CONNELL SCHOOL OF NURSING PROFESSOR AND NURSE THEORIST SR. CALLISTA ROY HONORED AS "LIVING LEGEND" BY AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSING

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (November 13, 2007) -- Boston College Connell School of Nursing Professor and Nurse Theorist Sr. Callista Roy, PhD, RN, FAAN, was honored as a "Living Legend" at the 34th Annual Meeting and Conference of the American Academy of Nursing, which took place last week at the JW Marriott Hotel in Washington, DC.

Each year, the American Academy of Nurses (AAN) confers "Living Legend" status upon a small group of Academy Fellows who have made the most significant and lasting contributions to the field of nursing. This year, Dr. Roy, a Fellow since 1978, joins this elite group. The honor recognizes "extraordinary Fellows as reminders of the proud history of nursing and as extraordinary role models."

Dr. Roy is known throughout the world for the creation of the Roy Adaptation Model, a nursing theory which defines individuals as adaptive systems and emphasizes the role of the nurse in the promotion of adaptation. She has lectured on it in 30 countries on five continents, and as early as 1987, an estimated 10,000 nurses had studied in schools where the curricula used the Roy Adaptation Model and the impact of the model on practice continues as health care agencies use it in designing the strategies for Magnet Status.

"The honor came as a surprise and is received with great joy and humility," said Dr. Roy. "It is a treasured mark of distinction to be recognized by my colleagues in the American Academy of Nursing. For 30 years I have been and will continue to contribute to the mission of the Academy. However, I am gratified to know that those we have mentored will enhance the good that nursing accomplishes by their commitment to the health of individuals and the good of society."

"Sr. Callista Roy is an extraordinary role model in the field, and an important part of the history as well as the future of nursing. These are the quintessential characteristics of a living legend," said Barbara Wolfe, PhD, APRN, CS, FAAN, professor and director of the Center for Nursing Research at Boston College.

Following a BA with a major in Nursing from Mount St. Mary's College, Los Angeles, Dr. Roy earned master's degrees in pediatric nursing and sociology and a PhD in sociology from University of California, Los Angeles. She later completed a 2-year Robert Wood Johnson post-doctoral fellowship in Neuroscience Nursing at the University of California, San Francisco and was a Senior Fulbright Scholar to Australia.

She has 130 publications, including 11 books with translations in 12 languages and two of which are award-winning. The 3rd edition of The Roy Adaptation Model, Dr. Roy's book that is the basis of her theory, is due to be published in 2008.

Dr. Roy has received 42 research and training grants covering a wide range including neuroscience. She holds several teaching awards, two university-wide; four honorary doctorates; and national awards from STTI, NLN and NANDA, and received Massachusetts State House recognition for her volunteer work with women in prison.

The American Academy of Nursing (www.aannet.org) was established to address issues in national and international healthcare knowledge and policy. More than 1,500 Fellows have been accepted into the AAN, representing the very best nursing leaders from education, management, practice, and research.

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