

Creating A RENAISSANCE of RELATIONSHIP-CENTERED CARE™



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The National Institute of Whole Health Founder Addresses Alternative & Complementary Treatments for Scleroderma at National Conference in Cambridge

June 20, 2005, Wellesley, MA – The National Institute of Health (NIWH) and the New England School of Whole Health Education (NESWHE), the pioneer of Whole Health Education, and a provider of whole-person care educational programs for healthcare workers, medical institutions and consumers, today announced that school founder Georgianna Donadio, D.C., M.Sc., Ph.D., has spoken at the Scleroderma Foundation's National Conference in Cambridge. On June 19, 2005, Donadio addressed alternative and complementary treatments for this condition that affects approximately 300,000 people in the United States.

Scleroderma, or systemic sclerosis, is a chronic connective tissue disease classified as an autoimmune rheumatic disease. Hardening of the skin is one of the most visible manifestations of the disease. The symptoms of scleroderma vary greatly from individual to individual, and the effects of scleroderma can range from very mild to life threatening depending upon what parts of the body are affected and the extent to which they are affected. The exact cause or causes of scleroderma are still unknown, but scientists and medical investigators in a wide variety of fields are working hard to make those determinations.

"Throughout my over 30 years treating patients, I have treated several patients with Scleroderma," said Donadio. "There is an enormous interest right now in integrative health care on the part of the Scleroderma patient, as well as the physicians who are looking to practice more integrative medicine with people who have this condition. It's very encouraging to see integrative medicine entering so many areas of medical care and I am delighted for the Scleroderma patients that they are now being exposed to treatments that can assist them in managing their health and quality of life."

Founded in 1977, The New England School of Whole Health Education is the pioneer of the current Renaissance of Relationship-Centered Care and of Whole Health Education, a model of evidence-based patient health education, delivered in a relationship-centered, supportive learning environment. This approach integrates the most current medical research with the wisdom of spiritual teachings and a natural outlook on healing, centered on integrity and compassion. It combines one-to-one peer counseling with respectful listening, unconditional presence, the big picture of health and current evidence-based medical and integrative health information. The National Institute was formed in 2004 to serve the distance learning interests and health promotion agenda of NESWHE.

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About The New England School of Whole Health Education

Founded in 1977 and headquartered in Wellesley, MA, The New England School of Whole Health Education produces evidence-based, relationship-centered curriculums, which integrate current scientific and medical research, with the wisdom of various spiritual teachings and a natural outlook on healing, all centered on integrity and compassion. NESWHE's offerings include a Norman Cousins Award nominated Best Practice model – the Whole Health Education® certification program, a Whole Health Educator™ program for Nurses, endorsed by the American Holistic Nurses Association as well as associated programs for social workers, CAM practitioners, coaches and individuals which can be completed in-person or as self-study. Considered by leading medical experts to be the pioneers of Whole Health Education®, the school has instructed thousands of students with varying



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occupations from all over the U.S. For more information, visit www.wholehealtheducation.org or www.niwh.org or call (888) 354-4325.

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