ANNA Members Honored at 38th National Symposium

ANNA distributed over $90,000 in awards, scholarships, and grants to ANNA members during the Association’s 38th National Symposium, which was held April 22-25, 2007, in Dallas, TX. The following individuals were recognized.

Outstanding Achievement Awards

Outstanding Contribution to ANNA

Nancy Sharp, MSN, RN, FAAN, a consultant for Sharp & Associates in Bethesda, MD, was the recipient of the highest honor bestowed upon an ANNA member in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the Association. A founding member of ANNA, Ms. Sharp was recognized for her ground-breaking advocacy efforts and professional outreach for nephrology nursing. During her term as president, Ms. Sharp created and chaired ANNA’s Government Relations Committee. In that capacity, she was the first nephrology nurse to testify before the Senate Finance Committee on the importance of the professional role of the nephrology nurse. She continued to serve ANNA as its health policy consultant from 2000-06.

Ms. Sharp helped establish the National Federation for Specialty Nursing Organizations (NFSNO), now the Nursing Organizations Alliance, an organization dedicated to increasing nursing’s visibility. Through her leadership, the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI) was created, helping nurses learn more about the legislative process and how they can influence health policy. She most recently established the Public Policy Institute for advanced practice nurses for the American College of Nurse Practitioners. Ms. Sharp continues to mentor nurses and demystify the legislative process through NIWI and through other workshops, presentations, and consulting positions.

Her energy and vision resulted in the formation of ANNA’s ESRD Education Week. The event started with Ms. Sharp’s personal invitations to legislators to tour dialysis facilities in Washington, DC, and has evolved into an award-winning, weeklong campaign to educate state and federal lawmakers about end stage renal disease (ESRD), dialysis, and legislative issues facing the renal community. This knowledge has motivated lawmakers to pass key legislation to improve the lives of renal patients.

In recognition of her contributions to the nursing community, Ms. Sharp has received many prestigious awards. She was named “Nurse of the Year” by Nursing Spectrum (DC/Virginia/Maryland edition), one of the “25 Outstanding NP Leaders” by Nurse Practitioner Journal, and “Washington Woman of the Year” by Washingtonian Magazine. Ms. Sharp is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN) and was also the first recipient of an award named in her honor, the American College of Nurse Practitioners’ “Sharp Cutting Edge Award.”

Ms. Sharp’s passion for nursing advocacy continues to benefit the profession. In 2006, she helped found the Nightingale Policy Institute, a virtual organization that uses the Internet to connect aspiring policy nurses with experienced policy nurses to enhance the political knowledge and savvy of all nurses working in the field of public policy.

“Nancy’s leadership, energy, and professionalism have helped advance ANNA, nephrology nursing, and health care,” said ANNA President Sandy Bodin, MA, RN, CNN. “This award shows our appreciation for her dedication to the Association and the nephrology community.”

In honor of her contributions, Ms. Sharp was awarded a lifetime ANNA membership, an ANNA logo pin, and a commemorative plaque.

Ron Brady Memorial Award for Excellence in Volunteer Leadership

Deborah Bowe, RN, CNN, clinical administrator for The Kidney Institute of Wisconsin in Glendale, WI, was awarded the Ron Brady Memorial Award for Excellence in Volunteer Leadership. Sponsored by ANNA’s management company, Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc., and named in honor of ANNA’s long-time executive director, this award recognizes an ANNA member who has demonstrated outstanding volunteer leadership in contributing to the mission of ANNA.

A member of ANNA since 1984, Ms. Bowe has been active in the Wisconsin Chapter, serving in multiple roles, including chapter president. She is always volunteering to help, whether it be proctoring certification exams, attending meetings, or recruiting new nurses. She has served as the Wisconsin representative to the Renal Network 11 Medical Review Board since 1996. Ms. Bowe promotes staff participation in professional organizations and educational activities in her institution and was instrumental in encouraging at least 10 staff nurses to become Certified Nephrology Nurses (CNNs). Her vast knowledge base, compassion, and encouragement of staff make her a valuable leader and positive role model.

In recognition of her excellence in volunteer leadership, Ms. Bowe was awarded $1,000 and a commemorative plaque.

Clinical Practice Award

Christine Sutich, APN/CNS, CNN, clinical nurse specialist at Southwest Nephrology Associates in Evergreen Park, IL, received the Clinical Practice Award. Sponsored by Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc., this award is presented to an ANNA member who has displayed excellence in clinical practice.

