognize an oncology social worker who has supported patients over many years and has been actively connecting patients with, working with, or volunteering for LLS. AOSW thanks the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society for their support and generosity to our organization.

AOSW thanks all of their Awards sponsors for their continued support of our profession.

AOSW Fellows

History

In 2017, the AOSW Board of Directors established the honorary status of Fellow for the Association. The **Inaugural Class of AOSW Fellows**, consisting of AOSW Past Presidents, was announced in 2018.

AOSW Fellowship recognizes and honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the science and practice of psychosocial oncology. Membership in the Fellowship is not purely honorific, however: it carries an expectation of ongoing contributions to and leadership within the AOSW.

2019 AOSW Fellows

AOSW is pleased to announce their 2019 Fellows:



Christina Bach, MBE, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Christina Bach received her Masters degrees in Social Work and Bioethics from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a licensed clinical social worker (PA) and a Certified Oncology Social Worker. She is currently the Psychosocial Content Editor at Oncolink.org, the web's first cancer education resource. In this capacity, Christina provides cancer focused, patient, caregiver and healthcare provider education. Christina is also the Associate Director of the Advanced Certificate in Oncology Social Work program and an instructor in the MSW program at the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice. Christina has extensive clinical experience in both inpatient and outpatient oncology care at

the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and the Abramson Cancer Center. She also worked at the Penn Veterinary Hospital managing veterinary social work and pet bereavement services. Christina is the social work facilitator and co-programming chair of the Philadelphia Multiple Myeloma Networking Group. She is the Ethics Special Interest Group (SIG) leader for AOSW. She also volunteers regularly with her therapy dog, Linus in both healthcare settings and at local libraries, helping kids become more confident with their reading skills. She enjoys traveling, photography, knitting and spending lots of quality time with her number one self care mechanism, her three rescued beagles, Maggie, Linus and Huckleberry.



Dr. Cecilia L.W. Chan, PhD, RSW, FAOSW, JP

Professor Cecilia Lai Wan Chan is Si Yuan Chair Professor of Health and Social Work in the Department of Social Work and Social Administration of The University of Hong Kong. Cecilia advocated for a strength-oriented empowerment approach in working with traumatized individuals such as cancer patients, bereaved persons, persons at their end of life. Cecilia started a whole range of oncology support services for patients in public hospitals and communities in Hong Kong and the region. She adopted vigorous bio-psycho-social outcome indicators in her randomized trials on measuring impact of her innovative Integrative Body-Mind-Spirit (IBMS) interventions on cancer patients and their family members. She integrated

Chinese philosophies, qigong and movement exercises into holistic health intervention, and moved oncology social work beyond psychosocial and emotional care. Her meaning-making empowerment strategies effectively nurture spirituality of forgiveness, gratitude, hope, and optimism, which are fundamental to resilience and transformation among cancer survivors and their family members. Her IBMS intervention can be found in **this video**. Her multi-disciplinary team used salivary cortisol (stress) and telomerase (anti-aging) as physiological impact of psycho-social-spiritual intervention by social workers. Her leadership in health, oncology and palliative care social work research and practice is widely recognized. Besides oncology social work, Cecilia is also pioneering intervention in fertility, reproductive health and dermatology social work.



Richard Dickens, LCSW-R, FAOSW

Richard Dickens received a BS in business management and economics from Empire State SUNY and a MS in social work from Columbia University. For the last 21 years, Dickens has been a clinical social worker, supervisor, manager and now director of client advocacy at CancerCare. During that time he developed numerous programs, presented on a variety of oncology topics at conferences throughout North America as well as Australia, South Africa, Hong Kong and Ireland, sat on a dozen advisory boards and has written for oncology journals and books. He's been a teacher, mentor, supervisor and guest lecturer in different certificate programs at Smith College, New York University, Hunter College and Columbia University. Dickens was awarded a Distinguished Practitioner in Social Work by the National Academies of Practice, 2017 Leadership Award in Oncology by AOSW, and an Outstanding Abstract Award at the Sixth International Social Work Conference in Hong Kong.



Tara Schapmire, PhD, CSW, CCM, OSW-C, FAOSW

Tara Schapmire earned her PhD in social work from the University of Louisville and she serves on the faculty of the University of Louisville's School of Medicine and the Kent School of Social Work. Dr. Schapmire's research and teaching interests include psychosocial care of cancer survivors and their families, gerontology, palliative care, survivorship and inter-professional education. She is a co-investigator on a National Cancer Institute grant funding the development of training program for 160 health science educators to provide inter-professional education in oncology palliative care at 35-50 institutions across the nation. This project aims to help students of the health sciences at these institutions learn the skills and knowledge essential for providing effective team-based, patient-centered palliative oncology care. She is co-investigator on a HRSA grant aimed at development of an interprofessional gerontology curriculum for learners in medicine, nursing, social work, dentistry, and pharmacy. As a co-investigator on the Kentucky LEADS Collaborative, she and her team are dedicated to reducing the burden of lung cancer in Kentucky and beyond through development, evaluation, and dissemination of novel, community-based interventions to promote provider education, survivorship care, and prevention and early detection regarding lung cancer.



This was my first AOSW Conference and I was thoroughly impressed as both an exhibitor and an attendee of sessions. It was beautifully organized. Thank you to everyone who played a role in making the conference such a success!"

– Pam Ganz, *Coping for Kids*



Kathy Smolinski, MSW, JD, FAOSW

Ms. Kathryn M. Smolinski, MSW, JD, FNAP, is an Assistant Clinical Professor at Wayne State Law School where she directs Legal Advocacy for People with Cancer, a medical-legal partnership clinic which she designed. She is licensed as both a social worker and public interest attorney who assists cancer patients with their legal issues. Her clinic provides free legal education, representation and resources to low-income cancer patients in Detroit as part of the law school's curriculum. This second career complements her first as a clinical oncology social worker for over 20 years including her position as former Executive Director of the Association of Oncology Social Work. Ms. Smolinski has been a senior clinical social worker and Cancer Pain & Fatigue Fellow at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland where she worked for nine years after providing home hospice services in her hometown of Monroe, Michigan. Ms. Smolinski served on the Clinical Ethics Service at Hopkins for eight years assisting patients, families and healthcare professionals in making difficult decisions in the medical setting. She has been a field supervisor in the Smith College School for Social Work End-of-Life Care Certificate Program, faculty member on a five-year National Cancer Institute grant in which she taught leadership skills to oncology social workers around the country and has worked tirelessly in advocating for excellence in end-of-life care. She has published journal articles, book chapters and lectured nationally and internationally on topics such as pain management, palliative care, ethics, legal and psychosocial issues in end-of-life care. She received the American Cancer Society's Lane W. Adams Award for Excellence in Caregiving and the Leadership in Oncology Social Work from AOSW. She also received a prestigious Equal Justice Works Fellowship to implement the medical-legal partnership and was inducted as a Distinguished Practitioner and Fellow into the Social Work Academy of the National Academies of Practice. Ms. Smolinski has served AOSW as board secretary, member of the awards and conference committees, SIG leader, abstract mentor, conference presenter for over 27 years and one of the authors of an AOSW original position paper.



Brad Zebrack, PhD, MSW, MPH, FAOSW

Dr. Brad Zebrack is professor of social work and a member of the Rogel Cancer Center, Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences at the University of Michigan. Dr. Zebrack has clinical social work experience in both pediatric and adult oncology, and has been involved in the development of peer support programs for adolescent and young adult cancer survivors. He has twice served on the AOSW Board of Directors as Research Chair, and was also the director for AOSW's Project to Assure Quality Cancer Care (APAQCC), a multi-institutional study of distress screening adherence and psychosocial care delivery at 65 AOSW member institutions. He also served as faculty for the popular AOSW Excellence in Cancer Education and Leadership (ExCEL) program. In 2017, Dr. Zebrack was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for study in Australia, where he collaborated with colleagues to develop and evaluate supportive care services for adolescents and young adults affected by cancer. Dr. Zebrack is a fellow to the American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS) and the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR). He is a past recipient of the APOS Outstanding Education and Training Award and the AOSW Quality of Life Award. Dr. Zebrack is a long-term survivor of Hodgkin's lymphoma, diagnosed in 1985 at the age of 25. He first joined AOSW in 1992.

Opening Keynote Address

Wednesday, June 5

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.



Matthew Loscalzo, LCSW, FAOSW

Matthew J. Loscalzo is the Liliame Elkins Professor in Supportive Care Programs in the Department of Supportive Care Medicine and professor in Department of Population Sciences. He is also the executive director of the Department of Supportive Care Medicine and the administrative director of the Sheri & Les Biller Patient and Family Resource Center at the City of Hope-National Medical Center.

Professor Loscalzo was the president of the American Psychosocial Oncology Society and the Association of Oncology Social Workers. Along with James Zabora, ScD, they created the first prospective universal clinical biopsychosocial screening program in the United States.

Professor Loscalzo has held leadership positions at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins Oncology Center, Rebecca and John Moores Cancer Center at the UCSD and is now in his 11 year at City of Hope-National Medical Center. He has been a consultant to multiple major cancer organizations on how to build supportive care programs, implement new processes, enhance staff engagement and has developed a unique staff leadership model.

In 2010, he received the Outstanding Education and Training Award Recipient from the American Psychosocial Oncology Society; 2014, the lifetime achievement award in clinical care with the Noemi Fisman Award for Lifetime Clinical Excellence from the International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS); 2015, the Jimmie Holland Lifetime Leadership Award from the American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS); 2016 Harold Benjamin Innovation Award, Cancer Support Community; 2017 the recipient of the Arthur M. Sutherland Lifetime Achievement in the Field of Psycho-Oncology (IPOS); and part of the 2018 inaugural cohort of AOSW Fellows.

He has been the primary investigator (PI) on two NIH training grants teaching health care professionals to build supportive care programs and biopsychosocial screening programs and now a site PI for a third R25E to teach advanced cognitive behavioral skills and now faculty on a Pain training grant with James Zabora as the PI.

He is also on the editorial boards or a reviewer for a number of professional journals and has more than 100 publications and five books. His clinical interests are gender-based medicine, strengths-based approaches to psychotherapies, problem-based distress screening and the creation of supportive care programs.

Lunch Keynote

Wednesday, June 5

12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.



Katherine Walsh, PhD, MSW, LICSW, FAOSW

Katherine Walsh, PhD, MSW, LICSW, FAOSW, serves on the faculty of the Westfield State University MSW program. Before joining WSU, Dr. Walsh spent 18 years as a professor at the Springfield College School of Social Work. She has practiced as a clinical social worker in a variety of health care settings, including the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. She continues to practice clinical social work in private practice, which she has maintained since 1990, with individuals families, couples and groups. She appreciates everything she learns from both her clients and her students, and finds her practice informs her teaching and teaching informs her practice.

In addition to direct practice and teaching, her social work experience includes serving as the director of psychosocial services for Hospice of Hampshire County, serving as the president of the Association of Oncology Social Work (AOSW), testifying for the President’s Cancer Panel, and serving on advisory boards for the Social Work in Hospice and Palliative Care Network (SWPN), the American Cancer Society (ACS), and Cancer Connection (a service organization in Northampton), and leading self-care retreats for various hospice and service organizations.

Opening Reception/Silent Auction/Poster Session

Wednesday, June 5

Exhibit Hall

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Join us in the Exhibit Hall to enjoy networking over light hors d’oeuvres and a cash bar while your colleagues present their posters during in a collegial atmosphere. The top three posters will receive a cash award. Don’t miss this great networking and educational session.

Morning Guided Meditation

Thursday, June 6

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Come get your Zen on and join us for a drop-in group meditation session. Brief instruction, followed by a guided Metta loving kindness meditation exercise. No experience is necessary to attend. This is a great way to move into the middle day of conference! Led by AOSW Membership Director Kerry Irish, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C.

Breakfast with the Exhibitors

Thursday, June 6

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Clinical Practice Intensive Sessions

Thursday, June 6

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (Part I)

10:30 a.m. – Noon (Part II)

Cancer Survivors Meeting

Friday, June 7

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Breakfast with the Exhibitors

Friday, June 7

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

AOSW Annual Business Meeting

Friday, June 7

General Session Room

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

The 2019 Board of Directors invites all conference participants to attend the Annual Business Meeting to for an overview of AOSW's major initiatives. This is an ideal opportunity for AOSW members to join with friends and colleagues and experience the collective power of our efforts and expertise. Don't miss it!

AOSW's Quality of Life in Cancer Care Award Ceremony

Sponsored by the American Cancer Society

Friday, June 7

General Session Room

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.



Carolyn Messner, DSW, OSW-C, BCD, LCSW-R, FAPOS, FAOSW

Sponsored by the American Cancer Society, this chosen awardee and speaker maintains an exemplary record of publication, presentation and direct service provision that reflects a commitment to quality of life for all cancer survivors, and has a demonstrated record of innovation/collaboration in enhancing quality of life for cancer patients and their families. This year AOSW has selected former AOSW President and coeditor of the Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer, Dr. Carolyn Messner, as the 2019 AOSW Quality of Life in Cancer Care Award recipient.

ACS' support and generosity have greatly impacted past award recipients and our entire organization. AOSW thanks American Cancer Society for their ongoing support!



Carolyn Messner, DSW, OSW-C, BCD, LCSW-R, FAPOS, FAOSW

Dr. Carolyn Messner is director of education and training at CancerCare. She speaks and publishes nationally and internationally on the psychosocial impact of cancer on patients, caregivers and families; methods to design virtual patient education interventions; and cancer in the workplace. At CancerCare, Dr. Messner pioneered the use of teleconference/webcast technology to bring information and support to cancer patients. Dr. Messner is coeditor of the *Handbook of Oncology Social Work: Psychosocial Care for People with Cancer* (Ed. Christ, Messner & Behar, Oxford University Press, 2015). She is a former president of the Association of Oncology Social Work (AOSW) and serves on many nonprofit

boards. She is on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Cancer Education*, *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*, *The Oncology Nurse* and *Conquer Magazine*.

