**Report on Advisory Board Grant Award**

**Academic Year 2017-18**

**Joan H. Smeltzer**

I submitted a proposal for and was granted an Advisory Board Grant to use toward travel costs for my attendance at the **Magna Teaching with Technology Conference**, October 6-8, 2017, in Baltimore, MD. I used the Advisory Board grant awarded to me in 2016-17 toward my early registration fee for that conference, and the award for 2017-18 for travel costs and a pre-conference workshop.

I am grateful to have received this financial assistance that allowed me to attend this conference. I was able to make use of some of the funds to participate in a pre-conference workshop titled “Avoiding Death by PowerPoint”. In that workshop, I learned of an array of free technology that could be used in my classes to assist in communicating and quickly assessing my students. For example, I adopted the Remind app to be able to text students and to have them text me. Students prefer this method of communication and are much quicker to be in touch with me this way than by using email. I plan on reviewing the other apps I learned about in this workshop and at the conference for possible future adoption in my teaching.