Ms. Sutich has held many roles in nephrology during her 20 years of practice, including acute and...
chronic hemodialysis staff nurse, dialysis unit manager, and advanced practice nurse in the outpatient setting. She is very involved in the community, participating in health screening activities, providing kidney disease education, and speaking about nephrology nursing to undergraduates. Ms. Sutich plays a key role educating patients about kidney disease, treatment modalities, and anemia management and is excellent at physical assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of patients with chronic kidney disease.

In recognition of her excellence in clinical practice, received $1,000 and a commemorative plaque.

**Nephrology Nurse Educator Award**

Deborah Brouwer, RN, CNN, director of Therapeutic & Clinical Programs at Renal Solutions, Inc., in Warrendale, PA, was the recipient of the Nephrology Nurse Educator Award. Sponsored by DaVita, this award recognizes an ANNA member who has made outstanding contributions to professional and/or patient education.

With a passion for vascular access education, Ms. Brouwer volunteers countless hours to educate the renal community on vascular access issues. Her focus on vascular access cannulation started in 1993 when she served as co-coordinator of a joint ANNA / National Kidney Foundation (NKF) symposium on “Successful Vascular Strategies for Surgeons, Nephrologists, Interventional Radiologists and Nurses.” This meeting and subsequent presentations at locations across the United States led to her selection as a Work Group Member of the NKF K/DOQI Vascular Access in 1995. That same year she published her first article detailing cannulation techniques. Ms. Brouwer continued her role as a Work Group Member for the NKF K/DOQI update in 2000 and the recently published 2006 K/DOQI Vascular Access Guidelines. She has participated in the National Vascular Access Improvement Initiative (NVAII), which later became known as the Fistula First Breakthrough Initiative (FFBI). Ms. Brouwer currently serves as an ANNA appointed representative for the FFBI Community Education and Professional Education Work Groups. She is regularly invited to speak at local and national meetings and has authored 16 publications since 1995.

Ms. Brouwer received $1,000 and a commemorative plaque.

**Excellence in Nephrology Nursing Management Award**

Deborah Bowe, RN, CNN, clinical administrator for The Kidney Institute of Wisconsin in Glendale, WI, was the recipient of the Excellence in Nephrology Nursing Management Award. This award recognizes managerial excellence in the advancement of nephrology nursing.

As the administrator of the largest dialysis unit in Wisconsin, Ms. Bowe’s everyday duties include budget preparation, personnel counseling, staff development, staff and patient scheduling, renal osteodystrophy management with a dietician, overseeing anemia and vascular access management, and dealing with the day-to-day problems of the dialysis unit. Her facility has exceeded K/DOQI guidelines in many areas. The patient mortality rate has been 15% for the last 2 years. Her facility leads the area for the least amount of patient hospital days and lowest infection rates, which translates into better patient outcomes and decreased lost revenue for the unit. Staff satisfaction is evident by the very low turnover rate in the unit. Ms. Bowe encourages staff to become certified, join professional organizations, and take advantage of continuing education opportunities.

In recognition of her managerial excellence, Ms. Bowe was awarded $1,000 and a commemorative plaque.

**Nephrology Nurse Researcher Award**

Heather Beanlands, PhD, RN, Associate Director, Scholarly, Research & Creative Activities at Ryerson University in Toronto, Canada, received the Nephrology Nurse Researcher Award. This award recognizes an outstanding nephrology nurse researcher.

Dr. Beanlands has been involved as principal investigator or co-investigator on several studies that contribute to the advancement of nephrology nursing. She also has shared her research through published articles and presentations at various national and international meetings.

Dr. Beanlands was awarded $1,000 and a commemorative plaque.

**Quality Care Award**

Fides Pangilinan, RN, a staff nurse at Harper University Hospital in Detroit, MI, received the Quality Care Award. Sponsored by Church & Dwight Company, Inc., this award recognizes a nurse or technician who, through clinical excellence and exceptional human compassion, has provided care to hemodialysis patients that is above and beyond the requirements of her position.

Ms. Pangilinan has worked in hemodialysis for 20 years. She consistently demonstrates the integration of knowledge and technical skills through the application of the nursing process and ongoing professional growth. Her compassion is demonstrated on a daily basis as she works with patients, respecting their privacy and dignity, easing their stress, providing education, and ensuring continuity of care. Ms. Pangilinan also volunteers at local health screenings, provides teaching for senior citizens, and is currently working with another staff member to revise teaching materials for new hemodialysis patients. She promotes a culture of excellence in all of her undertakings.