Dr. Messner's many awards include: CancerCare Hope and Help Award; Fellow, American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS); Fellow, New York Academy of Medicine; APOS Outstanding Education and Training Award; AOSW's Oncology Social Worker of the Year Award; American Cancer Society's Oncology Social Work Leadership Award; Hyman J. Weiner Award from the Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care; and Individual Award for Creativity in Health Care Practice and Scholarship from the National Academies of Practice (NAP). Dr. Messner received her doctorate in social welfare from the City University of New York with a doctoral fellowship award in social welfare and The Ohio State School of Social Work National Doctoral Award. She earned her master's degree in social work from New York University School of Social Work with a National Institute of Mental Health Fellowship and her bachelor's degree in psychology from Clark University, graduating cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa.

Lunch Panel Symposium: Telehealth

Friday, June 7

12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Moderated by Chelsea Kroll, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; AOSW Education Director

FEATURING:

Telecounseling with Blood and Marrow Transplant Patients and Caregivers: Be Where the Client Is, Katie MC Schoeppner, MSW, LICSW (Presenting); Hailey Hassel MSW, LGSW; Debbie Jacobson, OPN-CG

Summary: Increasingly, practitioners are providing mental health services using telehealth modalities (Brenes, G.A., Ingram, C.W., & Danhauer, S.C., 2011). Given the potential barriers faced by blood and marrow transplant (BMT) patients and caregivers to receiving traditional in-person counseling, social workers may consider using telecounseling to meet the psychosocial and mental health needs of patients and caregivers. This session will describe a formal program for counseling that has been implemented at a national patient advocacy organization. Program elements, including referrals, intake processes, client tracking mechanisms, psychosocial assessment and evaluation methods will be described. This presentation will equip social workers with the tools to incorporate a telecounseling program into their practice with oncology patients and caregivers.

Course Designations: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building; Survivorship

Presentation Level: Intermediate

Embracing Technology: Creating Online Video Support Groups to Support Our Most Vulnerable Patients, Krista Nelson, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, BCD, FAOSW (Presenting)

Summary: Utilizing technology and innovation resources within cancer centers, oncology social workers are poised to enhance the clinical offerings they deliver by offering online video support groups to patients with cancer. This intervention allows these populations of patients to connect with others in similar situations within the comfort of their home and increases the efficiency of the oncology social work role in providing group support. Attendees will be provided the tools needed to implement an online video support program within their setting, including sample consents, a business case and Epic integration learnings. Clinical discussion of ethical and confidentiality considerations in delivery of this modality of care, as well as clinical considerations facilitating online groups and managing situations like a participant death in the video support setting will be addressed.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keyword: Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

Closing Keynote Address

Friday, June 7

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.



Catherine Credeur, LMSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Catherine Credeur is a certified oncology social worker with Simmons Cancer Center/UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. She completed her master's degree in social work in 1996 and worked in mental health for several years. Catherine began her career in oncology social work in 2000. She has worked in community cancer centers and academic hospitals, hospice and home health, and as a community organizer for the American Cancer Society. Catherine is a fellow and past president of AOSW. Her interests include MSW student training, maintenance/return to work for patients and caregivers, and the intersection of cancer rehab and psychosocial care in quality of life.



AOSW has proven to be an incredible community of like-minded practitioners, researchers, and educators, who offer one another invaluable support, and share a deep passion and enthusiasm for providing the highest quality of psychosocial cancer care to the countless individuals, organizations and communities that we serve.”

– Pam Ganz, *Coping for Kids*

CONFERENCE-AT-A-GLANCE*

*Schedule subject to change

**These sessions are ineligible for CEs

Tuesday, June 4

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Conference Registration Open**
8:00 a.m. – Noon	Pre-Conference Research Institute (4.0 CE)
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Two Full-Day Pre-Conference Workshops (8.0 CE; 1 hour break for lunch)
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Half-Day Pre-Conference Workshop (4.0 CE)
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	AOSW First-Time Attendee/New Member Reception**

Wednesday, June 5

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Conference Registration Open**
7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.	SIG Leaders and State Reps Meeting**
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	First-Time Attendee/New Member Breakfast**
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast with AOSW Leaders & Exhibitors**
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	General Session: Welcome and Awards Ceremony**
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	General Session: Opening Keynote Address (Matthew Loscalzo, LCSW, FAOSW)
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Coffee Break with the Exhibitors**
11:00 a.m. – Noon	Paper Session I (6 concurrent sessions)
12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Lunch Panel I: Katherine Walsh, PhD, MSW, LICSW, FAOSW
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Networking & Presentations put on by the SIGs (6 concurrent sessions)
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Coffee Break with the Exhibitors**
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Networking & Presentations by the SIGs (6 concurrent sessions)
5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.	Paper Session II (6 concurrent sessions)
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Opening Reception, Exhibits, Poster Session & Silent Auction**

Thursday, June 6

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Conference Registration Open**
7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.	Guided Morning Meditation with AOSW Membership Director Kerry Irish, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C**
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast & Exhibits**
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Posters Displayed in Exhibit Hall**
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Clinical Practice Intensive Session Part I (5 concurrent sessions)
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Coffee Break with the Exhibitors**
10:30 a.m. – Noon	Clinical Practice Intensive Session Part II (5 concurrent sessions)
Noon – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch on your Own
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Learning Institute/Paper Symposia I (5 concurrent sessions)
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Coffee Break with the Exhibitors **
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Learning Institute/Paper Symposia I (6 concurrent sessions)
5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.	Paper Session III (6 concurrent sessions)

Friday, June 7

7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	AOSW Registration Open**
7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.	Cancer Survivors Meeting**
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast**
8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	AOSW Business Meeting**
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	ACS Quality of Life Award Ceremony**
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	ACS Quality of Life Lecture (Carolyn Messner, DSW, OSW-C, BCD, LCSW-R, FAPOS, FAOSW)
10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Paper Session IV (7 concurrent sessions)
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Paper Session V (7 concurrent sessions)
12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	Lunch Panel II: Telehealth Lunch Panel , moderated by Chelsea Kroll, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Closing Keynote Speaker (Catherine Credeur, LMSW, OSW-C, FAOSW)

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**indicates session is ineligible for CEs

KEYWORDS:

LI = Learning Institute

PS = Paper Symposium

P = Paper

PO = Poster

S = SIG Presentation (CEs attached)

CPI = Clinical Practice Intensive

Tuesday, May 29

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Conference Registration Open**

Pre-Conference Workshops

8:00 a.m. – Noon (4.0 CE)

AOSW Pre-Conference Research Institute

Demystifying the Publication Process: Writing and Reviewing for Peer-Reviewed Journals

Karen Kayser, PhD, MSW; Daniela Wittmann, PhD, LMSW

Summary: This workshop will take the participants through the writing and publishing process, from the initial writing of a manuscript to submission to a journal, through the revise-and-resubmit phase on to publication. It will focus on 1) how to write a variety of articles (original research, case study, book review or commentary) and 2) how to be a peer reviewer for a journal such as the *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*. Participants will learn specific steps for writing a manuscript and how to write a good response when the journal asks for the author(s) to revise and resubmit the article. The workshop will be interactive with breakout groups to review manuscripts using a checklist that will be provided. Handouts of recommended readings, tip sheets for writing articles and examples of reviews will be given to participants.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Research, Education

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:

8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Describe how the peer review editorial process works from manuscript submission to final decision and publication.

9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

- Identify the specific criteria that editors look for in a well-written manuscript and an informative review:
 - Publication and dissemination of evidence-based practice in psychosocial oncology.
 - How social work practitioners and researchers to write for publication in peer-reviewed journals.
 - How social workers play an important role in writing and reviewing manuscripts by shaping the science that is published.

10:30 a.m. – Noon.

- Critique and write a review of a manuscript, using a validated checklist, in AOSW's *Journal of Psychosocial Oncology*.
 - How the articles relate to direct services to clients, individuals, families, and groups.

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

(8.0 CE, 1 hour lunch on your own)

Navigating Cancer: Work & Insurance*Rebecca Nellis, MPP; Joanna Morales, JD*

Summary: Approximately 50 percent of cancer survivors are working age and many find themselves confronting questions and challenges specific to their individual circumstances. Those who are employed must often address the central question of whether and/or how to continue working through treatment, take time off or return to work. Additionally, studies show that history of a cancer diagnosis increases the likelihood of unemployment compared to healthy peers; and both a drop in employment-related income and a loss in health insurance coverage are significant factors of financial toxicity. This innovative, full-day training provides up-to-date practical and legal information about the various issues that sit at the intersection of work and cancer. Topics include working through treatment and/or taking time off, returning to the workplace, maintaining both income and insurance, and more. Attendees will leave equipped with tools and enhanced clinical skills to empower all patients in improving work-related outcomes.

Course Designation: Clinical**Keywords:** Financial Toxicity, Patient Navigation**Presentation Level:** Introductory**OUTLINE:****8:00 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.**

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Speaker introductions
 - Objectives and Agendas
 - Why talk about work and cancer

8:45 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.

- Newly Diagnosed Patients
 - Determining whether to continue on the job
 - The role of personal identify in work-related decisions
 - Accessing rights and responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

9:20 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.

- Working Through Treatment
 - ADA, including reasonable accommodations (space and schedule modifications)
 - Communication and on-the-job strategies

- Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) as intermittent or short-term leave

10:35 a.m. – Noon

- Taking Time Off
 - FMLA
 - Disability insurance – SSDI and SSI
 - Practical tips for taking time off

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

- Lunch on your own**

1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

- Returning to Work
 - Transitioning off disability insurance
 - Re-entry into a job
 - Changing perceptions of post-cancer abilities in the workplace
 - FMLA and ADA return to work requirements
 - Job search

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

- Disclosure
 - Disclosure rights and decisions
 - Medical certification
 - Who, what, and when to tell at work and during a job search
 - Online brand, social media use, and privacy considerations

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- Health Insurance Options
 - Understanding health insurance options under the Affordable Care Act (ACA)
 - Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), Medicare and Medicaid
 - Updates on recent legislative changes and activities

4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- Closing and Final Q&A

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

(8.0 CE, 1 hour lunch on your own)

**Becoming and Sustaining a Passionate Leader:
To Be or Not to Be... A Manager**

Sage Bolte, PhD, LCSW, CST; Penny Damaskos, PhD, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Alison Mayer Sachs, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Summary: Many oncology social workers seek out growth opportunities as leaders both within the clinical area and in an administrative setting. In this growth trajectory there is a difference between becoming a manager and management from a leadership perspective. Authors on leadership have identified there is an important distinction to be made that a good manager can be a good leader, but a good leader may not be may not want to be a manager. More importantly, often a leader does not “manage” but rather guides and shapes the direction of a department or program. Through didactic, personal examples and interactive discussion this institute will identify key aspects, informed by research, of what makes a strong manager, management styles and “ego ideal” for leading. Opportunities within institutional settings for leadership, identifying champions outside of social work and how to become visible to key leaders in your organization will be explored.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:**8:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

- Introductions, review of learning objectives, ice breaker activity

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

- Identification of key aspects to becoming a strong leader

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

- Group discussion type of leaders and discussion on how to get there; Identification of what kind of management style you have and want to develop

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

- Personal stories to outline different paths of panelists and how they contributed to leadership styles

11:00 a.m. – Noon.

- Review of opportunities within work settings to exemplify leadership growth and opportunities. Exercises to enhance thinking creatively about career trajectories will be discussed.

Noon – 1:00 p.m.

- Lunch on your own**

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- Further discussion regarding leadership opportunities outside of work place: board work, community involvement etc. Panelists discuss lessons from their own stories to illustrate multitude of paths and approaches.

2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

- Exploration of internal barriers—what holds us back? Examination of fear, guilt leaving the clinical setting play in remaining at current level.

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- Complexities of leading former peers. Creating and sustaining strong teams.

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- Breakout Exercises using personality tools, such as Meyers Briggs and Strengths Finder.

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- Use of social work skills to build teams and develop leadership qualities in teams

4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- Conclusion, Q&A and wrap-up

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (4.0 CE)

Essential Skills in Collaborative Care in Cancer Treatment

Tiffany Courtnage, MSW, LICSW; Jesse Fann, MD, MPH; Taryn Lindhorst, MSW, LCSW, PhD

Summary: Collaborative care is a model that integrates medical and psychosocial care by adopting a population-based, stepped care approach to identifying and treating problems such as depression, anxiety and other concerns. Social workers are at the core of this model acting as both care managers and brief intervention specialists. This half-day workshop will provide an overview of the collaborative care model, information on effective, population-based screening instruments and training in two core evidence-based practices (EBPs), motivational interviewing and behavioral activation. Participants will actively engage in assessing demonstrations and practicing skills with one another. We will end with participant evaluation of the potential champions and challenges to implementing collaborative care in their settings.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building; Leadership/Administration

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- Overview of theory and research related to the structure and implementation of a collaborative care service to treat psychosocial distress among cancer patients.

2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

- Understand how the integrated collaborative care service model can be applied to provide a population based approach to evidence-based psychosocial oncology care.

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- Identify how social workers are the largest frontline group of mental health providers in the country, and identify how those in oncology settings will be at the forefront of efforts to expand the implementation of collaborative care models.

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

- How to apply standardized psychosocial distress screening tools to evaluate the level of care a person may need

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- Ways to improve psychosocial oncology skills in engagement, assessment, planning, intervention and evaluation of services to treat mental, emotional and behavioral disorders among people with cancer

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- Skill development in the use of standardized assessments; practice key brief intervention skills related to motivational interviewing and behavioral activation in the context of cancer treatment.

4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- How to increase the effectiveness of your clinical practice and how to advocate for more comprehensive models of care for your patient population.

First Time Attendee/New Member Social

BYOB (Buy Your Own Beverage) Informal Networking Event**

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Join AOSW leaders at **Salud** for an informal happy hour and networking event. Salud Lobby Lounge features more than 100 tequilas on the menu, plus a selection of “Starr Crafted Cocktails,” handcrafted by the talented bartenders at Salud. Enjoy our complimentary evening ritual “The Legend of Arriba, Abajo” every night at 5:30 p.m.

The Legend of Arriba, Abajo

Every evening at sunset hotel guests gather on the Salud Terrace to watch the sunset and experience our nightly tradition – the Tequila toast. The legend of Arriba, Abajo begins with the tradition of a man asking his beloved’s father for her hand in marriage. To hear the rest of the legend, join us for this unique experience where we feature one of our more than 150 artisan tequilas and a complimentary toast: “Arriba, Abajo, al Centro, al Dentro, Salud!” (Up, down, out and in). This is the perfect way to celebrate with old friends and create new ones – “we are all related.”

