

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Bertram Receives Organizational Innovation Award at AONE Conference**

*Award Sponsor B. E. Smith Also Announces Funding for Three Seed Grants*

**LENEXA, Kan.** (April 30, 2009)—At the American Organization of Nurse Executives' annual conference in San Antonio, Texas, the newest recipient of the AONE's Organizational Innovation for Nurse Executive Award was revealed: Donna L. Bertram, RN, MBA, NEA-BC, FAAN, vice president and chief nursing officer at Texas Health Arlington, Memorial Hospital in Arlington, Texas.

“At B. E. Smith, we understand the importance of revolutionary ideas and innovative leadership to the continued improvement of the healthcare environment and care delivery,” said Doug Smith, chief executive officer of B. E. Smith, the sponsor of the 2009 award. “Donna embodies the qualities recognized by this award. She has been an architect of change within her organization in the areas of work environment, image development, care delivery systems and strategic relationships. We're pleased to have this opportunity to honor her achievements in the nursing profession.”

According to AONE, Bertram is credited with being a catalyst for several innovative contributions at Arlington Memorial Hospital, including the development of a healing arts committee. As a part of this initiative, employees are invited to monthly lectures on the topics of aromatherapy, stress management, pet and music therapy, humor, yoga, meditation and alternative therapies. Bertram serves as a mentor, public speaker and adjunct faculty member at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Recipients of three research seed grants partially funded by B. E. Smith for the AONE Institute also were revealed at the conference. The Institute's Research Seed Grant Program funds grants to support research projects that explore best practices related to nursing administration. A seed grant review committee, made up of members of the AONE Institute's Advisory Board and its Operations Committee, reviewed and scored the proposals based on an evaluation system developed by AONE Institute staff. The 2009 recipients are Marie Ankner, RN, MS, NEA-BC, of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation in New York, N.Y., for her research entitled, “Nurse Engagement and Patient Satisfaction”; Esther Chipps, Ph.D., RN, of the Ohio State University Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio, for her research entitled “Measuring Safety Behaviors in Nurses: Development of a New

Instrument”; and Cynthia Kamikawa, RN, MS, NE-BC, of The Queens Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, for her research entitled “Measuring the Impact of Emotional Intelligence Development in Nurse Managers.”

For more about the award, visit <http://www.aone.org/aone/institute/award.html>. Visit <http://www.aone.org/aone/institute/seedgrant.html> for more information about the AONE Institute research seed grants.

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