In recognition of her clinical excellence and compassion, Ms. Pangilinan received $2,000 and a commemorative plaque.
Outstanding Contribution to Transplantation Nursing

Cynthia Wright, RN, CCRC, CNN, transplant coordinator for Dallas Nephrology Associates in Carrollton, TX, received the Outstanding Contribution to Transplantation Nursing Award. The purpose of this award, sponsored by Astellas Pharma US, Inc., is to recognize a nurse involved in the care of transplant recipients who reflects the ANNA core values of advocacy, scholarship, and excellence.

Ms. Wright has been involved in transplant nursing for many years, previously conducting research and more recently working directly with a pre-transplant clinic. Her research in transplantation focused on chronic rejection and steroid-free protocols. Although she has done follow-up of post-transplant patients in the past, currently she is actively working in the pre-transplant arena. Patients and families are lucky to have her as their coordinator in preparation for a transplant as her primary focus is ensuring their welfare. Ms. Wright’s participation in research, her strategic alliance with nephrology-based community organizations, and her active role within ANNA demonstrate her quest for knowledge and excellence in patient care.

Ms. Wright was awarded $2,000 and a commemorative plaque.

Spirit of Nephrology Nursing Award

Alice Luehr, BA, RN, CNN, a staff nurse at St. Peter’s Hospital in Helena, MT, was awarded the Spirit of Nephrology Nursing Award. Sponsored by HDCN.com, this award recognizes a nurse who demonstrates outstanding performance as a mentor, thereby ensuring the future of the nephrology nursing specialty.

Ms. Luehr embodies the “Spirit of Nephrology Nursing,” excelling as a mentor, motivator, coach, advisor, and counselor to both colleagues and patients. She is active in the Big Sky Chapter, having served in every chapter officer position. As Western Region Chapters Coordinator-Elect, she interacted frequently with chapters needing assistance and developed plans to resolve problems. She served as editor of the Western Region Newsletter for 3 years and distributed numerous inventive Big Sky Chapter newsletters. At St. Peter’s Hospital, Ms. Luehr helps staff at the dialysis unit as a preceptor and trainer for both hemodialysis and home peritoneal dialysis. She helped develop a computerized charting system for dialysis, then was asked to design a similar system hospital-wide, and trained and mentored staff during its implementation. She is also a dialysis home training nurse and educates patients and family members about home dialysis procedures.

Ms. Luehr received $2,000 and a commemorative plaque.

Outstanding Chapter Recognition Award

The Jersey North Chapter (Northeast Region) received the Outstanding Chapter Recognition Award. This award recognizes a chapter for its exceptional contributions and achievements while actively supporting the goals and philosophies of ANNA.

Since its inception in 1991, Jersey North has worked hard to achieve the goals of ANNA. The chapter’s defining goal is scholarship. In order for members to achieve and maintain nephrology certification, the chapter offers a minimum of 20 contact hours annually. The chapter’s exceptional educational programs ensure its financial success, enabling the chapter in 2006 to donate $1,500 to each of three chapters in the Southeast Region affected by Hurricane Katrina as well as provide $1,500 scholarships to two RNs working toward BSN or graduate degrees. The chapter also reimburses each chapter officer up to $1,000 to attend one national ANNA meeting annually. This year Jersey North also collaborated with the local NANT chapter by donating $2,000 to help them recruit members and encourage certification of hemodialysis technicians. Jersey North members serve on ANNA national committees and Special Interest Groups and speak at local, regional, and national ANNA meetings.

In recognition of its exceptional achievements, the Jersey North Chapter was awarded a $1,000 educational grant and a commemorative plaque.

Chapter Strategic Alliances Award

The Black Swamp Chapter in Ohio (North Central Region), received the Chapter Strategic Alliances Award. This award recognizes a chapter that demonstrates outstanding performance by successfully forming strategic alliances with one or more other organizations or entities and completes activities that fulfill ANNA’s mission.

The Black Swamp Chapter has formed an alliance with the Kidney Foundation of Northwest Ohio, providing volunteers for various events such as the “Lick Kidney Disease” lollipop sale, the Kidney Classic golf tournament, a musical event called Party in the Parking Lot, and a Wine Affair featuring silent and live auctions. These events raise funds that are used for patient services and provide ANNA members with opportunities to educate the public about kidney disease. The Kidney Foundation also holds an annual educational conference that offers contact hours for nurses, dietitians, technicians, and social workers. ANNA member Trish Carter chairs the planning committee that arranges meeting speakers and topics. ANNA members also staff a booth in the exhibit hall to promote ANNA membership and activities, provide legislative information, and offer blood pressure screenings.