Wednesday, June 5**7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.**

Conference registration Open**

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

SIG Leaders and State Reps Meeting**

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast with AOSW Leaders & Exhibitors**

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

First Time Attendee/New Member Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Posters displayed in the Exhibit Hall**

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

General Session: Welcome and Awards/Fellows Ceremony**

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.**General Session:** Opening Keynote Address (Matthew Loscalzo, LCSW, FAOSW)**Championing Cancer Survivorship: Whose Job Is It?**

Summary: The number of cancer survivors is growing in the United States and globally. At the same time, the demographics of this population is shifting rapidly. In contrast to decades past, survivors in the future will be older and more ethno-culturally diverse. Many will be treated with complex and increasingly novel regimens largely delivered in out-patient community settings. Survivors will be taking more oral cancer agents, often for extended periods, living longer and for growing numbers, dealing with cancer or its aftermath as a chronic illness. This changing landscape is putting pressure on our ability to help individuals not simply survive their illness, but thrive after cancer. In particular, planning for and supporting optimal survivorship is becoming a key component in the design and delivery of high quality cancer care. This talk will outline the multiple ways in which oncology social workers are uniquely positioned to help reduce the personal and social burden of cancer; to support

the emerging shift in care away from a focus on lifespan to one that promotes attention to survivors' health span and meaningful quality of life after cancer.

Course Designation: Clinical**Keywords:** Clinical Practice/Skill Building**Presentation Level:** Intermediate**10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Coffee Break with the Exhibitors**

11:00 a.m. – Noon**Paper Session I** (6 concurrent sessions)**P101****Pathway to Professionalism for Social Work Interns: A Comprehensive Guide for Your Program**

Ashley Adams, MSS, LCSW; Sandra Blackburn, MSW, LSW; Audrey Tonkinson, MSW

Summary: Our presentation will provide field instructors with a comprehensive and standardized student program for use at their facility. At our NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, we identified the need for oncology social work interns to have not only a structured orientation, but also a field curriculum to supplement and reinforce what is being addressed in individual supervision. More than a welcome packet, our curriculum bridges the gap between classroom learning and field instruction and also aligns with AOSW Standards of Practice. We will share, in digital form, our complete orientation and curriculum program for you to use. We will also provide this information in a format for you to customize for your facility and program needs. This program can be used by the time-strapped field supervisor, or as a start-up kit if you are new to field supervision. Capitalize on this curriculum and empower your students to reach their full potential!

Course Designation: Clinical**Keywords:** Education, Leadership/Administration**Presentation Level:** Introductory

P102

Loaded Language: War and Other Cancer Metaphors and Their Impact on Patient Narratives*Margaret Price, LCSW; Jordan Bailey, LCSW*

Summary: Oncology social workers have long been in the pivotal position of creating a bridge between the narrative of patient experience and delivery of cancer care. We witness how metaphors can empower patients by illustrating their cancer experience. However, we also see how metaphors are capable of perpetuating stereotypes and stigma. The military metaphor has been the most prominent with the high-profile use of the “war on cancer” and the imperative for patients to have a fighting spirit. Balancing the instinct to fight with words of healing remains a challenge. We will focus on the history of the military metaphor and the sometimes harmful impact of the rhetoric of war on cancer patients. We will present alternative metaphors shared by cancer patients through selected writings. As oncology social workers, awareness of these issues may be instrumental in our role as advocates, resulting in patients’ creation of their own cancer narratives.

Course Designation: Clinical**Keywords:** Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Education**Presentation Level:** Intermediate

P103

Sick of Being Alone: The Intersection of Cancer Care and American Loneliness*Patrice Al-Shatti, LMSW*

Summary: Today 25 percent of people say they have no one with whom to share important news and a recent study warned that only 53 percent of Americans have meaningful daily social interactions. One former U.S. Surgeon General urgently warned that the United States is in the midst of a loneliness epidemic. With the background of these cultural shifts, our patients often come to the cancer experience without the ties that provide emotional support and practical assistance. This presentation will discuss the societal influences that are eroding our social capital, the biological effects of loneliness, and special populations who are particularly vulnerable. Participants will also learn how to include loneliness assessment in the social work intervention. All signs point to the fact that our society is in a dramatic and progressive slide toward

disconnection and perhaps, in the crucible of the cancer experience, the oncology social worker has an opportunity to facilitate meaningful change.

Course Designation: Clinical**Keywords:** Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Specialized Needs**Presentation Level:** Intermediate

P104

The Role of Masculinity in Oncology Social Work: Decoding Masculine Gender Norms in the Changing Social Environment*David Sarfati, MSSW, LCSW; Christopher Anrig, MSSW, LCSW-R*

Summary: The way in which cancer affects men and women differently is an important topic, as research shows men have greater difficulty with certain aspects of psychosocial adjustment to cancer than women (Pudrovskaya, 2010; Peleg-Oren et al., 2003; Nicholas, 2000; Fife et al., 1994). It is important to consider how societal gender norms may influence male adaptation to cancer. Research by Love, Thompson & Knapp (2014) shows that men who are diagnosed with cancer want and need emotional support; however, cultural expectations of masculinity seem to serve as a barrier to accessing it. Oncology social workers are in a unique position to be change agents when it comes to this topic. They can create space for men to discuss how their relationship to masculinity may impact their adjustment to cancer. This presentation will provide relevant case examples, interventions, and programming ideas.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency**Keywords:** Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Special Populations**Presentation Level:** Intermediate

P105

Drama Therapy as a Healing Art*Catherine Paykin, LCSW-R*

Summary: Drama can be an effective psychotherapeutic technique for empowering patients. Group facilitators with a conducive personality and expertise in cancer and drama are critical to successful implementation (Lidsle-Madison, Snickers-von Wright, Lindholm, & Faberstrom, 2007). This social worker’s

facilitation of a drama intervention with a lung cancer group culminated in patients writing and acting in “The Invitation,” an original 15-minute play. Content focused on the complex roles of cultural heritage, family and caregivers in patients’ management of their disease. Through the experience of writing and performing the play, patients addressed survivors’ guilt, pending mortality, and the stigma of lung cancer. The experience strengthened the relationships within the group and the self-confidence of members to face an uncertain future (Redhouse, 2015). Support groups that galvanize members to work together toward a unique goal can provide meaning and purpose to patients who are struggling with terminal diagnoses.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Disease Type (ovarian, lung, GYN, etc.)

Presentation Level: Advanced

P106

The Stretch Towards Resilience—A Different Look at Leadership

Penny Damaskos, PhD, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Summary: Contributing factors of professional development for an oncology social worker has been the focus of many articles. However, sustaining connection to the work throughout one’s professional trajectory can be tenuous at times which can result in burn out and compassion fatigue. Many studies have focused on the factors that contribute to burnout of clinicians working in oncology that examine why staff burn out while fewer have examined the factors that keep oncology social workers engaged in the field. The focus of this talk will be to look at the mid-career oncology social worker that do not want to leave oncology but are looking at ways to renew their connection to their work and professional development. Cultivation of flexibility is the cornerstone to resilience and subsequently longevity in the field. Case examples include the application of clinical skills in other areas of care and connection to leadership opportunities will be presented.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Advanced

12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Lunch Session I: Massachusetts Social Work Schools Response to the Opioid Crisis: An Oncology Social Work Perspective

Katherine Walsh, PhD, MSW, LICSW, FAOSW

Summary: Social workers in every realm of practice are being called upon today to join the multiple forces engaged in addressing the opioid crisis that has led to soaring rates of opioid use disorders and a two-fold increase in overdose deaths in the past decade. In 2015 Massachusetts had one of the highest rates of overdose deaths in the country, causing the Governor to initiate a multipronged approach to prevention, education and intervention. In 2016 all 9 schools of social work in the state established a set of core principles for the prevention and management of substance misuse reaching 4300 social work students each year. As a practicing oncology social worker and a faculty member at Westfield State University, I have been involved in this educational initiative and simultaneously witnessed the impact on cancer patients and providers of new prescription monitoring laws and a public education campaign on opioid addiction that have changed patient perceptions and provider practices. This presentation will review the Massachusetts Initiative and the education and training approaches Westfield State University department of social work has taken to equip students to bridge the worlds of pain management and substance misuse prevention and treatment. Some of these training methods are carried out in collaboration with other disciplines including the departments of criminal justice, nursing, physicians assistance and education. Course and conference learning objectives, teaching tools, and student case examples will be shared. The particular impact of the Governor’s initiative on oncology social workers and their clients will be discussed.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Leadership/Administration, Patient Navigation

Presentation Level: Intermediate

2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Networking & Presentations from AOSW SIGs

(6 concurrent sessions)

S101

Adolescent & Young Adult SIG Presentation

A Tale of Two Cancer Centers: When Adolescents and Young Adults Present Differently But Require Similar Support

Meghan Fitzgibbons, MSW, LICSW

Summary: Adolescents and young adults with cancer have unique medical and psychosocial needs. Clinical social work patient navigators at two large cancer centers collected data on patients for an 18-month period, to identify the barriers to care that AYAs experienced and the interventions employed to address those barriers. Despite the differences in patient demographics at the two cancer centers, the challenges they faced and the intervention strategies used were frequently the same. The barriers and interventions that were not most commonly shared at the two cancer centers may be specific to patient age, and partially explained by civilian or military background. One striking conclusion is that all social workers are likely to be equipped to provide the most appropriate and commonly cited interventions, one on one emotional support and encouragement, without any formal AYA training.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Adolescent and Young Adult, Patient Navigation

Presentation Level: Intermediate

S102

Sexuality SIG Presentation

Bringing Sex into the Conversation: Understanding and Overcoming our own Biases

Sage Bolte, PhD, LCSW, CST; Jennifer Bires, LICSW, OSW-C

Summary: Sexual health is a critical aspect of quality of life. Cancer and its treatments have both acute and chronic impact on a patient's and partner's sexual health (Flynn et al., 2011), yet this critical assessment and conversation is all too often overlooked in medical assessments (Arora et al., 2013; Bdair & Constantino, 2017; Nusbaum & Hamilton, 2002).

Barriers to more challenging conversations like sexual health can certainly be environmental including real-time constraints, but many of the major barriers are our own internal barriers – perceptions, assumptions, discomfort, misinformation and fear (Bdair & Constantino, 2017). Social workers have often paved the way on advocacy and empowerment for critical and often taboo topics like the end of life, financial toxicity and spirituality needs of our patients (Cagle & Bolte, 2009; Walters, 2011; Gwyther et al., 2005; Kalisiak et al., 2014)). Sexual health is no exception (Bolte & Anrig, 2015). To do this, it requires a level of comfort in raising the questions of sexual health along with a level of comfort in being open to whatever information or additional questions may arise once the topic is broached. This interactive presentation using didactic and experiential teaching methods, grounded in research and evidenced based interventions, will explore our own perceived and real barriers along with the discomforts we may experience in doing sexual health assessments so that we can be fully present and the best advocates for our patients and their sexual health and lead by example within our teams.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

S103

Brain Tumor SIG Presentation

Returning to Work Post Treatment: Preparation is Key

Hannah Smith, LCSW, OSW-C

Summary: This talk will present the challenges faced by cancer survivors of brain tumors who have a desire to return to work following treatment. We will explore how neuropsychological testing can play a supportive role in helping the patient understand these changes, as well as ways in which social workers and supportive staff can assist the patient through the process. Caregivers and family members too, are included in this discussion, often times being the front lines of those who are forced to agree or disagree on a patient's decision to return to work. Finally, case examples will be provided to discuss the different outcomes that can come about from being prepared versus unprepared for this return. Recommendations on how to guide clinical practice, support the

caregivers, and increase knowledge of the patient's individual challenges will be highlighted.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life, Research

Presentation Level: Introductory

S104

Ethics SIG Presentation

Pets are Wonderful Supports – Usually: Ethical, Legal and Practical Implications of Emotional Support, Service and Therapy Animals in Oncology Settings

Christina Bach, MSW, MBE, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Summary: In this session, we will unpack the nuances between service animals, therapy animals and emotional support animals. We will explore the legal standing of all three through the lens of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. We will explore the rules for supporting patients requesting “emotional support animal” verification as well as the ethical challenges this poses for social workers. We will specifically focus on the core values of competency, integrity and the importance of human relationship and how these values can be compromised and embraced with these requests. Methods for addressing emotional support animal requests at the agency as well as the building of therapy dog programs in cancer settings will be discussed. Ultimately, the goal of this presentation is to understand the importance of the human animal bond while respecting the legal principles in place to protect public health and safety.

