

For immediate release

ACHE Announces Award Winners: Gold Medal and Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Awards

CHICAGO, January 17, 2013—The American College of Healthcare Executives announces the following 2013 award winners: Thomas C. Dolan, PhD, FACHE, CAE, and Wayne M. Lerner, DrPH, FACHE, recipients of the Gold Medal Award; and Christina M. Freese-Decker, FACHE, recipient of the Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for Young Healthcare Executive of the Year.

Dolan, who is president and CEO of the American College of Healthcare Executives, Chicago, won the Gold Medal Award in the category of nondelivery healthcare organization, and Lerner, president and CEO of Holy Cross Hospital, Chicago, won in the category of healthcare delivery organization. Both won for making significant contributions to the healthcare field.

The Gold Medal Award is ACHE's highest honor bestowed on outstanding leaders. The purpose of this award is to identify Fellows of the American College of Healthcare Executives who best exemplify leadership at the organizational, local, state/provincial and national levels. The Gold Medal Award recognizes individuals who go beyond the confines of their own organization to continually contribute to the improvement of healthcare services and community health.

Dolan has served as president and CEO of ACHE since 1991. He previously served as the organization's executive vice president from 1987 to 1991 and for one year prior to that as vice president, Corporate Ventures and Development. Dolan will retire from ACHE in May 2013. He also currently serves as president of the International Hospital Federation, Bernex, Switzerland.

Lerner has served ACHE in many capacities, including on the Council of Regents from 2000 to 2004. A member of ACHE since 1974, Lerner co-founded the Young Administrators of Chicago in 1976, which ultimately became the Chicago Health Executives Forum and was made an independent ACHE chapter in 2004.

Dolan and Lerner will receive their awards on Monday, March 11, 2013, at the Opening Session during ACHE's 56th Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago.

Freese-Decker, president of Spectrum Health United Hospital, Greenville, Mich., and Spectrum Health Kelsey Hospital, Lakeview, Mich., won the Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for Young Healthcare Executive of the Year for outstanding achievement in the field of healthcare management. The award is given to an exceptional healthcare executive who is less than 40 years old, is a Fellow of ACHE and holds a CEO or COO position in a healthcare organization. Freese-Decker will receive her award on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, at the Malcolm T. MacEachern Memorial Lecture and Luncheon during ACHE's 56th Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago.

About the American College of Healthcare Executives

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 40,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE offers its prestigious FACHE® credential, signifying board certification in healthcare management. ACHE's established network of more than 80 chapters provides access to networking, education and career development at the local level. In addition, ACHE is known for its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, and its career

development and public policy programs. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare executives dedicated to improving healthcare delivery. The Foundation of the American College of Healthcare Executives was established to further advance healthcare management excellence through education and research. The Foundation of ACHE is known for its educational programs—including the annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,500 participants—and groundbreaking research. Its publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on health services management including textbooks for college and university courses.

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