

WHA Trustee Awards

Established in 1987, the Trustee Award is designed to honor health care board members who have shown long-standing commitment to the governance of the organization with which they are affiliated.



Gregory H. Miller

This year's first winner, Gregory H. Miller, has been a board member of the St. Joseph's Hospital in West Bend for the past eight years. He has served on all hospital committees, standing and ad hoc, during those eight years. Greg was elected board chair in September 2003, and held that position until December 2008. During this time, the deliberation, design and building of a new hospital occurred, as well as the addition of a residential hospice. Also, an affiliation agreement with Froedtert & Community Health was concluded on July 1, 2008.

Greg was employed by the West Bend Company for 32 years. He held positions as vice president of engineering, vice president of marketing, vice president of business development and, for the last 12 years prior to his retirement, as vice president of all operations. He is a Navy veteran and holds both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in engineering, as well as an MBA from the University of Wisconsin.

"Greg Miller is someone who carries the best interests of the community at the forefront of his thinking and his efforts."



Richard Rogers, MD

This year's second Trustee Award winner is Richard Rogers, PhD. Richard is in his ninth year as a trustee for the board of Boscobel Area Health Care, and he has served as vice president for eight of those years. Richard also serves as president of the Boscobel Area Health Care Foundation Board. He has committed 20 years of service to the Foundation, which he helped incorporate in 1989.

Richard has influenced the following projects of Boscobel Area Health Care:

- A new addition, which opened in 2008, includes a new emergency department, urgent care center, and specialty clinic. His leadership helped raise more than \$1 million in community support for the project.
- The hospital received critical access status in 2004, which has had a great impact on the financial performance of the hospital.
- A partnership with the free clinic in Boscobel in 2006, provides free x-ray and lab services to their patients.

Richards's presence at Boscobel Area Health Care is not limited to the board room. He has taken the time to get to know employees and their families and is often seen in the facility visiting with staff. He attends employee recognition events and the holiday party, as well as community education events and open houses.

Wisconsin Hospital Association



2009 awards

Presented at the WHA Annual Convention

September 23-25, 2009

Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva

Lifetime Achievement Award

Distinguished Service Award

Trustee Award

Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Executives

Nurse Leader of the Year Award



PO Box 259038, Madison, WI 53725-9038
608-274-1820 / Fax 608-274-8554 / www.wha.org

WHA Lifetime Achievement Award



Michael Schmidt

WHA proudly presents Michael Schmidt with the 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award. Mike began his 25-year career at Saint Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield in 1984 as vice president of finance and chief financial officer. In 1989 he was named executive vice president of finance. After several years of responsibility for the financial performance of the organization, he was named president in 1993.

Under Mike's leadership, Saint Joseph's Hospital has achieved many milestones, some of which include:

- The establishment of the hospital's first Home Health Agency in 1986 and the formation of Ministry Home Care in 1997
- Saint Joseph's Hospital joining the Children's Miracle Network in 1989
- The establishment of the Spirit of Marshfield Emergency Air and Ground Transportation System
- A new and expanded Child Care Center building, in partnership with the Marshfield Clinic in 1993
- The purchase of the Leksell Model C Gamma Knife for stereotactic radiosurgery in 2000, along with the facility construction for the Gamma Knife
- The on-going acquisition of state-of-the-art tertiary level technology, including PET CT, intraoperative magnetic resonance imagery system, vascular surgery systems, catheterization labs and electrophysiology lab systems, the DaVinci surgical system, and linear accelerators

In addition to these many achievements that have helped to build Saint Joseph's Hospital, Mike's leadership has been instrumental in the hospital receiving Magnet Hospital designation from the American Nurses Association, recognition as one of the "100 Most Wired Hospitals" in the nation, as a Thompson Reuters Top 100 Cardiovascular Hospital, a HealthGrades Distinguished Hospital for Clinical Excellence, and recipient of Premier Healthcare's 2008 Award for Quality.

"Mike has been an outstanding leader for our organization and central Wisconsin communities. His tenure with the organization has helped to create a world-class hospital that serves the health care needs of central and northern Wisconsin."

WHA Distinguished Service Award



Robert Fale

WHA proudly presents the 2009 Distinguished Service Award to Robert Fale, president & chief executive officer of Agnesian HealthCare, Inc., a fully integrated

health care delivery system serving east central Wisconsin. Prior to returning to Wisconsin to join Agnesian HealthCare, Bob served as president and CEO of facilities sponsored by Catholic Health Initiatives, one of the largest non-profit health care systems in the country.

He received a bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh and a master's degree in health administration from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Bob was selected as one of the Distinguished Alumni for 2003 from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. His career in health care started more than 30 years ago as a respiratory therapy technician and registered nurse. He has published and made numerous presentations to state, regional, and national groups focusing on the development of healthier communities and quality initiatives; and has guest lectured at Northwest Nazarene University, Moraine Park Technical College, Marian University, and University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

He has been involved in state and national advocacy efforts as a member of the board of directors for Wisconsin Hospital Association, as well as several WHA committees. He is a past WHA board chair and is currently the alternate delegate to the Regional Policy Board of the American Hospital Association.

"Over his 13-year career at Agnesian HealthCare, Bob has exemplified a tireless commitment to improving health care for the communities we serve and the entire state of Wisconsin. His passion to provide an array of health service for the common good of all human beings in Wisconsin is second to none."

W-ONE Nurse Leader of the Year Award



Joan Ellis Beglinger, RN, MSN, MBA, FACHE, FAAN

The Wisconsin Organization of Nurse Executives (W-ONE) has selected Joan Ellis Beglinger, RN, MSN, MBA, FACHE, FAAN, vice president of

patient care services for St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, for its 2009 Nurse Leader of the Year Award.

Joan has been a member of W-ONE for 24 years, participating as a member of the W-ONE Board of Directors from 2004 to 2006 and again from 2007 to 2009. During her tenure on the W-ONE Board, she co-authored the "Guidelines for Determining Appropriate Staffing Standards for the State of Wisconsin," which remain the standards for our state today.

Joan is an expert in the professional practice model most commonly known as shared governance. She led the transformation of St. Mary's organizational culture from hierarchal to participatory, as she introduced the model to St. Mary's nearly 20 years ago and has led them through this change ever since. It has been the foundation for much of the success achieved and accolades received by St. Mary's, including Magnet Recognition for Nursing Excellence in 2002 and redesignation in 2006.

She has been instrumental in opening doors for the nursing profession and nurse leadership at St. Mary's. She developed a first-year nurse mentor program for new graduates hired by her organization. In addition, she has implemented a successful 'grow your own' approach to fulfilling the enhanced need for nurse specialists. Since her arrival at St. Mary's, seven of the 18 current nursing directors have advanced to director positions from clinical staff nurse positions, and five of the seven current administrative supervisors advanced from clinical staff nurse positions.

"Her leadership perspective, experience as a coach and vigilance in keeping patient care at the center of decisions has served as a great resource... Her leadership behaviors foster development of future leaders and challenge those of us with experience to continue to grow to be the best we can be."