Course Designation: Ethics

Keywords: Ethics; Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

S105

Research SIG Presentation

Want to Explore Your Interventions With Patients and Families? An Introduction to the Oncology Social Work Intervention Index (OSWii) Practice Version

Julianne Oktay, PhD, MSW

Summary: As primary providers of psychosocial care, oncology social workers can benefit from a tracking system that monitors the services they

provide. Unfortunately, there is no widely-used and empirically-validated instrument that captures the range of interventions provided by oncology social workers. In response to this need, a team of researchers from the AOSW Research Committee developed a research instrument, the Oncology Social Work Intervention Index (OSWii) (Navigator, Dec 2018). In response to the interest shown by AOSW members, we developed a practice version of OSWii (OSWii-PV). The practice version uses MS Excel, to allow oncology social workers to enter data on the interventions they provide. In this presentation, the OSWii -PV will be demonstrated.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Research

Presentation Level: Introductory

S106

Patient Navigation SIG Presentation

Working with the Metastatic Breast Cancer Patient: Navigating Recurrence and Quality of Life Issues *Cara Kondaki, MSW, LCSW, ACSW, CBPN-IC, OSW-C*

Summary: Many people living with advanced breast cancer describe the moment they learned of their diagnosis as “truly devastating”. Patients can feel betrayed by their bodies or angry. Some second guess treatment decisions they made when initially diagnosed. Coming to terms with a diagnosis of advanced breast cancer is very individual and affects each patient differently. The reality is many women are living with Metastatic Breast Cancer and live long active lives during treatments. A recent study from the National Cancer Institute showed that despite a poor prognosis, survival rates are increasing and between 1992-1994 and 2005-2012 five year survival rates in women diagnosed with Metastatic Breast cancer from ages 15-49 are estimated to have doubled from 18 percent to 36 percent. Stage IV Breast Cancer can now be considered a chronic illness in many cases. While this is good news, there are many considerations for patients with Metastatic Breast Cancer. The Clinical Breast Team must address the management of the long term side effects of ongoing chemotherapy treatments; both oral and infused; radiation treatments, complications including secondary malignancies and distant recurrence. Oftentimes the oncology social worker is integral in addressing how these treatment related challenges

affect the patient's quality of life. Longer survival with Metastatic Breast Cancer will certainly increase patient needs and affect family dynamics, employment and lifestyle choices; increasing the need for psychosocial interventions. While Metastatic Breast Cancer is not a curable condition, new treatments can prolong life, delaying the progression of cancer. Psychosocial support and interventions are crucial for these patients. Addressing long term cancer related symptoms and complications and how it ultimately relates to patient adjustment and quality of life will continue to be a challenge for Oncology social workers.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Patient Navigation; Special Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Coffee Break with the Exhibitors**

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Networking & Presentations from AOSW SIGs

(6 concurrent sessions)

S201

Blood Cancer/Blood Marrow Transplant (BMT) SIG Presentation

sponsored by LLS



Strengthening the Future of Psychosocial Care in Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation (HSCT)

Nancy J. Boyle, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Erica Bryan-Wegner, MSW, LICSW

Summary: HSCT is a difficult and complex treatment that impacts every aspect of the patient's and family's life. Social workers should be equipped with the training and skills to meet these psychosocial needs. In addition, inter-professional care teams at transplant centers should consistently utilize social workers' highest level of expertise. The medical field and health care systems are also complex and can present barriers to social workers. If social workers take on a leadership role in patient education and advocacy we could break down many of these barriers. The success of a nation-wide group of clinical social workers who created educational tools and advocated for the role of social work in transplant centers will be presented. Join us for an interactive, engaging presentation to

learn how reaching beyond the walls of our institutions will allow social workers to strengthen the psychosocial functioning of HSCT patients

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Specialized Needs

Presentation Level: Intermediate

S202

Spirituality SIG Presentation

Bio Psychosocial Spiritual Assessment: It's Our Bread and Butter, So Do It Well!

Debra Mattison, MSW, ACSW, OSW-C

Summary: While all healthcare disciplines assess, none assess with our unique bio-psychosocial spiritual approach, which is grounded in social work values and skillsets. Combining technical, theoretical and clinical skillsets in an ethical practice of use-of-self, social workers conduct assessments utilizing a highly complex, analytical process of gathering, analyzing and interpreting information, which is vital to the interdisciplinary team in formulating effective care plans and interventions. This session will focus on articulating the value of social work assessments that explore mind, body and spirit. Skill development for all levels of practitioners will be explored by utilizing diverse and emerging assessment approaches and models which can be readily implemented in daily clinical practice. Participants will leave with new assessment tools and ideas to add to their clinical toolbox along with a sense of renewed confidence to lead by excellence in utilizing our core professional activity of assessment.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Intermediate

S203

Integrative Oncology SIG Presentation

Breathing in Wellness: A Novel 4-Week Mindfulness Session for Adult Cancer Patients/ Survivors

Matthew Grossman, MSW/MPH Candidate; Erin Price, LGSW, MSW

Summary: Current medical literature shows that mindfulness meditation benefits cancer patients in a

variety of ways, decreasing symptoms of stress, anxiety and depression, and improving sleep and physical health. Despite this, current literature lacks diversity in cancer diagnoses, race and gender. The current intervention is a four-week long mindfulness workshop administered in hospital and organizational spaces. Sitting Meditation, Body Scan, Visual Meditation/ Guided Imagery, and Lovingkindness meditations were taught, and resource sheets were disseminated after each lesson. All sessions were well attended, with 8-16 participants per session. Participants felt the workshop taught them strategies to reduce stress, increase presence and well-being, and promoted better ways to relax and reduce anxiety. Participants also responded well to the program instructors and reported that they would continue to use the strategies they learned in the future. This session will review intervention details, resources provided, and results, and provide information for future implementation at other institutions.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Research

Presentation Level: Introductory

S204

Pain, Palliative Care, and End of Life (PPCEOL) SIG Presentation

Even the “Sick” Care About Fertility and Sexual Health: Education and Support Interventions on an Inpatient Oncology Unit

Jennifer Bires, LCSW, OSW-C; Laura Pole, RN, MSN, OCNS

Summary: Beyond Conventional Cancer Therapies is a web-based open-access information service with the goal of helping people with cancer and their clinicians learn about integrative cancer care so that they may navigate wisely beyond conventional care. Integrative oncology is a patient-centered, evidence-informed field of cancer care that utilizes mind and body practices, natural products, and/or lifestyle modifications from different traditions alongside conventional cancer treatments. Integrative oncology aims to optimize health, quality of life, and clinical outcomes across the cancer care continuum and to empower people to prevent cancer and become active participants before, during, and beyond cancer treatment. The ultimate goal is to provide information that will support a person’s decision-making to choose a blend of conventional and

complementary care that will help reduce suffering and improve quality of life. We will provide a demonstration emphasizing the organization of and navigation through the content. We will suggest how to make the most use of this site for one’s own clinical practice and for patients.

Keywords: Education, Survivorship

Course Designation: Clinical

Presentation Level: Introductory

S205

Youth, Families, and Cancer SIG Presentation (formerly Children & Cancer SIG)

Working with Families When a Parent Has Cancer *Carissa Hodgson, LCSW, OSW-C*

Summary: At least 14 percent of cancer patients live with minor children, with an estimated 1.58 million U.S. cancer survivors living with minor children. This represents 2.85 million children (Weaver, et al., 2010). A parent’s cancer diagnosis significantly affects children, teens, and the family system as a whole. A 2014 Cancer Support Community survey found that 66 percent of parents felt that their child(ren) did not talk openly with them or share their feelings about cancer. Additionally, 25-39 percent of children may experience adjustment disorders for up to five years after a parent’s diagnosis (Nelson & While, 2002).

This presentation includes a literature review of families with a parent who has cancer and the best practices to support these families. It also includes results of a 2018 survey by the author at Gilda’s Club Madison about families, cancer and resilience. Key aspects of child development and a child’s understanding of and response to cancer at various stages along the developmental spectrum are addressed. Risk factors, protective factors, and key interventions are explored. Lastly, valuable resources for families and professionals are shared.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Patient Navigation, Special Populations

Presentation Level: Introductory

S206

Radiation Therapy SIG Presentation
Being an Oncology Social Worker in a Proton Therapy Setting

Lauren DeWitt, MSW, LCSW

Summary: The Radiation Therapy Special Interest Group provides an opportunity for oncology social workers in the radiation setting to learn from each other and support each other in providing psychosocial resources to our patients and their families. This presentation will focus on informing fellow oncology social workers in the radiation setting of proton therapy and the unique challenges associated with this care. This will also provide an opportunity for those not in the radiation setting to learn about this field and advances in care provided.

There will be a discussion regarding what proton therapy is and the benefits it presents to patients and physicians. While proton beam therapy provides benefits for patients, the cost of treatment and sparse treatment machines can bring a new set of challenges to oncology social workers. One common challenge is insurance coverage and associated financial toxicity. We will explore specific ways to advocate for patients in this setting and the national resources available including the National Association for Proton Therapy.

We will also discuss the clinical component of working in a proton therapy setting. Since many patients travel for this treatment loneliness and isolation become a major factor for patients. I will explore how my setting addresses these concerns through unique support programs and psychosocial interventions.

Finally, this presentation will also discuss ways to show our worth as oncology social workers in our settings. Oncology social workers have a major role in our patient's lives and are influential members of our interdisciplinary teams. I will review my experience showing my worth as an oncology social worker and build a discussion on how we can work together to provide the best psychosocial care to our patients.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Patient Navigation, Specialized Populations

Presentation Level: Introductory

5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Paper Session II (6 concurrent Sessions)

P201

Warm Calling as Clinical Intervention? Upended Assumptions and Unexpected Outcomes in Psychosocial Distress Screening

Nancy Borstelmann, MPH, MSW, LICSW, PhD; Tricia Hughes, MSW, LICSW

Summary: Psychosocial distress screening within the practice of oncology has been met with mixed emotions. On the one hand, screening recognizes the critical psychological, social, financial and spiritual impact that cancer and its treatment may have on patients and families. On the other hand, it can raise concerns for oncology social workers, who are often the primary responders to identified needs, and who may feel they have limited bandwidth to offer to more potential patients. At Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI), the screening process has elicited several unexpected insights and outcomes, which have illuminated innovative ways of conceptualizing social work practice, understanding the nature of distress within cancer treatment, and re-imagining the role of screening in the provision of patient care. This presentation will explore these findings and their implications.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Distress/CoC, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

P202

I'm Too Young For This: Challenges in the Unprecedented Rise of Early-Onset Colorectal Cancer

Fiona Begg, LMSW; Hadley Maya, LMSW

Summary: In response to the puzzling trend in early-onset colorectal cancer, Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) launched the Center for Young Onset Colorectal Cancer, which is the first clinic of its kind in the world solely dedicated to the specific needs of CRC patients under 50 years of age. The center's mission is to uncover the factors contributing to this rise in

early onset CRC, increase awareness of this trend, and address the unique clinical and psychosocial needs of MSK's younger CRC patients from diagnosis through survivorship. We use a combination of psychoeducation and counseling to strengthen coping, build self-esteem, decrease stigma associated with CRC, and improve connection and communication with loved ones about cancer related issues from diagnosis through end of life and/or survivorship. With our presentation we will share our response to this challenge so that it can be used by other oncology social workers.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Disease Type (ovarian, lung, GYN, etc.), Adolescent and Young Adult

Presentation Level: Introductory

P203

Veteran Identity: What Can We Borrow from the Research?

Karlynn BrintzenhofeSzoc, PhD, MSW, FAOSW; Louisa Daratsos, PhD, LCSW

Summary: Only 5.8 million of the 22 million veterans were enrolled in VHA in 2014 (Bagalmen, 2014; Unique Veterans User Report FY 2014, 2016). Lower VHA use demonstrates why social workers must understand veteran identity and resources. Professionals caring for veterans should have data to base their interventions which are rooted in theory (Martin, 2017). New research offers guidance for clinical practice with veterans (Locatelli, Turcios & LaVela, 2014; Di Leone, Wang, Kressin & Vogt, 2016). There is a large base of evidence connecting military service and toxic exposures (e.g., Agent Orange) to cancer. According to the National Survey of Veterans – Final Report (2010), over 40 percent of veterans were unaware they had access to health care services. This Learning Institute will review emerging research on veteran identity helping participants apply the findings to their practice and helping to answer the “so what” question about the importance of veteran-centered care.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Veterans, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P204

Empowering the Oncology Social Worker: The Challenge of Working with Intimate Partner Violence

Barbara Mitchell, LMSW; Susan Glaser, LCSW-R

Summary: Given the frequency of IPV among the general population, it can be assumed that a percentage of people diagnosed with cancer may be living with partner abuse. (Johnson and Pieters, p.88). Recent studies have described how a partner's interfering behaviors impact a patient's quality of life during cancer treatment (Coker, 2017). These behaviors include emotional and practical manipulations that can occur during a cancer experience and often increase stress, depressive symptoms and create challenges to coping and compliance (Medical Express, 2017). As oncology social workers, we may not always feel prepared to assess for IPV or to address the interfering behaviors that may present in our clinics (MacMillan, 2009). The limited experience of our medical teams may also evoke reactions to observed or reported IPV. Our talk will highlight the unique perspective an oncology social worker can provide to survivors while offering valuable educational support to medical teams.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Special Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P205

Trauma-Informed Care: The Next Step in Addressing Distress in Cancer Care

Eileen Joyce, LICSW, OSW-C

Summary: Oncology social workers have been on the forefront of exploring and addressing the psycho-social, emotional, mental health and practical impacts of a cancer diagnosis. We have been a strong and unified voice advocating for distress recognition, screening and support. Studies have shown that trauma is more common than many providers recognize and that previous trauma may result in more significant and longer lasting trauma reactions for some cancer patients. Trauma informed care provides an approach to trauma, from the individual interaction to the larger systemic view of and approach to people who have experienced trauma. This talk will move from previously

presented information on trauma informed care to providing a more in-depth exploration of addressing trauma's impact within our own practices, as well as how to foster a culture shift towards a more trauma informed practice environment as a means of reducing cancer related distress.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P206

Responding to Cancer-Related Trauma

Sophia Smith, PhD, MSW; Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Summary: The number of cancer survivors in the United States continues to increase as a result of earlier screening and detection as well as numerous new approaches to treatment. It is estimated that by 2024 there will be 19 million cancer survivors in the U.S. living after treatment. Cancer survivors report that their lives are affected across several domains that include physical, social, psychological and spiritual functioning post-treatment. Psychologically, patients often experience anxiety, loss of control, fears of recurrence, depression and, at times, cognitive change. Additionally some patients have previous experience with trauma. The cancer experience can retraumatize those patients, and may cause trauma for those without previous trauma histories. The prevalence of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in cancer survivors is approximately 10 percent. Presented by an OSW researcher and an OSW clinician, this session will provide an overview of PTSD in the oncology setting, and assessment and treatment approaches.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Survivorship

Presentation Level: Advanced

5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Early-Career Oncology Social Work Scholars: Building and Cultivating a Network of Peers**

Chiara Acquati, PhD, MSW; Lailea Noel, PhD

The purpose of this session is to bring together early career oncology social work scholars to engage in a conversation with peers about professional development to establish ongoing collaborative relationships and peer-networking opportunities. Expected topics to address are: sustaining your own academic intuition, building and cultivating a research agenda that tells your story, create a peer-mentoring network, and establish your scholarly presence in an era of social media. Attendees can expect to leave with strategies and tools to foster their professional growth and development.

