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American Academy of Nursing to Honor Marilyn Rantz with Nurse Leader in Aging Award

Washington, DC (November 16, 2011) – As one of our country's leading experts on quality improvement interventions for the care of nursing home residents, Marilyn Rantz, PhD, RN, FAAN, will be honored today by the American Academy of Nursing and the John A. Hartford Foundation as the 2011 Nurse Leader in Aging at the 2012 Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity (BAGNC) Leadership Conference in Boston.

First awarded in 2006, the award acknowledges the critical importance of gerontological nursing in meeting the health and health care needs of the aging US population. Each year, nominations are open to both Academy Fellows and non-Fellows who hold or have retired from positions of leadership in gerontological nursing, including health care, research, education, politics and public service.

Dr. Rantz is Professor and the Helen E. Nahm Chair, the Executive Director of Aging in Place, and the Associate Director of the Interdisciplinary Center on Aging at the University of Missouri. Affiliated with the Sinclair School of Nursing since 1992, Dr. Rantz is recognized for improving care for frail elders. She specializes in gerontological nursing, nursing administration, and chronic illness management. In 2011, her funded grants totaled more than \$6 million.

In 2008, Dr. Rantz earned the Academy's Edge Runner distinction for the Aging in Place Project allowing people to age in place and avoid or delay hospitalizations.

"Dr. Rantz is a champion for care of older adults and her accomplishments represent unique and outstanding national leadership in nursing education, research and practice," remarked Academy CEO, Cheryl G. Sullivan. "Today, she joins a line of esteemed colleagues who have previously received the award through their accomplishments representing unique and outstanding leadership in nursing education.

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The American Academy of Nursing (<u>www.aannet.org</u>) 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.