



Disney, Statistics and More

UNOS' 2010 TMF offered range of educational sessions

BY KAREN SOKOHL

UNOS' Transplant Management Forum (TMF) enjoyed an increased attendance of 418 participants compared to last year's 341—as well as a record number of walk-in registrations. Held this year April 21–23 at the Gaylord Palms in Orlando, this year's TMF was the 18th annual national forum.

Although transplant administrators traditionally make up the largest percentage of the audience, an increasing number of physicians, quality managers, OPO executive directors and transplant clinical coordinators are also finding the conference valuable, both for the practical how-to information and the ample networking opportunities.

Kicking off the conference this year was a first-time, 3½ hour workshop led by statisticians from the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients (SRTR). In separate presentations, the statisticians explained the SRTR's connection to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; talked about the importance of complete and accurate data; and told attendees what they needed to know to calculate observed and expected survival rates.

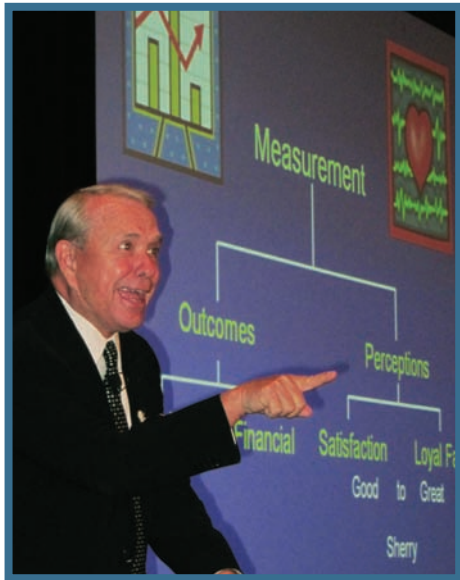
The SRTR statisticians also presented a summary of the answers to questions that staff are most frequently asked. Of special value was the nearly 45-minute Q&A period immediately afterward. Attendees were lined up at the microphones, eager to get information directly from folks they typically deal with through e-mail or by phone.

The educational abstracts submitted each year by experts in transplant administration are an ongoing TMF staple. This year, the OPTN/UNOS transplant administrators committee (TAC) received 45 abstracts for consideration, and six of those received awards on the second day of the conference (see links below for more information on this year's abstracts as well as the call for abstracts for next year).

"I was extremely pleased with the outcome of this year's forum," said TAC chair Gene Ridolfi, B.A., RN, program administrator for the Barnes–Jewish Hospital/Washington University School of Medicine Transplant Center in St. Louis. "I'm honored to have led the committee this past year as they planned this valuable conference.

"I'm also pleased," he added, "that we tend to be attracting an audience beyond transplant administrators, as it takes a village of informed professionals to operate our transplant centers.

"I look forward to the 2011 TMF as the committee embarks on the planning of yet another valuable educational opportunity." **U**



ONLINE For a complete list of this year's TMF abstract winners, titles and subject categories, visit the transplant administrators secure website at <https://portal.unos.org/TxAdmins/Abstracts.aspx>.

To view photos from the forum as well as photos of all 2010 abstract award winners, visit [flickr.com/photos/26836181@N05/sets/72157623820726041/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/26836181@N05/sets/72157623820726041/).

For information about submitting an abstract next year, visit the UNOS website, unos.org.

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UNOS' 18th annual TMF held April 21–23 in Orlando, Fla., drew more than 400 attendees. **TOP:** Management Science Associates' (MSA's) Ed Smith presented an award to Amy Place, M.P.A., business manager, Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago. MSA was an abstract sponsor at this year's TMF. **MIDDLE:** Fred Lee, a nationally recognized expert in patient relations and service excellence, addressed the crowd on how to inspire patient and employee loyalty. **BOTTOM:** LifeTrak Network's Viet Tong (left) with winner Nancy Ford, LCSW, a social worker at the Mayo Clinic Florida in Jacksonville.