***Please note: this session is not for CE.*

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Opening Reception, Exhibits, Poster Session & Silent Auction**

POSTERS

Poster Session

Wednesday, June 5

PO1

Complementary Therapy Impact on Quality of Life and Psychological Burden Among Advanced Cancer Patients and Survivors*Tabitha Brookins, BA, BS; MSW; PHD; ACSW; LGSW; Katina Lang-Lindsey, MSW; LGSW; PHD*

PO2

Caregivers CONNECT: Reducing Isolation and Meeting the Emotional Needs of Cancer Caregivers Through Solution Focused and Mindfulness Group Interventions*Michelle Rouse, LCSW; Nicole Peeke, LCSW R*

PO3

Lost & Found: Re-Establishing Intimacy After Cancer*Jean Rowe, LCSW, OSW-C, CJT; Mallory Casperson, MS*

PO4

The Development of an AYA Peer Match Program: PEEPS – Patients Encouraging and Engaging Peer Support*Amanda Trout, LMSW, LCSW, OSW-C*

PO5

A Standardized Methodology for Actively Engaging Patients in Advance Care Planning*Karen Stepan, MPH, RN, MCHES; Margaret Meyer, MSSW, MBA, LCSW, OSW-C; Wendy Griffith, MSSW, LCSW, OSW-C*

PO6

Using Metrics to Your Advantage: How a Department of Social Work Used Metrics to Improve the Quality of Patient Care*Teresa van Oort, MHA, LCSW; Margaret Meyer, MSW, MBA, LCSW, OSW-C*

PO7

Young Adult Parents with Breast Cancer*Ingrid Mapanao, BS; Arin Hanson, MPH; Becky Mastin, MPH*

PO8

Supports for Collaborative Care in Cancer Treatment Centers in Five States*Hazal Ercin, MSc; Taryn Lindhorst, PhD*

PO9

Efficacy of Community-Based Palliative Care in Improving Quality of Life for Cancer Patients: Current Literature Review*Maren Fulbright*

PO10

Survey Results of Patients' and Health Care Professionals' Experiences With Managing Cancer Symptoms*Carole Mayer, PhD, RSW; Mark Collins, M.A.; Silvana Spadafora, MD, FRCPC*

PO11

Leading End of Life Conversations: Empowering Glioblastoma Patients to Incorporate Quality of Life Into Their Treatment*Amy Bragman, MSW, LCSW; Melanie Cavazos, MSSW, LCSW; Megan Whetstone, MSW, LMSW*

PO12

The Social Work Role: Where do Oncology Social Workers Fit into the Clinical Trial Process?*Thomas Verm, MSW, LMSW; Teresa van Oort, MHA, MSSW, LCSW*

PO13**Measuring What You Treasure: Outcome Evaluation of the Impact of Structured Peer Support Services for Young Women Facing Breast Cancer**

Adina Fleischmann, LSW; Elana Silber, MBA; Kathryn Rehberg, MA; Suzanne O'Neill, PhD; Kenneth Tercyak, PhD

PO14**Breaking the Transportation Barrier: Enhancing Access to Cancer Treatment Through Navigation, Technology and Philanthropy**

Rebecca Cammy, MSW, LCSW; Stephanie Chapman, BA; Jodi Sandos, MSW, LCSW

PO15**Building an Innovative Supportive Care Program in Collaboration with a Cancer Institute's Patient and Family Advisory Council**

Susan Garland, LICSW, OSW-C; Lynn Shaw, RN BSN; Diane Passantino, LICSW; Carol Massey; Dana Del Bonis

PO16**Destressing the Staff: Initiation of Debriefing Sessions After Difficult ICU Cases, a Quality Initiative**

Laura Walther-Broussard, LCSW, OSW-C; Annabelle Bitter, LCSW

PO17**Oncology Caregiver Support: Build it and They Will Come**

Nancy Tharler, PhD; Suzanne O'Regan, MSW, LICSW; Anne Borstelmann, PhD, MPH, LICSW; Ruth Cope, PhD, LICSW

PO18**Creating Emotional Safety: The Critical Role of Assessment in Building Online Communities**

Caroline Edlund, LCSW-R

Thursday, June 6

7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Conference Registration Open**

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Morning Meditation with AOSW Membership Director, Kerry Irish, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C**

Come get your Zen on and join us for a drop-in group meditation session. Brief instruction, followed by a guided MettaLoving Kindness meditation exercise. No experience is necessary to attend. A perfect way to move into the middle day of conference.

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast & Exhibits**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Posters Displayed in Exhibit Hall**

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Clinical Practice Intensives I (5 concurrent sessions)

CPI 101**Goodbye and Hello: Facing Career Transition When we are Honest with Ourselves - Part I**

Rev. Patrice Al-Shatti, LMSW; Ellen Levine, LCSW, OSW-CE

Summary: There are many paths to saying goodbye to your career, but someday we all must do it. And the struggles embedded in this process can parallel those our patients and caregivers face. When you feel dissatisfied, disengaged, disoriented, disenchanting and deidentified with your career, an ending may be arriving or you may be hearing the whispers of compassion fatigue. These situations require different responses. The first is calling you to construct a new life and the second to fine tune your response to stress. Our patients and caregivers have their own career transitions to face. Patients seeking reasonable accommodation may find that they can't really do their work well any longer and caregivers may find that a career can't coexist with compelling needs at home. They have many things to say goodbye to, and the struggle involves the same fears as those we feel when compelled to leave roles we once loved. This

clinical practice intensive will bring you two presenters who navigated this challenge and came out the other side. We will explore strategies for identifying a true developmental transition versus compassion fatigue and ramifications for ethical practice during these times. We will also explore the parallels with the patient and caregiver experience. We will also engage in small group discussion to make these ideas personal and practical. Are you feeling the pull? Someday you will. Learn what you will need to know so that you flourish, throughout the transitions that your life brings.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Professional Issues

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:

8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

Introductions & Transition Stories

8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Overview of transitions perspective on adult development, how to identify approaching transitions/endings, life in cocooning/neutral zone, overview of patient/family member parallels

9:30 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

Small group activity on transition

9:50 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Questions/report back from groups

CPI 102

In the Eye of the Beholder: Recognizing Our Unconscious Bias in Oncology Social Work Practice – Part I

Eucharía Borden, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Jennifer Dunn, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Summary: The 2016 AOSW Membership survey revealed a lack of diversity among Oncology Social Workers with approximately 90 percent identifying as Caucasian. As a result, the AOSW Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved a Diversity and Inclusion statement aimed at recruiting and retaining professionals to build a community that reflects all people affected by cancer. The Diversity and Inclusion goals of the AOSW align with those of other leading health care organizations who recognize the importance of racial and ethnic diversity among health care providers as essential to assuring high-

quality cancer care to minority populations. Although the causes are multifactorial, the Institute of Medicine attributes lack of diversity and the propensity of unconscious bias as contributing factors to health care disparities and inequalities that are well documented in cancer care. Through a combination of videos, self-reflection exercises and group interaction, this presentation aims to explore how lack of diversity and unconscious bias impacts our healthcare settings and practices. Participants will demonstrate an understanding of unconscious bias, as well as develop an awareness for exploring blind spots within themselves and how unconscious bias impacts communication and interactions with diverse patients, clients and colleagues. Participants will consider how to use this information to mitigate unconscious bias in clinical practice, as well as in their health care settings. The AOSW Diversity and Inclusion Toolkit will be introduced to participants who will explore ways to incorporate tools and strategies into their practice and health care setting.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Specialized Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:

8:30 a.m. – 8:35 a.m.

Why Diversity & Inclusion? Why is this important to AOSW?

8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Unconscious Bias: What it is; its implications in clinical practice and employment; institutional racism in health care

9:30 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

Exploring Unconscious Bias

9:40 a.m. – 9:55 a.m.

Self-Reflective Activity and Process

9:55 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Wrap-Up

CPI103

“We Treat Everyone The Same”: Fostering Health Equity for Sexual and Gender Minorities – Part I
Mandi Pratt-Chapman, MA

Summary: Oncology social workers are well positioned to identify opportunities for change to improve health equity for sexual and gender minority

patients. This Clinical Practice Intensive will equip participants with foundational knowledge, encourage self-reflection and provide opportunities to practice application of new knowledge in a safe environment. The session will be grounded in fundamental cause and knowledge translation theory. Fundamental cause theory suggests that multiple mechanisms work together and evolve to perpetuate health inequities. Stigma is viewed as the fundamental cause. Intrapersonal, interpersonal and system-level factors that reinforce stigma of sexual and gender minorities will be explored.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Special Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE

This workshop will use interactive learning activities to reinforce knowledge and apply knowledge through role play.

Specifically:

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

The session will start with a pre-session assessment followed by an introduction to LGBTQI statistics and health inequities. The first portion of the session will include lecture, video and individual reflection on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Ethical considerations of caring for sexual and gender minorities and why discrimination happens will be explored through video and self-reflection.

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Small groups will discuss case vignettes of challenging LGBTQI clinical scenarios.

CPI 104

Advancing Oncology Social Work Leadership in Today's Health Care System: Demonstrating Leadership Skills and Articulating Our Value – Part I

Julie Ackerman, MSW, LCSW; Darah Curran, MSW, LCSW

Summary: Historically, social work began with a twofold micro-macro mission. Today, however, there appears to be a shortage of social workers focusing on macro practice, which includes leadership and

organizational competence (CSWE, 2014). As health care shifts to an integrated model of care, it is no longer sufficient for social workers to be exclusively clinically competent; social workers must be aware of organizational factors that influence and drive clinical practice in order to provide optimal care to patients (Spitzer, Silverman & Allen, 2015). By learning evidenced-based leadership styles, oncology social workers can implement strategies proven to be effective in motivating others, increasing morale, getting results, and creating cultural change in organizations; whether they are a manager or working independently in their organization. Oncology social workers are reminded they can be leaders at all levels; irrelevant of the unit, department, medical specialty or setting in which they practice (Case Management Monthly, 2017).

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Describe barriers to social work leadership in the health care setting and opportunities to overcome these obstacles.

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Identify three leadership models and significance for oncology social work leaders in the health care environment.

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Define formal and informal leadership and ways in which leader attributes have the ability to increase oncology social work influence within the healthcare organization.

CPI 105

Practice-Informed Research for Oncology Social Workers 101: From Practice Experience to Scientific Inquiry – Part I

Heather Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd; Chiara Acquati, PhD, MSW; David Latini, PhD, MSW

Summary: In 2012, the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare launched its Grand Challenges for Social Work, which include “clos(ing) the health gap” and “advanc(ing) long and productive

lives” (AASWSW, 2018). That same year, the Association of Oncology Social Work released its Standards of Practice in Oncology Social Work in 2012. Given the recent adoption of competency-based social work education, all oncology social workers (OSW) will need some degree research competence to meet the Standards of Practice and to contribute to the Grand Challenges. The proposed four-hour workshop provides an overview of practice-informed research from ethics to developing research questions and building multidisciplinary teams to selecting appropriate and feasible context-specific study designs and methodologies. Presenters will utilize case examples, small group discussions, brief one-on-one consultations, and other learning strategies. Participants should bring a laptop or other electronic device and will receive a workbook containing templates and other materials.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Research, Education

Presentation Level: Introductory

OUTLINE:

8:30 a.m. – 8:35 a.m.

Introductions and Expectations

8:35 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Didactic Training on Research Ethics; Literature Reviews; Research Topic vs. Research Questions & Hypotheses

9:15 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.

How trauma history can the impact health and functioning

9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Skills Training: Identifying Gaps in Practice and the Existing Literature; Developing a Research Question.....

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Coffee Break with the Exhibitors **

10:30 a.m. – Noon

Clinical Practice Intensives Part II

(5 concurrent sessions)

CPI 201

Goodbye and Hello: Facing Career Transition When we are Honest with Ourselves - Part II

Rev. Patrice Al-Shatti, LMSW; Ellen Levine, LCSW, OSW-CE

Summary: There are many paths to saying goodbye to your career, but someday we all must do it. And the struggles embedded in this process can parallel those our patients and caregivers face. When you feel dissatisfied, disengaged, disoriented, disenchanting and deidentified with your career, an ending may be arriving or you may be hearing the whispers of compassion fatigue. These situations require different responses. The first is calling you to construct a new life and the second to fine tune your response to stress. Our patients and caregivers have their own career transitions to face. Patients seeking reasonable accommodation may find that they can't really do their work well any longer and caregivers may find that a career can't coexist with compelling needs at home. They have many things to say goodbye to, and the struggle involves the same fears as those we feel when compelled to leave roles we once loved. This clinical practice intensive will bring you two presenters who navigated this challenge and came out the other side. We will explore strategies for identifying a true developmental transition versus compassion fatigue and ramifications for ethical practice during these times. We will also explore the parallels with the patient and caregiver experience. We will also engage in small group discussion to make these ideas personal and practical. Are you feeling the pull? Someday you will. Learn what you will need to know so that you flourish, throughout the transitions that your life brings.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Professional Issues

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:

10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Overview of compassion fatigue, signs and symptoms, risk factors, differential diagnosis, strategies for coping

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Ethical caregiving when facing transition/compassion fatigue

11:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Small group activity on compassion fatigue and differential diagnosis.

11:45 a.m. – Noon.

Report back from groups and wrap up

CPI 202

In the Eye of the Beholder: Recognizing Our Unconscious Bias in Oncology Social Work Practice – Part II

Eucharía Borden, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Jennifer Dunn, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Susan Hedlund, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Summary: The 2016 AOSW Membership survey revealed a lack of diversity among Oncology Social Workers with approximately 90 percent identifying as Caucasian. As a result, the AOSW Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved a Diversity and Inclusion statement aimed at recruiting and retaining professionals to build a community that reflects all people affected by cancer. The Diversity and Inclusion goals of the AOSW align with those of other leading health care organizations who recognize the importance of racial and ethnic diversity among health care providers as essential to assuring high-quality cancer care to minority populations. Although the causes are multifactorial, the Institute of Medicine attributes lack of diversity and the propensity of Unconscious Bias as contributing factors to health care disparities and inequalities that are well documented in cancer care. Through a combination of videos, self-reflection exercises and group interaction, this presentation aims to explore how lack of diversity and Unconscious Bias impacts our health care settings and practices. Participants will demonstrate an understanding of Unconscious Bias, as well as develop an awareness for exploring blind spots within themselves and how Unconscious Bias impacts communication and interactions with diverse patients, clients and colleagues. Participants will consider how to use this information to mitigate Unconscious Bias in clinical practice, as well as in their health care settings. The AOSW Diversity and Inclusion Toolkit will be introduced to participants who will explore ways to

incorporate tools and strategies into their practice and health care setting.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Specialized Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:**10:30 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.**

Review from break; experiential share; discussion

10:35 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.

