



***For Immediate Release***

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**Dr. Jean Watson's International Foundation Announces  
Appointment of Jim D'Alfonso as New Chief Operating Officer and  
Chief Nurse Executive**

**BOULDER, CO.** (December 15, 2008) --- Dr. Jean Watson, founder of *The Watson Caring Science Institute*, announced the appointment of Jim D'Alfonso, MSN, RN, CNOR as the institute's Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nurse Executive today. "This newly created executive role reports directly to the Board of Directors and is key in helping advance WCSI's global mission and vision to offer programs and services that enhance the healthcare system's ability to retain and nurture its most precious resources, caring professional nurses and practitioners," stated Dr. Watson.

Mr. D'Alfonso brings over 20 years of experience as a nurse executive, educator and advanced practice nurse to WCSI. He will assume direct executive oversight and responsibility for the design, development and coordination of programs and services provided by WCSI, including leadership consultation, education and research collaboratives conducted in partnership with the institute.



Jim has an extensive background in working with Magnet facilities, having supported the successful Magnet journey of two prominent healthcare facilities. He has been an active member of the International Caritas Consortium for over 4 years and was a founding member of the Watson Caring Science Institute. His work in integrating caring science and creating healing environments has included the establishment of Nightingale Units and implementation of innovative leadership development programs, designed to embed the theory and practice of human caring in direct patient care settings. Jim has published and lectured on a wide variety of nursing leadership and clinical topics and has served as keynote and guest lecturer at both national and international meetings.

*“There is overwhelming interest, by hospitals and practitioners alike, in the practical outcomes of emerging WCSI programs and services grounded in Jean Watson’s Theory of Human Caring, each focused on optimum caring-healing experiences for the public while reducing high nurse turnover and decreasing costs to the system. This is the work of WCSI and the timing for such new and innovative programs appears so right in light of growing crises of caring and the need for meaningful change in global healthcare today. I am deeply honored to serve as COO/CNE for the Institute and equally committed to WCSI’s goals of promoting heart-centered transformation and healing in today’s healthcare systems from the inside out, one organization, one leader, one educator, and one practitioner at a time,”* stated D’Alfonso.

WCSI is dedicated to help the current healthcare system retain and nurture its most precious resource, caring professional nurses, while preparing a new generation of health practitioners.

Founded by *Distinguished Professor Dr. Jean Watson*, who holds the Murchinson-Scoville Endowed Chair in Caring Science at the University of Colorado Denver, WCSI translates Watson’s renowned 30 year Caritas Model of Caring-Healing into programs and services to transform healthcare one nurse / one educator / one system at a time, [www.watsoncaringscience.org](http://www.watsoncaringscience.org). Author of over 100 publications and more than 13 books on the Science of Human Caring, Dr. Watson’s newly revised edition of the 1979 classic: *Nursing. The Philosophy and Science of Caring* was released in May, 2008 with her long awaited meditation CD.

Founder of the original *Center for Human Caring* in Colorado and a *Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing*, Dr. Watson is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the *National Fetzner Institute Norman Cousins Award*, an *International Kellogg Fellowship in Australia*, a *Fullbright Research and Lecture Award in Sweden*, and *six Inter/national Honorary Doctorate Degrees*.

**“We are the light in institutional darkness.....Join us today!”** invites Dr. Watson.

To schedule interviews, receive photos, or support WCSI [www.watsoncaringscience.org](http://www.watsoncaringscience.org), please contact Barbara Hope, WCSI Board Director, [barbara@barbarahope1.com](mailto:barbara@barbarahope1.com), 303-604-1662. For information on speaking

engagements, leadership/consultation/pilot programs contact Jim D'Alfonso, WCSI  
COO/CNE, 602-717-5400.

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