

**Leadership Learning Collaborative Teleconference: Mentorship  
Presenters  
October 8, 2013**

**Cynthia Vlasich** is the Director of Education and Leadership at the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International. In this role she provides direction for the International Leadership Institute, the Center for Nursing Excellence in Long-Term Care, STTI publishing, distance education, and the Virginia Henderson Global Nursing e-Repository. Prior to coming to Sigma Theta Tau International she was the Vice President of Professional Services for Gannett Healthcare Group, a major media corporation, where her responsibilities included recognition and support for nurse leaders throughout the central United States.

Cynthia has a broad level of diverse nursing leadership experience, having been the Chief Nurse of the American Red Cross for nearly a decade during which time she also chaired the Global Advisory Group for Nursing under the International Committee of the Red Cross. She has been both a member and chair of the United States Federal Nursing Chiefs Council, and has coordinated nursing involvement in international relief missions. Prior to that time Cynthia provided nursing leadership and support to Americans stationed in Europe and the Middle East as Director, Nursing and Health Services, European Area, American Red Cross.

**Wanda Montalvo, MSN, RN** is an innovative executive nurse leader and consultant her work is aimed at improving quality, access and reducing health disparity. She has provided leadership both at the state and national level as the Clinical Director for the NYS Diabetes Campaign and previous Chief Programs Officer for the Community Health Care Association of New York State. She has worked with the Department of Health and Human Services' Bureau of Primary Health Care as Northeast Director for National Health Disparities. Her work to reduce disparity in pediatric asthma and childhood obesity led to two awards by U.S. Surgeon General: C. Everett Koop National Health Award and Healthy Youth for Healthy Future. Ms. Montalvo serves on several national committees: Partners Investing in Nursing's Future, Chairs the Operating Committee for the National Diabetes Education Program, National Prevent Blindness in America, and the RWJF Future Nurse Scholars. In 2004 she was selected as a RWJF Executive Nurse Fellow and in 2012 as a Jonas Nurse Leaders Scholar.

**Barbara Given, PhD, RN, FAAN** is a University Distinguished Professor in the College of Nursing where she recently completed her position as Associate Dean for Research. She currently is Director of the PhD Program for the College of Nursing, and the Interim Director of the Center for Innovation and Research a partnership between Sparrow Health System and Michigan State University.

Dr. Given has a distinguished research career focusing on the relationship between the formal health care system and the informal care system of patients and their families who must implement care for chronic disease. Dr. Given has been actively involved in research in long-

term care, community based research, home care, chronic illness, and family care for over 34 years with funding from: the National Cancer Institute, National Institute on Mental Health, National Institute for Nursing Research, National Institute on Aging, Walther Cancer Foundation, Michigan Department of Community Health, and the American Cancer Society. Topics of research center around functional outcomes, symptom management and control, medication adherence, patterns of care, utilization of care, and formal and informal cost of care for the chronically ill, especially those with cancer. She has focused on family caregivers involvement in care and the associated burden. In the past two decades, research findings have supported randomized clinical trials of interventions with the use of technology to help patient's manage their treatment related symptoms. She has published over 220 journal articles and 40 book chapters.

Dr. Given is a reviewer for numerous professional journals and currently serves on the Editorial Board for *Research in Nursing and Health*, *Cancer Nursing*, and *European Journal of Cancer Nursing*. She has served as a grant reviewer for: AHCPR, Psychosocial Research for the American Cancer Society, Dissemination and Implementation Research and Health for NIH, National Cancer Institute, NINR, Department of Defense, National Institute of Aging, California Cancer Research Program, and the Alzheimer's Association of Canada.

Dr. Given's awards include: the American Nursing Foundation Distinguished Researcher Award Recipient, the Oncology Nursing Society Distinguished Researcher, the Oncology Nursing Outstanding Service Award, and the Michigan Association of Governing Boards Distinguished Faculty Award recipient. She received the College of Nursing Alumni Lifetime Achievement Award at Michigan State University. She received the University Distinguished Professor award, the Sigma Theta Tau Elizabeth Williams Miller Award for Excellence in Research and the Friends of the National Institute for Nursing Research Pathfinder Distinguished Researcher Award.

She presented to the National Cancer Policy Forum of the Institute of Medicine on Caregiving in Elderly Cancer Patients in 2006.

Dr. Given was named the Vanderbilt University School of Nursing Martha Rivers Ingram Visiting Professor in 2008.

She currently serves on the Sparrow Health System Governing Board where she is the Vice Chair of the Governing Board, Vice Chair of the Quality Committee, and Chairs the Government Effectiveness Committee.