The Black Swamp Chapter received $500 and a commemorative plaque.
Research-Based Practice Award

Terran Mathers, DNS, RN, associate professor at Spring Hill College in Mobile, AL, received the Research-Based Practice Award. This award is given to an individual or group who has made a major contribution to the dissemination of research to nurses for use in clinical nephrology practice, education, and/or administration.

Dr. Mathers is producing an audio-enhanced PowerPoint presentation called “Evidence-Based Nephrology Nursing: Where Do We Start?” This project emphasizes the importance of incorporating evidence-based research, expertise, and patient preferences into the nephrology practice setting for enhanced positive patient outcomes.

Dr. Mathers was awarded $350 and a commemorative plaque.

Kelly McManus Memorial Award

Susan Vogel, MHA, RN, CNN, administrator of South Valley Regional Dialysis Center in Encino, CA, received the Kelly McManus Memorial Award. Sponsored by NxStage, this award recognizes a nurse who, through clinical excellence, has provided care to patients receiving frequent home hemodialysis that is above and beyond the requirements of her position.

Ms. Vogel instituted a daily home hemodialysis program at her facility in 2002. The facility is located in a highly populated area that had not been known for home dialysis, but she felt a strong commitment to assisting her patients maintain their independence. Her program has grown to over 18 patients, and she and her staff have trained over 25 patients for daily home hemodialysis. Ms. Vogel developed the training program, which includes policies and procedures using ANNA’s Standards of Practice and Guidelines for Care, a patient training plan, and various patient resources. She actively seeks to provide patients with the opportunity to do daily home hemodialysis, not only by providing information to patients at her facility, but by providing patients in her community the opportunity to learn about daily home therapy. She has spoken at a number of community events, met with area nephrologists to discuss her home training program, provided ESRD options to CKD patients, and held patient option programs.

Ms. Vogel received $2,000 and a commemorative plaque.

Research Abstract Award

Charlotte Thomas-Hawkins, PhD, RN, assistant professor at Rutgers University College of Nursing in New Brunswick, NJ, was the recipient of the ANNA Research Abstract Award. This award recognizes a qualified ANNA member for an outstanding research project submitted in abstract form for presentation at the ANNA National Symposium.

Ms. Thomas-Hawkins’ abstract, which was co-authored by Howard Leventhal, PhD; Pablo Mora, PhD; and Marco DiBonaventura, MD, was titled “Illness Representations and Depression in Older Individuals with Stage 5 Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Requiring Long-term Hemodialysis.” She received $500 and a commemorative plaque.

ANNA Board of Directors Award

Lisa Carter, MA, BSN, RN, nurse manager at Mayo Medical Center in Rochester, MN, received the ANNA Directors’ Award. This award recognizes a grassroots member for advancing the goals and objectives of ANNA and improving patient care.

Ms. Carter has been a cheerleader for ANNA for many years. She was instrumental in ensuring that content at the Volunteer Leaders Orientation Workshop (VLOW) was more focused on chapter needs and has been a wonderful coach to VLOW presenters. One year she gathered a group together to practice their presentation, helping to put everyone at ease and present a session that received the highest marks ever. She was an active participant at ANNA’s first Enrichment Opportunity Event in Las Vegas, where she wanted everyone to win a prize and, in the process, get involved in the Association at a new level of volunteerism. Ms. Carter is an active member of the Southeast Minnesota Chapter and has held many chapter positions. As a unit manager she has been a key recruiter of ANNA members as well as many chapter officers. She makes herself available to mentor and guide new officers in their roles. On the regional level, she served as the editor of the North Central Neighborhood Newsletter for many years.

Ms. Carter was the recipient of free registration to a future ANNA National Symposium, a commemorative plaque, and an ANNA logo pin.

Representation Award

Alice Luehr, BA, RN, CNN, a staff nurse, and Nancy Pierce, BSN, RN, CNN, dialysis director, both from St. Peter’s Hospital in Helena, MT, received the Representation Award. This award recognizes grassroots members for outstanding accomplishments and contributions to ANNA in the area of representation.

Ms. Luehr and Ms. Pierce are very involved in grassroots activities in Montana. They have hosted facility tours for legislators during ESRD education events and are very active in the health policy arena. They were honored with commemorative plaques.

