Welcome to the 9th annual COUPN Awards Ceremony. We are gathered to celebrate the hard work, innovation and passion of faculty members, students, preceptors, and agency leaders who comprise the heart of Ontario’s university programs in nursing.

COUPN is pleased to honour 8 award recipients in the areas of teaching and student excellence, teaching innovation, scholarship, and contribution to nursing education by agencies and preceptors.

Thank you for taking the time to join us today to celebrate the spirit and accomplishments of nursing educators, researchers, students and supporters, and to recognize the achievements of these leaders in nursing education.

Message from the Chair

Jennifer Medves
Chair, COUPN

The vision of COUPN is to lead university nursing education and scholarship in Ontario.

The Council of Ontario Universities is the voice of Ontario’s universities, promoting the value of education, research and innovation that leads to social, cultural and economic success.

2016 COUPN Awards
Celebrating excellence in nursing education & scholarship

Special thanks to this year’s COUPN Awards Selection Committee:
Dr. Linda Patrick
University of Windsor
Prof. Karen Poole
Lakehead University
Dr. Kirsten Woodend
Trent University

COUPN would like to thank those who submitted nominations. The level of excellence demonstrated by all the nominees was exemplary.

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Wednesday, April 20
5:00 to 7:30 p.m.
89 Chestnut Residence & Conference Centre
Toronto, ON
Dr. Keilty completed her doctoral program at the University of Toronto, and her research focuses on cancer and cancer treatment. She holds a BScN from the University of Windsor and a MSc in Nursing from Western University. Jason brings nearly 20 years of experience as an RN and nearly nine as a nurse practitioner to his current teaching role at the University of Windsor.

Preceptor Recognition Award:
Daniella Betteto, RN

Daniella Betteto, a Registered Nurse on the Intensive Care and Cardiac Recovery Unit at the University of Toronto, and the London Health Sciences Centre, was described by a student as a preceptor who shows patience, commitment and initiative in delivering a well-rounded experience. The student said Betteto encourages her to think critically, to learn continuously and to put patients at the heart of her care.

As a role model and as a teacher, she has taught me how to practice within the scope of nurses, according to the best practice guidelines and in accordance with institutional policies," said the four-year nursing student. She went on to say that with Daniella’s guidance and support, she feels confident and ready to practice as a new graduate nurse.

She said one “unforgettable teaching moment” for her was the first time she enacted on a family’s wishes to withdraw life support for their loved one. A complex and emotionally difficult decision-making process for the client’s family and friends, the student needed guidance to navigate an ethically challenging process.

“As a preceptor, she was supportive of my learning and encouraged me to reflect on the challenges we encounter while providing the best care for our client. She continuously explained her rationale and how it fits within the RNNAO’s best practice guidelines of end-of-life care.”

Scholarship into Practice Award:
Dr. Kelly Metcalfe, RN, PhD

Dr. Kelly Metcalfe has devoted her research career to the study of cancer prevention and treatment in individuals at high-risk of developing the disease. She is an Associate Professor in the Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing at the University of Toronto, an adjunct scientist at the Women’s College Health Research Institute, and also serves as the Director of Research in the Faculty of Nursing.

Much of her research is oriented towards patient empowerment and patient decision-making, ensuring that nurses, clinics, women and patients have the information and evidence they need to make the best decisions possible. Her clinical work focuses on counseling women who are genetically predisposed to breast cancer in making breast cancer prevention decisions. Her current research focuses on the prevention and treatment of hereditary breast cancer, and on the surgical outcomes after breast cancer surgery and reconstruction.

She presents widely to both professional and lay audiences, and organizes a biennial patient symposium to disseminate the latest research findings to women who are genetically predisposed to developing breast cancer.

Teaching Innovation Award:
Dr. Jasna K. Schwind, RN, PhD

When it comes to teaching and learning, Dr. Schwind believes “we bring all of our life experiences into every teaching-learning encounter.” As the Associate Professor at the Dalhousie School of Nursing, her program of research, by means of Arts-Informed Narrative Inquiry, focuses on reconnecting to experience within professional and therapeutic relationships in education and practice. She has developed and implemented the Narrative Reflective Process, an innovative creative self-expression approach to teaching and learning that includes storytelling, metaphoric reflection, creative writing, and reflective dialogue to enhance students’ learning experiences, research in education, as well as the professional development of educators.

Dr. Schwind explores “humanness-of-care,” which she defines as a mindful presence with the persons in our care. This requires mindful awareness with non-judgmental acceptance of self and others in the present. And as a result of her and her peers, whether it is in teaching and learning situations in the classroom or clinical settings, mentoring of individual students, her own research, and dissemination, she is always fully present and engaged with those in her care.