Interactive self-reflection of personal unconscious bias and discussion

11:35 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

Discussion- How can we use this information to mitigate Unconscious Bias in our clinical work and build a more diverse profession?

11:55 a.m. – Noon:

Wrap-Up and Review of Diversity & Inclusion subcommittee goals

CPI203

“We Treat Everyone The Same”: Fostering Health Equity for Sexual and Gender Minorities – Part II
Mandi Pratt-Chapman, MA

Summary: Oncology social workers are well positioned to identify opportunities for change to improve health equity for sexual and gender minority patients. This Clinical Practice Intensive will equip participants with foundational knowledge, encourage self-reflection, and provide opportunities to practice application of new knowledge in a safe environment. The session will be grounded in fundamental cause and knowledge translation theory. Fundamental cause theory suggests that multiple mechanisms work together and evolve to perpetuate health inequities. Stigma is viewed as the fundamental cause. Intrapersonal, interpersonal and system-level factors that reinforce stigma of sexual and gender minorities will be explored.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Special Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

OUTLINE:

This workshop will use interactive learning activities to reinforce knowledge and apply knowledge through role play.

*Specifically:***10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Each group will select a reporter to report to the large group what the highlights of the small group discussion included.

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

We will explore ways to respond in a situation where a colleague is insensitive to a patient's identity. Three volunteers needed for a role play!

11:30 a.m. – Noon

A discussion of personal and system-level strategies for more affirming care of sexual and gender minorities will lead to individual action planning to bring your new knowledge back to your workplace. We will wrap up with a post-session evaluation.

CPI 204

Advancing Oncology Social Work Leadership in Today's Health Care System: Demonstrating Leadership Skills and Articulating Our Value – Part II

Iris Fineberg, PhD, MSW, ACSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Shirley Otis-Green, MSW, MA, ACSW, LCSW, OSW-C

Summary: Oncology social work leadership takes various forms, and central to this leadership is communication about what oncology social workers do and why it matters. Current and evolving models of health care delivery, such as value-based care and integrated health care, bring great potential for social workers to have significant roles in shaping and delivering oncology care. In order for patients, families, colleagues, program managers, administrators and potential funders to realize the strengths that social workers bring, social workers need to be adept at articulating what they do and why it is relevant and important to the goals of the audience. This learning institute will focus on developing and refining language about what oncology social workers do, tailored to these varied audiences. Participants will leave the session equipped with conceptual and concrete tools to help them build and demonstrate their leadership in oncology care.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Professional Issues, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Introductory

OUTLINE:**10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

Identify currently emerging models of health care that influence the context and practice of oncology social work.

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Identify the intersection of theoretical tenets underlying emerging models of health care and existing theoretical tenets of oncology social work.

11:30 a.m. – Noon

Session participants will be able to articulate what they do and why it is valuable to a number of audiences such as patients and families, health care colleagues, and administrators.

CPI 205

Practice-Informed Research for Oncology Social Workers 101: From Practice Experience to Scientific Inquiry – Part II

Heather Goltz, PhD, LMSW, MEd; Chiara Acquati, PhD, MSW; David Latini, PhD, MSW

Summary: In 2012, the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare launched its Grand Challenges for Social Work, which include “clos(ing) the health gap” and “advanc(ing) long and productive lives” (AASWSW, 2018). During this same year, the Association of Oncology Social Work released its Standards of Practice in Oncology Social Work in 2012. Given the recent adoption of competency-based social work education, all oncology social workers (OSW) will need some degree research competence to meet the Standards of Practice and to contribute to the Grand Challenges. The proposed four-hour workshop provides an overview of practice-informed research from ethics to developing research questions and building multidisciplinary teams to selecting appropriate and feasible context-specific study designs and methodologies. Presenters will utilize case examples, small group discussions, brief one-on-one consultations and other learning strategies. Participants should bring a laptop or other electronic device and will receive a workbook containing templates and other materials.

Course Designation: Ethics

Keywords: Research, Education

Presentation Level: Introductory

OUTLINE:**10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.**

Didactic Training Part II – Research Designs (Non-Experimental, Quasi-Experimental); Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Approaches

11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Skills Training Part II – Putting It All Together & Next Steps

11:45 a.m. – Noon

Conclusion and References to AOSW member benefits (Research SIG)

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.**

Lunch on Your Own
Available On Property:

Catalina Barbeque Co. & Sports Bar:

Lunch: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Signature Grill:

Lunch: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Plunge Pool Side Dining:

Lunch served Sunday – Thursday: 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

In room dining:

6:00 a.m. – Midnight daily

Starbucks:

5:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**Paper Symposia/Learning Institutes I**

(6 concurrent sessions)

LI 101

Screening and Tools and Data, Oh My! The Value and Import of Measuring Patient Outcomes and Oncology Social Work Practice

Julianne Oktay, PhD, MSW; Makeeta Rayton, MSW; Mark Flanagan, LMSW, MPH, MA; Jeanice Hansen, LCSW, OCS-C

Summary: Oncology social workers are increasingly being held accountable for collecting and reporting data on patient distress and related outcomes as well as on social worker performance. This learning institute is designed to build oncology social worker skills in developing or locating data collection templates suited to their practices, overcoming barriers to their use

and implementation, and analyzing the data collected. This learning institute will involve participants working in small groups to review data collection templates currently in use at cancer centers across the United States, and to discuss how they might adapt and adopt these data collection instruments and procedures for use in their own cancer centers.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Research, Distress/CoC

Presentation Level: Intermediate

LI 102

Mitigating Financial Toxicity: Navigating Health Insurance

Joanna Morales, JD, Esq; Monica Bryant, JD, Esq

Summary: A majority of Americans do not understand their health insurance options or how to use a policy once they have one. Many individuals turn to their health care providers for guidance. This learning institute will explore ongoing changes to the health care system at the federal and state levels. Attendees will receive information and practical tools that they can utilize in their clinical practice to aid patients in understanding their health insurance options and navigating insurance coverage, bills, denials and appeals to mitigate the potential financial toxicity of a cancer diagnosis.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Financial Toxicity, Patient Navigation

Presentation Level: Intermediate

LI 103

Group Ethics: Dynamics, Deception, Disruption, Discipline and Death

Sandra Blackburn, MSW, LSW; Heather Sheaffer, DSW, LCSW; Laura Kotler-Klein, DSW, LCSW; Matthew Stevenson, MSW, LCSW

Summary: Do you choose to honor a commitment to the dead in order to protect the living? What is the impact in your group when a member tries to usurp group leadership? We've experienced these scenarios in our patient group. In this presentation we will share specific case examples of ethical quandaries. We will be open with our struggles and professional disagreements. For example, one patient submitted a work for our publication (an anthology of patient

writings). We accepted her work; she died soon thereafter. We later discovered it referenced her extramarital affair. Unable to consult with her, and unsure of the impact of publication on her family, we had to make a decision about whether to publish posthumously. This presentation will challenge you to consider how group dynamics, as well as your ethical perspective, influence your decision-making and problem resolution in clinical practice with groups.

Course Designation: Ethics

Keywords: Ethics, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

LI 104

Humble & Fierce: Paradox, or the Soul of Social Work? Peter Flores, LMSW; Richard Dickens, LCSW-R

Summary: There's an ongoing debate to define our discipline in the hierarchy of health care where expenditures are gauged by data. Most obvious is following disciplines that research and publish quantifiable outcomes. There's relevance to this but also risk in abdicating the humanistic part of our work, the qualifiable aspect inculcated in graduate school, "start where the client is". The National Association of Social Workers outlines our fundamental core values as: service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person. Our founders recognized humility alone will not effect change we also had to be fierce, by advocating, educating, bargaining and fighting for change. This workshop will ground social workers in our past history while expanding their understanding of the breath of the profession today. Through lecture, Q&A, small group discussion, and interactive exercises attendees will hear the work of colleagues, explore collaborations, and discover ways to strengthen their voice in oncology.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Advocacy, Leadership/Administration

Presentation Level: Intermediate

PS 101

Collaborative Care Model Panel Symposium

Moderated by Katie Schoeppner, MSW, LICSW

FEATURING:

The Collaborative Care Model: A New Opportunity for the Oncology Social Worker

Tiffany Courtage, MSW, LICSW, OSW-C

Summary: The Collaborative Care Model (CCM) is a team-based approach to providing integrated psychosocial care that is effective in oncology settings. Social workers working as care managers (SWCM), who are integrated into the various disease groups, identify psychosocial needs, initiate and coordinate evidence-based care, and track clinical outcomes through an electronic registry. This presentation will describe the development, implementation and experiences of the clinical oncology social worker's role as care manager within the Integrated Psychosocial Oncology Program (IPOP) at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA). It will also discuss the unique benefits to the clinical social worker serving as care manager within the CCM.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

Shifting the Culture at Stanford Cancer Center: The Implementation of a Collaborative Psychosocial Care Model

Karen Nelson, MSW, MBA; Sheila Lahijani, MD

Summary: A collaborative care model was identified as a more effective way to deliver Psycho-oncology care to patients and families at the Stanford Cancer Center. With leadership from psychiatry and support from social work leaders, the disciplines have undertaken the task of developing a program where the disciplines work together clinically to manage distressed patients on a continuum from moderate to high risk. The challenges of changing culture, roles, team expectations and service delivery models will be explored together with the enhanced patient and provider experience.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

Implementing the Collaborative Care Model to Deliver Population-Based Psychosocial Oncology Care

Jesse Fann, MD; Tiffany Courtnage, MSW, LICSW, OSW-C

Summary: The Collaborative Care Model (CCM) is a team-based, patient-centered approach to providing psychosocial care that is integrated into routine medical care. The clinical oncology social worker, who plays a central role as care manager in this model, assesses the patient, provides measurement-based treatment to target facilitated by an electronic registry, and delivers and coordinates evidence-based stepped care in collaboration with the team psychiatrist. A recent meta-analysis demonstrated that the CCM is a highly effective and flexible approach to delivering psychosocial care to cancer patients within diverse health care systems. This talk will provide information to assist cancer programs of all types interested in implementing collaborative care by describing the core principles of the model and key tools for implementation. The experience of developing and implementing the CCM at the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance (SCCA) will be presented as an example.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

The CaLM Model: Building a New Patient-Centered Cancer Institute with Social Work Leadership and Engagement in Interprofessional Whole-Person Collaborative Care

Barbara Jones, PhD, MSW; Rebekkah Shear, MIA

Summary: The CaLM (Cancer Life Reimagined) clinic at the Dell Medical School LIVESTRONG Cancer Institutes (LCI) is designed to revolutionize how patients and caregivers receive care by creating a “flipped clinic” with psychosocial support as the core of the care delivery model. Specialty oncology medical care is woven into the whole-person care instead of the reverse. Working collaboratively, a team of oncologists, palliative care specialists, oncology social workers, oncopsychiatrists and patients have built the infrastructure for this new CaLM clinic model. Every patient begins by meeting a highly trained Patient Support Team consisting of an Oncology Social Worker, Palliative Care Advanced Practice Provider and an Oncology Advanced Practice Provider who will assess and address their needs. Instead of integrating

mental and behavioral health into oncology care, this model leads with it. This workshop will describe the community-based, patient-centered collaborative care approach to building a new cancer center from the ground up.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

An Implementation Study to Inform Dissemination of the Collaborative Care Model to Underserved Patients in Oncology Clinical Settings

Karen Weihs, MD

Summary: Expanding Patient-Centered Cancer Care for Underserved Patients in Southern Arizona, was chosen as part of the Merck Foundation’s national Alliance to Advance Patient Centered Cancer Care. It supports an implementation study of

Collaborative Oncology Program to Enhance Depression care (COPE-D), which incorporates the culturally appropriate counseling interventions of Telephone Interpersonal Counseling (TIP-C) (including well-developed interventionist training protocols) for advancing dissemination of psychosocial care at University of Arizona Cancer Center (UACC). Clinical administration and oncology care professionals were engaged to determine the structure of the program to fit with existing staffing. COPE-D became a quality improvement project within the UACC. Two bilingual Spanish- and English-speaking depression care coordinator/counselors were hired, trained and integrated with existing Supportive Care for Healing services. To date, the project has enrolled 17 patients who screened positive for depression (PHQ-9 $\geq 8/27$). TIP-C, medication supervision, and behavioral activation are being delivered. Interventionists review registries of patient care outcomes weekly with the psychiatrist.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

PS 102

Specialized Populations Panel Symposium

Moderated by Holly Adams, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C

FEATURING:**No Solo se Trata de Mi, Esto es Entre Tu y Yo (It's Not Just About Me, This is Between Me and You)**

Jenny Rodriguez, M.S.W.; Courtney Bitz, LCSW; Kimberly Romig, LCSW; Ellen Polamero, LCSW; Karen Clark, M.S.; Terry Hernandez; Joanne Mortimer, MD; Laura Kruper, MD; James Waisman, MD; Nikki Patel, MD

Summary: Creating a safe space for Latina monolingual breast cancer patients and their partners to discuss cancer Superando Cancer Juntos Como Pareja Pilot Program was launched January 2018 at a women's center for Latina monolingual breast cancer patients and their partners. The pilot program provides multiple culturally competent intervention modalities including education on gender strengths and differences in stress and coping styles, identifying and reducing gender-role conflict, teaching problem-solving skills for more effective medical management, and psychosocial coping, empowering the patient and partner to be active members of the medical team, and developing and practicing bonding and positive role modeling behaviors for their family.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Special Populations, Specialized Needs

