



American Academy of Nursing
transforming health care policy and practice through nursing knowledge

October 14, 2011

Dr. Marie Elaine Michnich Awarded the American Academy of Nursing President's Civitas Award

Dr. Michnich Awarded the Civitas Award Thursday evening at Living Legends Ceremony

Washington, DC (October 14, 2011) – The President of the American Academy of Nursing honored Dr. Marie Elaine Michnich with the Civitas Award at the Academy's 38th Annual Meeting and Conference Living Legends Ceremony. The Civitas Award is awarded by the President of the Academy for distinguished service to nursing and health care and in the shaping of health care policy. It was established to recognize individuals for their foremost dedication to excellence in promoting quality of care in nursing.

Marie Elaine Michnich, DrPH, is a highly respected member of the health policy community in Washington, DC and a sought after colleague within the interdisciplinary environment of the Institute of Medicine. Dr. Michnich currently serves as Director of Health Policy, Educational Programs and Fellowships at the Institute of Medicine where she is responsible for the revitalization of the jointly sponsored IOM-AAN-ANF Distinguished Nurse Scholar Program. Because she is knowledgeable about health policy and situated within the IOM, Dr. Michnich has become to "go to" person nationally for anyone seeking either to incorporate health policy basics within a leadership program or to identify how to best influence federal policymaking. Dr. Michnich was particularly important in seeing that nurse testimony was invited in the deliberations around the Patient Protection and Accountable Care Act.

In addition to her work at the Institute of Medicine, she directs the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Health Policy Program, the gold standard for health policy programs in this country, and has been aggressive in encouraging nurse applications for this inter-professional program. Dr. Michnich's experience through government service, such as her role as Assistant to the Majority Leader Senator Robert Dole in the United State Senate and as Executive Director of the President's Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors, chaired by Senator Robert Dole and Secretary Donna Shalala, was invaluable.

"Dr. Michnich is a highly respected member of the health policy community in Washington, DC and a sought after colleague within the interdisciplinary environment of the Institute of Medicine," said Academy Past-President Ada Sue Hinshaw. "Nursing owes her a debt of gratitude for her outstanding portrayal of our profession in terms of leadership and scholarship with our disciplines and with health policy leaders."

The Academy is honored to be able to recognize Dr. Michnich's lifelong dedication to advancing nursing's voice and anticipates her influence to continue to grow.

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The American Academy of Nursing (www.aannet.org) anticipates and tracks national and international trends in health care, while addressing resulting issues of health care knowledge and policy. The Academy's mission is to serve the public and nursing profession by advancing health policy and practice through the generation, synthesis, and dissemination of nursing knowledge.