Regional Chapter Awards

ANNA recognized the following chapters with ANNA Regional Chapter Awards:

- Northeast Region: Keystone Chapter (Philadelphia, PA)
- Southeast Region: Dallas Chapter (Dallas, TX)
- North Central Region: Heart of America Chapter (Kansas City, MO)
• Western Region: San Joaquin Chapter (Fresno, CA)
  Each chapter received $500 and a commemorative plaque. These awards were sponsored by Ortho Biotech Products, L.P.

Chapter Recruitment & Retention National Award

The Keystone Chapter in Philadelphia, PA (Northeast Region), received the National Recruitment and Retention Award. This award recognizes a chapter that demonstrates outstanding performance in recruitment and retention activities that ensure the future of the specialty of nephrology nursing. The Keystone Chapter received $500 and a certificate.

Chapter Recruitment & Retention Regional Awards

ANNA recognized chapters in each region with Recruitment and Retention Awards. Regional recipients were:

• Northeast Region: Keystone Chapter (Philadelphia, PA)
• Southeast Region: Blue Ridge Chapter (Western North Carolina)
• North Central Region: Dakota Chapter (Sioux Falls, SD)
• Western Region: Sawtooth Chapter (Boise, ID)
  Each chapter received $250 and a certificate.

Nephrology Nursing Journal Writing Contest Awards

The Nephrology Nursing Journal selected award winners in its annual Writing Contest. Each winner received $500 and a commemorative plaque.

Deborah Miller, MSN, RN, CNN, clinical nurse specialist, Pediatric Nephrology, at Inova Fairfax Hospital/Pediatric Specialty Clinics in Falls Church, VA, was awarded first place in the Clinical Practice Category for the article “Management of Pediatric Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease.” Co-authored by Dina MacDonald, BSN, RN, CNN, the article was published in the July-August 2006 issue of the journal.

In the Education Category, Lynda Ball, BS, BSN, RN, CNN, quality improvement coordinator at Northwest Renal Network in Seattle, WA, received first place for her article “The Buttonhole Technique for Arteriovenous Fistula Cannulation,” which appeared in the May-June 2006 issue of the journal.

Janet Welch, DNS, RN, associate professor at Indiana University School of Nursing in Indianapolis, IN, received first place in the Research Category for the article “Patterns of Interdialytic Weight Gain During the First Year of Hemodialysis.” Co-authored by Susan Perkins, PhD; Cynthia Johnson, MA; and Michael Kraus, MD, the article was published in the September-October 2006 issue.

Scholarships and Grants

ANNA Career Mobility Scholarships

ANNA Career Mobility Scholarships support qualified ANNA members in the pursuit of a baccalaureate or advanced degree in nursing. The recipients were:

Sandra Copeland, MSN, RN, BC, clinical nurse specialist, Medical Center of Central Georgia, Macon, GA. Ms. Copeland is enrolled in a family nurse practitioner program at Georgia College and State University.

Bette Gilmartin, RN, CNN, nurse manager, Renal Services, Fletcher Allen Health Care, Burlington, VT. Ms. Gilmartin is enrolled in the MSN program at Norwich University in Northfield, VT.

Christina Mauer, RN, CNN, staff nurse, Capital Health Systems - Fuld Campus, Trenton, NJ. Ms. Mauer is pursuing a bachelors degree in nursing through the University of Phoenix.

Barbara McKie, BSN, RN, renal dialysis staff nurse, St. Francis Hospital, Tulsa, OK. Ms. McKie is pursuing a masters in nursing at the University of Oklahoma.

Sylvia Moe, BSN, RN, CNN, dialysis staff nurse, Mayo Medical Center, Rochester, MN. Ms. Moe is pursuing a masters in nursing at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, MN.

Each recipient was awarded a $2,000 scholarship.

Abbott/Pamela Balzer Career Mobility Scholarship

Cindy Richards, RN, CNN, nephrology clinician and renal transplant coordinator at Children’s Hospital in Birmingham, AL, was awarded the Pamela Balzer Career Mobility Scholarship. Sponsored by Abbott Renal Care Group, this scholarship supports a qualified ANNA member in the pursuit of a baccalaureate or advanced degree in nursing.

Ms. Richards is enrolled in the RN to BSN degree program at the Capstone College of Nursing at the University of Alabama. She received a $2,500 scholarship.