Presentation Level: Introductory

The Myth of the Well-Adjusted Asian Patient: The Hope Formula

Jenny Lu, LCSW, OSW-C, ACHP-SW, CSW-G

Summary: Distress is prevalent among cancer patients at all stages of illness and Asian cancer patients are no exception. The data from Support Screen administered at City of Hope from 2009-2016 showed that Asian and Non-Asian cancer patients endorse similar level of distress. However, the Asian culture rooted in Confucius philosophy, and Buddhist and Tao religions endorse suffering is inevitable and promotes self-reflection and self-sacrifice for the greater social system. This fundamental belief and cultural shame and stigma of a cancer diagnosis are often barriers to accessing psychosocial care for Asian cancer patients and their families. In this presentation, the Hope Formula will be introduced to

assist clinicians in developing a clinical connection with Asian cancer patients, assessing their coping, and encouraging the utilization of resources/treatment through the continuum of care. The benefit of offering a combination of integrated East West supportive care services will also be discussed.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Special Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

Cultural Competency in Social Work Practice for African American Cancer Patients

Lisa Petgrave-Nelson, LMSW, OSW-C; Mohua Basu, MPH

Summary: While African American (AA) cancer patients face the same emotional challenges as other ethnicities, many AA cancer patients grieve and cope with their diagnoses differently than their white counterparts. "There is an oral tradition among AA about when and when not to share information with outsiders, and this cultural norm may cause individuals and families not to disclose their symptoms of cancer" (Bullock and Allison, p.295). Understanding the cultural factors that influence health care behavior as well as patient barriers can facilitate effective evidence based practices (Freeman & Chu, 2005). Social workers can practice cultural competency by being mindful of these differences when completing a comprehensive psychosocial assessment that can allow them to better understand the patient's view of cancer. This presentation will explore maladaptive behaviors that can surface with AA patients and explore labels of "non-compliance" or "difficult patient" in the oncology setting.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Specialized Needs, Special Populations

Presentation Level: Introductory

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Coffee Break with the Exhibitors**

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Paper Symposia/Learning Institutes II
(6 concurrent sessions)

PS 201

Cancer is a Family Affair: A Collaborative and Multi-Disciplinary Approach to an Evidence-Based Family Communication Program

Shannon La Cava, PsyD; William Saltzman, PhD; Elaine Wittert, LCSW

Moderated by Gerrie Jakobs, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C

Summary: A cancer diagnosis is a family affair. Studies show that distress and co-morbid psychological difficulties reverberate throughout the family and marital system and that the family relationship can be instrumental in moderating patient and caregiver distress and enhancing quality of life across the various stages of treatment, survivorship and end of life. This symposium will feature three presentations that describe collaboration between the Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Cancer Support Community of Los Angeles, and a family trauma and loss specialist from California State University, Long Beach. Focus will be placed on a description of the need, development and design of the FOCUS Family Program for Cancer; the evolution of the collaborative team and our community-based participatory research approach to creating services; and provision a case study of a family who has completed the program. The symposium will conclude with a discussion about the importance of family intervention.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life

Presentation Level: Introductory

LI 201

“Dwell In Possibility”: Poetic Approaches to Oncological Social Work Care

Carrie Gilman, LCSW

Summary: The poet Emily Dickinson once mused, “I dwell in possibility.” This sentiment recognizing multiple realities and outcomes is well suited to oncology social workers’ goal in attending to those facing cancer during individual and group counseling sessions. This Learning Institute will feature a 45-minute session in which oncology social workers will have the opportunity to be guided through a therapeutic writing group where poems and/or prose are presented as the inspiration for discussion/reflection of their experience as oncology social workers. In addition, the presenter will provide

information about the physiological and psychological benefits of writing based on current research. Finally, resources for finding poems and literature that are thematically appropriate for cancer patients and specific writing exercises that oncology social workers can use as self care methods and for patient care.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Self Care

Presentation Level: Introductory

LI 203

Combating Moral Distress with Ethical Decision-Making

Alicia Wilson, LCSW; Amy Jamerson, LCSW, OSW-C

Summary: Moral distress occurs when an individual is unable to pursue a course of action that they have deemed to be morally correct, resulting in a compromise of their moral integrity. This concept has been well-documented in nursing literature but has only recently been explored in social work research. Cross-disciplinary surveys found that social workers have similar moral distress scores as nurses and experience it at similar intensity and frequency. A key strategy to alleviate moral distress is to increase moral efficacy and courage through ethics education. This presentation will define moral distress and discuss its root causes in oncology social work, giving participants an opportunity to measure their moral distress. Presenters and participants will apply several frameworks for ethical medical decision making that are relevant to oncology social work and use the NASW Code of Ethics to enhance participants’ abilities to articulate their moral decisions and to minimize moral distress.

Course Designation: Ethics

Keywords: Ethics, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

LI 204

Promoting Collaborative Practice Through Collaborative Learning: Interprofessional Team Building in the Oncology Setting

Barbara Jones, PhD, MSW, FNAP; Alison Mayer Sachs, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Tara J. Schapmire, PhD, MSSW, OSW-C, FNAP, FAOSW

Summary: This workshop will provide methods and tools for increasing interprofessional collaborative education and practice in oncology care settings. Rationale: Interprofessional education (IPE) in oncology is essential to prepare students to practice in today’s

health care environment where they will work on teams and collaborate with other disciplines in order to provide holistic, patient-centered care. Staff training and planning is key to the success of IPE curricula and activities. Strong preparation can contribute to successful interprofessional education and collaboration across professional roles. Participants will explore resources for improving IPE and interprofessional collaborative practice in their own settings.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Education

Presentation Level: Advanced

LI 205

The Empowered Father: Expanding and Enhancing the Father's Roles in Families Challenged by Cancer

Michael Weiner, LCSW; Les Gallo-Silver, LCSW-R

Summary: This workshop presents a novel theoretical framework for social workers to connect to fathers with families challenged by cancer and assist in identifying critical caretaking activities. Based on Carl Jung's theories, these social work interventions prioritize and operationalize a father's caregiving during times of crisis. Jungian-oriented archetypes: Captain archetype's leadership and rules; Protector's safety and empathy; Nurturer's affection and resources; Educator's wisdom and teaching; and Jester's playfulness and rule-breaking – and their practical use in order to bolster parenting decision-making. Case studies of four fathers describe the use of the archetypes within counseling: 1) a father with cancer; 2) a father whose wife has cancer; 3) a father whose husband has cancer; and 4) a father, with a child who has cancer. They demonstrate how archetypes can engage, engender passion and empower fathers. Participants can discuss their own case clinical situations in depth for further clinical exploration of this theory.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Special Populations

Presentation Level: Advanced

5:15 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

Paper Session III (6 concurrent sessions)

P301

The Psychology of Hope: Implications for Social Work Practice at the End of Life

Katherine Easton, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C

Summary: Hope has been considered an integral component of the psychological construct of individuals facing life-threatening illness. Hope may exist for individuals regardless of prognosis or severity of illness. The absence of hope has been associated with higher risks of depression and suicidal ideation in individuals with cancer at the end of life. The presence of hope may provide a framework for individuals to cope with illness and death and serve as a buffer to despair. The identification and assessment of depression, hopelessness and suicidal ideation will guide the oncology social worker to address the support and resources needed to nurture hope, reduce psychological suffering and improve quality of life. The recognition of individual personal strengths and social determinants of hope will enable the social worker to develop appropriate interventions to identify avenues for renewed hope, address desire for hastened death and improve psychological well-being.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

P302

All of Our Work is HeartWork: Improving Patient Care and Making "Self-Care" Part of the Everyday

Lorelei Bonet, MSW, LCSW

Summary: For Social Work broadly, the notion of "burnout" has been a source of concern for many years before it was given a name with parameters that are increasingly better understood. Compassion fatigue can manifest as physical exhaustion, a tendency to withdraw and high levels of stress (Gough, 2007). In this talk, I would like to propose a model of work that I call "HeartWork" that does not view "self-care" as outside of, but rather very much as part of how we craft and perform our jobs on a daily basis. I would like to explore how and to what extent the unique challenges of our work inform the nature of

our potential compassion fatigue, and to creatively contemplate alternatives to our current model of self-care as an “add on”, rather highlighting it as an essential and central element of our practice.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Self Care, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

P303

Working with Grief and Loss in the Cancer Experience

Michelle Bronzo, MA, LPC, CT

Summary: Adjustment to a cancer diagnosis includes a multitude of physical, cognitive, emotional and spiritual changes that are associated with distress. These changes—both big and small—are often accompanied by feelings of grief and loss. Functional losses are associated with distress and have a considerable effect on patients’ quality of life, sense of self, roles and abilities, and relationships. Those living with advanced disease have the difficult challenge of balancing engagement in life with facing fears of death. This case study presentation will depict the wide range of both experienced and anticipatory losses in a young adult living with metastatic colorectal cancer. We will discuss working from a thanatological perspective to address living with uncertainty and facing death, meaning making, suffering, quality of life, the installation of hope and leaving a lasting legacy.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Adolescent and Young Adult

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P304

Know Yourself to Know Your Practice: A Self-Reflective Experience

Lauren Broschak, MSW, LGSW; Alicia Gray, MSW, LGSW; Jennifer Bires, MSW, LICSW, OSW-C; Erin Price, MSW, LGSW

Summary: Social Workers come into the field with personal experiences that shape who they are and why they decided to become Social Workers. Getting to know yourself and your experiences can bring a certain freedom and creativity back into the work, and remind you why you originally pursued this career (Carlson & Erikson, 1999). In this session, we

will explore the desires that originally sparked your aspiration to become a Social Worker, the personal experiences you had that nurtured these desires, and what these desires say about you, who you are, and what you value in life (Carlson & Erikson, 1999). This session is intended to be experiential, helping you tap into your original and current motives to be in this profession, and the experiences that led you here. Through expressive writing and small group discussion we hope to help you reignite passion for the work that you do each day.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Self Care

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P305

Forgiveness Therapy: Providing Patients an Oasis in a Desert of Emotional Pain

Neal Niznan, MSW, LCSW

Summary: Unresolved bitterness and hurt, sometimes over many years, can exacerbate feelings of anger possibly leading to depression, anxiety and other mental illness. Forgiveness Therapy has become a recognized treatment for resolving anger. The process model of forgiveness provides individuals a safe path to recognize patterns of hurt underlying their anger. It challenges them to reflect on the lives of those who have unjustly hurt them and consider forgiveness as a means of letting go of their own resentments and pain. The following areas will be addressed: impact of unresolved anger on emotional wellbeing, deeper understanding of forgiveness highlighting current misconceptions of what it means to forgive and identification of specific phases of the forgiveness process. Implementation of the process model of forgiveness with individual patients as well as a small group workshop format will be presented with consideration to the role of Forgiveness Therapy for those facing end of life.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P306

Boundary Violations: Sorting out the Black, the White and the Shades of Gray*Debra Mattison, MSW, OSW-C; Anna Millard, MSW*

Summary: Social workers practice within a code of ethics to ground us in determining and maintaining therapeutic professional boundaries. Yet, boundary violations are among the most frequent ethical issues arising in the intimate practice of oncology social work. Regularly we hear of boundary violations that resulted in significant damage to clients. Clarity regarding ethical boundaries is more easily found in clearly visible boundary violations such as sexual relationships while far more elusive with subtle, less visible issues such as appropriate sharing about self, the use of social media and “this one time exception in this case.” Relevant case examples will be interactively explored to raise awareness of clinical boundary issues knowingly and unknowingly experienced in daily practice. Participants will leave with concepts to utilize as a “North Star” in navigating boundary complexities and challenged to be more visible advocates and leaders in engaging interdisciplinary team members in these critical discussions.

Course Designation: Ethics**Keywords:** Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Ethics**Presentation Level:** Intermediate**Friday, June 7****7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

Conference Registration Open**

7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.

Cancer Survivor Meeting**

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

Continental Breakfast & Exhibits

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.**

AOSW Business Meeting

8:30 a.m. – 9:00a.m.****AOSW Quality of Life in Cancer Care Award Ceremony***Carolyn Messner, PhD, DSW, BCD, ACSW, LCSW, FAPOS, FAOSW*Director of Education and Training
CancerCare**Sponsored by the American Cancer Society****9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.****ACS Quality of Life Award Lecture****The Artistry of Compassion: The Elephant that Lingers in the Room***Carolyn Messner, DSW, OSW-C, BCD, LCSW-R, FAPOS, FAOSW*

Summary: There is a growing body of knowledge about oncology social workers and the impact on them of their close proximity to illness, stress and existential suffering. In contrast to themes of burnout and compassion fatigue are observed phenomena of creativity and innovation by oncology social workers. These practitioners confront complex human problems and life crises that require creative problem-solving, innovative interventions, compassion and empathic connections with those they help.

The increasing career emphasis on data collection, technical skills and scholarly learning often circumvent and pay little attention to the significance of the human bond of compassion in our profession. Our humanity,

exemplified in our compassion, facilitates the journey of cancer patients, cancer survivors, their families, partners, and children in their steadfast coping with the grim realities of serious illness.

