This year nursing faculty and alumni received numerous awards, ranging from recognition for their outstanding contributions in nursing education to acknowledgement of lifetime achievements and UConn alumni distinction.

**Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN) Awards**

The CLN awards were presented during the annual meeting which was combined this year with the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers annual meeting. Two hundred guests were in attendance, and it was wonderful that our faculty received two of the four awards. Dean Cusson had the honor of introducing the keynote speaker, Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, who brought greetings to the group from Governor Dannell Malloy. The dean also had the opportunity to lobby Wyman for a greater voice for nursing in the state’s healthcare innovations programs.

E. Carol Polifroni, EdD, CNE, NEA-BC, RN, ANEF, received the 2014 Jane E. Murdock Life-Long Learning Award from CLN. This award is named after a previous officer and board member of CLN whose commitment to nursing education and passion for life-long learning contributed to the success of CLN. Polifroni also received the Collaborative Spirit Award from the Northern Connecticut Black Nurses Association (NCBNA). The award is presented to those who support the mission and goals of NCBNA and demonstrate a strong collaboration with the organization.

John McNulty, MS, CNE, RN, received CLN’s 2014 Presidents Award. This award was established in 1991 to recognize a CLN member and volunteer who has contributed significantly to further the mission and goals of CLN. Professor McNulty has shown strong commitment to the CLN board of directors and executive committee. He has been a passionate advocate and mentor, and is a leader with a strong capacity for organizational development and planning through his work at UConn and as CLN treasurer position.

**Connecticut Nurses’ Association (CNA) Awards**

The Connecticut Nurses Association (CNA) has awarded the following UConn individuals and groups with Diamond Jubilee Awards for their outstanding contributions to nursing, health care policy, and media representations of nurses and nursing and service to the association.

The Josephine A. Dolan Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Education was awarded to the UConn School of Nursing’s Center for Correctional Health Networks (CCHNet), UConn Health Center (UCHC) Correctional Managed Health Care (CMHC), and the Connecticut Department of Correction (DOC). These organizations collaboratively developed the Correctional Nursing Competency Program®.

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UConn Nursing Faculty - Recognition Unleashed! continued...

The Virginia A. Henderson Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Research was awarded to Jacqueline McGrath, PhD, RN, FNAP, FAAN. McGrath is the associate dean for research and scholarship, and a professor at UConn School of Nursing. She is also the director of nursing research at Connecticut Children’s Medical Center.

Cheryl Beck, DSNc, CNM, FAAN, was awarded the Mary Jane Williams Award for Lifetime Achievement in Nursing. Beck is Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor at UConn School of Nursing.

CNA’s Public Service Award was awarded to UConn Urban Service Track. This award recognizes an individual or group who has made notable contributions to the advancement of nursing, public health or health care in Connecticut through public service, public education/advocacy, public policy or organizational leadership.

The Doris M. Armstrong Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Administration was presented to Cheryl Hoey, RN, vice president of clinical services and chief nursing officer, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center and a member of the UConn School of Nursing leaders panel for the senior leadership course.

UConn Alumni Association Awards

UConn's Alumni Association is dedicated to connecting alumni, supporting students, and strengthening UConn based on the values of community and the belief that “Once a Husky, always a Husky.”

Alumnus Richard Shok ’08 was awarded the 2014 Alumni Association Graduate of the Last Decade (G.O.L.D.) Award. The G.O.L.D. award recognizes the outstanding service and accomplishments of an exceptional young alumna/alumnus, age 40 years or younger, whose year of graduation falls within the previous decade. Shok graduated in 2008 from the School of Nursing, and is now owner and director of Code One Training Solutions, LLC, which he started as a sophomore at UConn. Code One provides American Heart Association and Emergency Medical Services programs to nearly 5,000 people each year.

UConn education alumnus Douglas P. Donaldson has received the 2014 Alumni Association University Service Award. This award honors alumni, faculty, staff, and friends whose volunteer efforts enrich the depth and stature of UConn. A friend and benefactor of the School of Nursing, Donaldson is a 1973 and 1978 graduate of UConn’s NEAG School of Education, and is now vice president and development agent of Subway Development Corporation of New England.