

For Immediate Release

ACHE Announces Recipients of Highest Individual Awards

CHICAGO, January 15, 2016—The American College of Healthcare Executives announces the following 2016 award winners: **Linda J. Knodel, NE-BC, FACHE, CPHQ**, recipient of the Gold Medal Award; **John A. Miller Jr., LFACHE**, and **Deborah Y. Rasper, LFACHE**, recipients of the Lifetime Service Award; and **Eric S. Weaver, FACHE, FACMPE, FHIMSS**, recipient of the Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for Young Healthcare Executive of the Year.

Knodel, senior vice president and CNO at Mercy, St. Louis, won the Gold Medal Award in the category of healthcare delivery organization in recognition of her significant contributions to the healthcare field.

The Gold Medal Award—ACHE's highest honor bestowed on outstanding leaders—identifies 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.

Knodel served as ACHE Governor from 2008–2011. She is a member of ACHE's Counselors Committee. She will receive her award on Monday, March 14, 2016, at the Opening Session during ACHE's 59th Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago.

The Lifetime Service Award was established in 2000. It is awarded to a Life Fellow or Retired Fellow who has made significant contributions to ACHE through elected office, has served on ACHE committees or task forces and has participated in ACHE activities, independent chapters or affiliated groups.

Miller served as president and CEO of AnMed Health in Anderson, S.C., for 17 years before retiring from the organization in 2015. Miller joined ACHE in 1973 and became a Fellow in 1982. He was an ACHE Governor from 1994–1999 and is currently a member of the Counselors Committee.

Rasper served as administrator at St. Vincent Mercy Hospital in Elwood, Ind., for 10 years before retiring in 2013. Rasper held the position of Governor from 2006–2009. She serves on the Life and Retired Committee and Counselors Committee.

Miller and Rasper will receive their award Monday, March 14, 2016, at the Arthur C. Bachmeyer Memorial Address and Luncheon during ACHE's 59th Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago.

The Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for Young Healthcare Executive of the Year honors outstanding achievement in the field of healthcare management. The award is given to an exceptional healthcare executive who is younger than 40, is a Fellow of ACHE and holds a CEO or COO position in a healthcare organization.

Weaver is market president of Innovista Health Solutions, Austin, Texas, leading the performance of physician-led accountable care organizations throughout Texas. He will receive his award on Tuesday, March 15, 2016, at the Malcolm T. MacEachern Memorial Lecture and Luncheon during ACHE's 59th 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 40,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE's mission is to advance its members and healthcare management excellence. ACHE offers its prestigious FACHE® credential, signifying board certification in healthcare management. ACHE's established network of 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 vision of being the preeminent professional society for healthcare executives dedicated to improving health. **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 4,000 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. For more information, visit www.ache.org.

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