This year's quality of life presentation will highlight the exceptional role of compassion and its value in the armamentarium of indispensable skill sets for oncology social workers. This approach will nurture and cultivate our endeavors to help people living with cancer, and our student interns and colleagues.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Education

Presentation Level: Introductory

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Paper Session IV (7 concurrent sessions)

P401

Exploring The Association Between a Cancer Diagnosis and Food Insecurity: The Need for Future Research

Torie Gettinger, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C

Summary: Cancer impacts an individual's physical and psychological well-being, as well as one's financial well-being. These individuals may be forced to choose between competing demands such as food and treatment. Individuals with cancer may be at risk for experiencing food insecurity, meaning that in the past year they were uncertain of having or being able to acquire enough food to meet the needs of all household members. Few studies have empirically explored food insecurity in this population. Using data from the 2015 Panel Survey of Income Dynamics, this study explored the prevalence of food insecurity of household heads diagnosed with cancer and the associated characteristics of these individuals. Nearly 6 percent (N=501) of household heads reported being diagnosed with cancer during their lifetime and of this group, approximately 14 percent experienced food insecurity in the previous year. Future research is warranted to identify factors that increase risk of food insecurity in this population.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Financial Toxicity

Presentation Level: Introductory

P402

When Staff Head for the Hills: Clinical Recommendations for Working with the Oncology Patient With Borderline Personality Disorder

Sara Toth, MSW, LCSW; Dianne Mead, MSW, LCSW-R

Summary: The cancer patient with Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD) can present as a significant challenge in the oncology setting. Based on clinical observation, staff can perceive such patients to be noncompliant and unpredictable. Such behaviors tend to evoke negative emotions in clinicians, such as guilt, irritation and aversion (Meyer and Block, 2011). When left unattended to, these emotions can negatively affect the care provided. The oncology social worker (OSW) has a critical role in caring for the cancer patient with BPD, and in assisting the medical team in utilizing best practices when working with these patients. Drawing upon BPD and psycho-oncology literature, this presentation will discuss how the OSW can promote understanding, compassion and resilience when assessing and intervening with these patients. Strategies on how to help medical teams best communicate with and remain empathetic to patients with BPD will also be discussed.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P403

The Weight is Over: Comprehensive Strategies to Assist With Weight Management Following Breast Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment

Lauren Fay, RD, CSO, CNSC; Drucilla Brethwaite, MSW, LCSW

Summary: The evidence supporting increased risk for poor outcomes (increased incidence of second primary breast cancer and overall mortality) in breast cancer patients with overweight, obese body mass indexes has been well documented (Azard, 2014; Chan, 2014; World Cancer Research Find, 2018). The existing high rates of overweight/obesity among American women, and the common occurrence of weight gain following a breast cancer diagnosis justify the effort to help provide interventions to help support successful weight loss to a healthy body weight range. During this presentation, an oncology registered dietitian clinical specialist and licensed clinical social

worker will review comprehensive approach using evidence-based research to assist women diagnosed with breast cancer diagnosis achieve weight loss. Additionally, the presenters will share resources clinicians in attendance can use to apply these techniques into their own practice to help overweight/obese patients with a breast cancer successfully lose weight.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P404

Medical Cannabis, Ethics and the Oncology Social Worker

Leora Lowenthal, LICSW, MPA, OSW-C; Kalen Fletcher, MSW, LCSW, MPH

Summary: On November 5, 1996, California became the first state to legalize the use of medical cannabis. As of September, 2018, legislation allowing the use of medical cannabis has been passed in 31 states and the District of Columbia. These developments aside, cannabis remains classified as a Schedule 1 drug under federal law 21 U.S.C. § 812. This inherent conflict between federal and state law creates multiple challenges for patients and providers (1,3,4,5,6). The authors will present an overview of the current legislation and examine the potential role and responsibility for oncology social workers (OSWs). They will use case examples to consider some of the ethical quandaries that may arise in the context of clinical practice and frameworks including the NASW Code of Ethics and the four principles of bioethics identified by ethicists Beauchamp and Childress: respect for autonomy, non-maleficence, beneficence and justice (2,8).

Course Designation: Ethics

Keywords: Ethics, Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life

Presentation Level: Intermediate

P405

Life, Death and Experience of Suffering: Implementation of Meaning Centered Psychotherapy With Advanced Cancer Patients in Oncology Social Work Practice

Lisa Picciuti, LCSW, OSW-C, CTTS, NCTTP; Asha Bernard, LPC, NCC, GRS

Summary: This poster presentation will demonstrate implementation of a meaning-centered psychotherapy group in an outpatient community-based cancer center. Training, program development, identification of participants, enrichment activities and interventions, and end-of- group evaluation and processing will also be illustrated.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life

Presentation Level: Advanced

P406

Ethnic Transference in the Oncology Setting: The Clinician/Patient Relationship

Linda Mathew, LCSW-R, OSW-C; Annamma Abraham Kaba, LCSW-R

Summary: The need for cultural humility and ethnic sensitivity has never been greater for oncology social workers than the present, due to the increasing racial tensions in the country. As OSWs, we witness profound experiences of suffering, resilience, loss and grief, regardless of our patients' ethnicity, socioeconomic status and culture. Cultural factors affect patients' perception of cancer, suffering, their response to treatment and their relationship to the health care team. Cancer does not discriminate; it is a disease that can and does affect us all regardless of ethnicity, social status, gender, religion and sexuality. For clinicians, self-awareness and knowledge of one's own cultural background are key in implementing cultural humility in our practice. This paper will explore the concepts and perspectives of interethnic and intraethnic transference/countertransference by using observations from clinicians of color. This paper will examine common unconscious biases that show up in the therapeutic relationship and explore ways to work through them.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Special Populations

Presentation Level: Advanced

P407

Financial Toxicity and Cancer: Proactive Screening, Assessment, and Treatment, *Abra Kelson, MSW; Virginia Vaitones, MSW; Hira Chowdhary, MPH, MS; Krista Nelson, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, BCD, FAOSW*

Summary: There is growing concern about access to high-quality affordable treatment in oncology. Cancer patients experience a great level of distress due to high cost burden. To address this, prompt and thorough assessment of potential financial toxicity should be part of supportive care in the provision of comprehensive cancer care. This research project assesses methods being used to assess financial distress among oncology patients. Screening for financial distress is not standardized, and multiple tools are implemented to assess need for intervention by social work or financial counselors advocating on behalf of the patient's financial well-being by navigating treatment related cost conversations and obtaining access to affordable care. Case examples will be presented to demonstrate the variety of methods used to implement effective financial distress screening in oncology social work practice.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Financial Toxicity, Distress/CoC

Presentation Level: Intermediate

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Paper Session V (7 concurrent sessions)

P501

Unmet Needs: How to Address the Gap for Millennial Caregivers

Erin Price, MSW, LGSW; Lauren Broschak, MSW, LGSW; Alicia Gray, MSW, LGSW; Jennifer Bires, MSW, LICSW, OSW-C

Summary: Millennials, who account for roughly one in four family caregivers in the United States, are in a critical stage of psychosocial development (Flinn, 2018; James, 2018; Levine et al., 2005). Additionally, cancer patient and caregiver health outcomes can be negatively impacted by caregiver stress (Northhouse, Williams, Given & McCorkle, 2012). This presentation will address the unique needs and challenges experienced by Millennial Caregivers (MCGs) in the cancer community and provide information on

how to best serve this growing population. There is limited information and research available on MCGs in health care settings, and virtually no information on this population within oncology. We will aim to adapt current research and resources to the oncology MCG population in an effort to bridge this gap. We will also provide key tips, tools, and resources to use in working with MCGs and to share with this caregiver population.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Special Populations, Adolescent and Young Adult

Presentation Level: Introductory

P502

When a Parent Has Cancer: How Oncology Social Workers Can Enhance Children's Coping and Provide Family Support

Shelby Becka, MSSW, LCSW

Summary: A cancer diagnosis can be stressful and overwhelming for anyone to comprehend and process. For patients with children, additional stress is placed on the family as they worry about communicating with their children and helping them cope appropriately. Children are especially vulnerable to difficulty understanding and coping as developmentally and emotionally they have less capacity to cope with life stressors than their parents. There is a growing need for interventions to address children's coping needs in the context of their parent's cancer. As oncology social workers, we provide psychosocial support for the entire family as they adjust and progress through the cancer journey. Social workers can explore with parents healthy ways to model their feelings for their children and influence age appropriate, open communication. This presentation will explore how best to provide psychosocial support to children and families and discuss psychosocial program development to meet these needs.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Special Populations, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

P503

Oncology Social Work Leadership and Initiative: Launching and Sustaining an End of Life Grief Group for Resident Physicians*Camille Faunda, LCSW*

Summary: End-of-life discussions in oncology are difficult in any circumstance. I implemented a monthly grief processing group consisting of internal medicine resident physicians to determine their comfort in discussing end-of-life care and to teach communication skills. One of our roles as an oncology social worker is to provide an empathic example of patient-centered care, and to teach our multidisciplinary teams how to communicate in ways that empower patients and families at the end of life. The main focus of this presentation is to provide an example of how social work is able to impact patient care by leading initiatives among colleagues to identify emotionally distressing cases and to provide opportunities to discuss and reflect. In result, physicians will have an opportunity to reflect on their own experiences around death and dying and develop resilient coping skills when working with patients at the end of life.

Course Designation: Clinical**Keywords:** Interdisciplinary Care, Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life**Presentation Level:** Introductory

P504

Training Clinicians to Assess for Suicide Risk in Oncology Patients*Traci Newsom, MSW, LCSW; Amy LaMarca Lyon, MSW, LCSW*

Summary: Death by suicide and suicide ideation in patients diagnosed with cancer is a very real concern; this has become evident as we employ the use of emotional distress screening tools and as research continues to become more specific to disease type and suicide. We, as clinicians, must be prepared to assess and intervene in clinically effective ways. Developing programming for training social workers with specific focus to the needs of the oncology population will only enhance the skills of our social workers and increase their confidence in addressing this critical area of need for our patients.

Course Designation: Clinical**Keywords:** Clinical Practice/Skill Building**Presentation Level:** Intermediate

P505

Mind-Body Interventions for Cancer Related Cognitive Impairment – Why and How With the Help of Polyvagal Theory*Michelle Ferretti, MSW, LCSW*

Summary: Cancer-related cognitive impairment (CRCI) has been reported as the “most devastating and feared side effect of cancer treatment” (Henneghan, 2016, p. 481), with prevalence rates from 14-85 percent (Hodgson, Hutchinson, Wilson, & Nettelbeck, 2013). Even with no clear cause of CRCI, mind-body interventions can be confidently offered to treat the symptoms of CRCI, and polyvagal theory (PVT) helps clinicians understand why and how to deliver these interventions. Neuroception, the nervous system’s involuntary environmental assessment, can affect how the nervous system is regulated depending on whether there are cues of safety, danger or life threat (Porges, 2009). Andreotti et al. (2014) offer that dysregulation of the system that regulates stress contributes to pathophysiology of the prefrontal region of the brain increasing the risk of CRCI. Mind-body interventions offer tools to help regulate the nervous system, moving the body toward a neuroception of safety, promoting cognitive and overall health.

Course Designation: Clinical**Keywords:** Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Survivorship**Presentation Level:** Intermediate

P506

The Intersection of Oncology Social Work and Environmental Justice: Reawakening an Ecosystems Perspective of Environmental Consciousness in Practice*Sky Niesen Smith, DSW, LICSW; Amy Fischer Williams, DSW*

Summary: The focus of psychosocial assessment and intervention in oncology is often the social environment, overlooking the role of the physical environment in the experience of cancer patients. Much evidence supports that indigenous and marginalized people are burdened with the impact of environmental decline, industrial pollutants and climate change. This presentation will connect the principles of environmental justice to current oncology practice knowledge. The presenters will offer findings of qualitative research, using interviews with rural cancer

patients and indigenous social workers, that awakens the gap in our current psychosocial care models.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Advocacy

Presentation Level: Advanced

P507

Countertransference: Beyond the Basics and Into the Woods

Vickie Leff, MSW, LCSW, BCD

Summary: Understanding and countertransference in our clinical practice is paramount in the setting of highly emotional and complex medical situations. We will go beyond the basics of defining countertransference to exploring clinical examples of how to identify and use objective, subjective and diagnostic countertransference as clinical social workers in the medical environment. We will also identify opportunities to educate our medical colleagues about this phenomenon and how it impacts their work and resilience. Having a deep understanding of countertransference not only improves our clinical practice, but can serve as an excellent resilience skill.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill

Building **Presentation Level:** Advanced

12:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Lunch Panel II

Telehealth Lunch Panel Symposium

Moderated by Chelsea Kroll, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; AOSW Education Director

FEATURING:

Telecounseling with Blood and Marrow Transplant

Patients and Caregivers: Be Where the Client Is

Katie MC Schoeppner, MSW, LICSW (Presenting);

Hailey Hassel MSW, LGSW; Debbie Jacobson,

OPN-CG

Summary: Increasingly, practitioners are providing mental health services using telehealth modalities (Brenes, G.A., Ingram, C.W., & Danhauer, S.C., 2011). Given the potential barriers faced by blood and marrow transplant (BMT) patients and caregivers to receiving traditional in-person counseling, social workers may consider using telecounseling to meet

the psychosocial and mental health needs of patients and caregivers. This session will describe a formal program for counseling that has been implemented at a national patient advocacy organization. Program elements, including referrals, intake processes, client tracking mechanisms, psychosocial assessment and evaluation methods will be described. This presentation will equip social workers with the tools to incorporate a telecounseling program into their practice with oncology patients and caregivers.

Course Designations: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building; Survivorship

Presentation Level: Intermediate

Embracing Technology: Creating Online Video Support Groups to Support Our Most Vulnerable Patients

Krista Nelson, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, BCD, FAOSW (Presenting)

Summary: Utilizing technology and innovation resources within cancer centers, oncology social workers are poised to enhance the clinical offerings they deliver by offering online video support groups to patients with cancer. This intervention allows these populations of patients to connect with others in similar situations within the comfort of their home and increases the efficiency of the oncology social work role in providing group support. Attendees will be provided the tools needed to implement an online video support program within their setting, including sample consents, a business case, and Epic integration learnings. Clinical discussion of ethical and confidentiality considerations in delivery of this modality of care, as well as clinical considerations facilitating online groups and managing situations like a participant death in the video support setting will be addressed.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keyword: Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

General Session: Closing Address

**Recreating the Oasis: Leading a Culture of
“Taking Care” in Oncology Care**

Catherine Credeur, LMSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Summary: Conference experience creates a temporary oasis of self-care, collegial connection and an openness to learning. Transition back to work requires separation from the safe zone and re-engagement with the emotional intensity of supporting patients and families in the crisis of cancer. It can be difficult to sustain the optimistic momentum of conference when supporting human beings who are struggling. In this closing session, participants will be stirred to examine their personal coping skills and leadership strengths. Working as a collective, participants will draft a SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-Limited) plan that extends the oasis experience of conference into the practice of oncology care.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Professional Issues, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory



AOSW 2019 Conference Registration Form

For Office Use:

2019 AOSW 35th Annual Conference
"Passion, Empowerment & Leadership: Creating an Oasis in Cancer Care"
June 5 - 7, 2019 | JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass Resort & Spa | Tucson, Arizona

Each registrant should fill out a separate form.

First Name (As you would like it to appear on your badge) _____ Last Name _____

Institution _____

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Registration Categories

	On or before March 26	After March 26 and until May 21	Onsite
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NOTE: No need to select individual sessions, you can attend any session you wish.

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Essential Skills in Collaborative Care in Cancer Treatment 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 USD

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