Alcavis International, Inc. Career Mobility Scholarship

Janet Carroll, MHA, RN, CNN, a nephrology nurse with Nephrology Associates of Central Pennsylvania in Camp Hill, PA, was awarded the Alcavis International, Inc. Career Mobility Scholarship. This scholarship
supports a qualified ANNA member in the pursuit of a baccalaureate or advanced degree in nursing.

Ms. Carroll is enrolled in the nurse practitioner program at Widener University in Chester, PA. She received a $2,500 scholarship.

**Janel Parker Career Mobility Scholarship**

Nancy Colobong Smith, BSN, RN, CNN, assistant nurse manager at the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle, WA, received the Janel Parker Career Mobility Scholarship. Sponsored by Anthony J. Jannetti, Inc., this scholarship supports a qualified ANNA member in the pursuit of a baccalaureate or advanced degree in nursing.

Ms. Colobong Smith is pursuing a degree as an advanced practice specialist and adult acute care nurse practitioner at the University of Washington. She was awarded a $2,500 scholarship.

**NNCC Career Mobility Scholarships**

The Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission (NNCC) awarded three Career Mobility Scholarships. These scholarships, made possible by NNCC, support ANNA members who are Certified Nephrology Nurses (CNNs) in the pursuit of a baccalaureate or advanced degree in nursing. The recipients were:

- **Carol Reid**, BSN, RN, CNN, operations coordinator and assistant manager, Baystate Medical Center, Springfield, MA. Ms. Reid is pursuing a masters in nursing.
- **Patricia Sorenson**, RN, CNN, charge nurse, Arnot Ogden Medical Center, Elmira, NY. Ms. Sorenson is enrolled in the BSN program at Mansfield University.
- **Danuta Wojnar**, BSN, RN, CNN, CCRN, clinical nurse IV, Eisenhower Medical Center, Rancho Mirage, CA. Ms. Wojnar is enrolled in the MSN program at the University of Phoenix.

Each received a $2,000 scholarship.

**Watson Pharma, Inc. Career Mobility Scholarship**

H. Paul Smith, MS, RN, clinical nurse at Mills-Peninsula Health Services in Burlingame, CA, was awarded the Watson Pharma, Inc. Career Mobility Scholarship. This scholarship supports a qualified ANNA member in the pursuit of a baccalaureate or advanced degree in nursing.

Mr. Smith is a doctoral student at the University of California at San Francisco. He received a $2,500 scholarship.

**Gloria Scharf Beedie Memorial Grant**

Angel Krueger, RN, CNN, outpatient pediatric renal clinic coordinator at Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston, TX, was awarded the Gloria Scharf Beedie Memorial Scholarship. Sponsored by family of Gloria Scharf Beedie, the purpose of this grant is to fund the development of a new program or support an existing program that promotes patient education and/or quality of life.

Ms. Krueger plans to develop pediatric chronic kidney disease educational materials that can be shared with patients and their families to facilitate learning and compliance with treatment plans. She was awarded a $1,000 grant.

**Nurse in Washington Internships**

The following ANNA members received funding to attend the Nurse in Washington Internship (NIWI), a program sponsored by the Nursing Organizations Alliance:

- **Sandra Copeland**, MSN, RN, BC, clinical nurse specialist, Medical Center of Central Georgia, Macon, GA
- **Diana Hlebovy**, BSN, RN, CNN, CHN, director of clinical affairs, Hemametrics, Elyria, OH
- **Caroline Steward**, MSN, RN, APN, C, CCRN, CNN, Renaissance Health Care, Ewing, NJ

NIWI is designed to educate nurses about the political process and how they can influence health policy. The NIWI scholarships were sponsored by ANNA, Nursing Economics, The Journal for Health Care Leaders, and Watson Pharma, Inc.

**Research Grants**

**ANNA Research Grant**

Debra Hain, GNS, GNP, APRN-BC, a nurse researcher, nurse practitioner, and adjunct nursing faculty at the Christine E. Lynn School of Nursing at Florida Atlantic University in Ft. Lauderdale, FL was awarded an ANNA Research Grant of $15,000 for her proposal “Evidence of Adherence Status of Cognitively Impaired and Cognitively Intact Elders on Hemodialysis.”

**ANNA Evidence-Based Research Grant**

Merry Stewart, APRN, MS, an advanced practice nurse at Advantage Health Centers in Southfield, MI, was awarded an ANNA Evidence-Based Research Grant of $5,000 for her proposal “African American Dialysis Patients’ Perceptions of Sexuality.”