

Dear CAPHO Awards Committee members,

I write to you today to nominate Melanie Danilak for the CAPHO Volunteer Recognition Award. For several years, Melanie has been a dedicated CAPHO volunteer and has shown incredible commitment to CAPHO initiatives and the practice of oncology pharmacy. Melanie's contact information is as follows:

Melanie Danilak
Cross Cancer Institute, Edmonton, AB
Melanie.Danilak2@albertahealthservices.ca
780-432-8405

Melanie is a critical member of the CAPHO Education Pharmacist Committee. Her meeting attendance record is exemplary and she always participates in teleconferences with enthusiasm. When committee discussions are held over email, I can always count on Melanie to respond quickly with thoughtful ideas and an eagerness to contribute to team workload. She is keen to take on committee tasks as shown when she provided the first ever CAPHO website posting of "Clinical Pearls for Practice" soon after the Education Committee decided to pursue this initiative.

Melanie has co-chaired the Undergraduate Pharmacy Education Task Force since 2011. In collaboration with her co-chair and committee, Melanie is developing a vision and plan to encourage more oncology curriculum for our future colleagues. It is evident that this team's mandate is very special to Melanie as she discusses this topic with incredible passion.

The 2015 update of Oncology Basics is well underway. One of the key writers on the authorship team is Melanie. She has spent many hours writing new content for the hormonal and targeted therapies modules, while reviewing and revising the text from existing tutorials such as cytotoxic chemotherapy. Melanie has also taken the time to review the existing images and tables and make suggestions for updates and additions. Although Melanie has received an honorarium for her work with this committee, it is a small sum in comparison to the hours she has contributed.

Last spring, while CAPHO was preparing to co-host the ISOPP Symposium, a key speaker had a family loss and needed to cancel as a presenter just 2 weeks prior to the conference. Knowing that Melanie had some expertise in the topic, I contacted her and asked her to step in as presenter for the breast cancer update. Melanie willingly accepted and quickly reviewed the original speaker slides, made some revisions to personalize the session, and prepared to give the talk. Her presentation was well received by the ISOPP Symposium audience.

In summary, Melanie exemplifies the qualities of an exceptional oncology pharmacy practitioner and she is dedicated to sharing her knowledge and abilities not just through work but also as a volunteer. She has enthusiasm for oncology pharmacy that is infectious and she contributes to CAPHO initiatives in a way that inspires other CAPHO members to volunteer and other practitioners to join CAPHO. I hope that you will consider Melanie as the recipient of the first inaugural CAPHO Volunteer Recognition Award.

Kind Regards,

Tara Leslie
Pharmacist, Tom Baker Cancer Centre
Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Alberta
tleslie1@ualberta.ca
403-818-7490