CHESTNUT HILL, MA (April 2008) - The International Association of Advisors in Philanthropy will present its highest recognition, the prestigious Fithian Leadership Award, to Boston College Sociology Prof. and Center on Wealth and Philanthropy Director Paul G. Schervish at a ceremony in Chicago later this month.

Named for the late Legacy Companies founder Scott C. Fithian, considered a pioneer in values-based and legacy planning, The Fithian Leadership Award is presented annually to an individual with a distinguished career in service to the philanthropic community. Awardees are selected for their efforts to uphold the standards of excellence in ethics, service and charitable planning encouraged by the Association.

Among Schervish's contributions to the field cited by AiP are the Center on Wealth and Philanthropy's estimates of the forthcoming U.S. wealth transfer to charity, taxes and heirs, which have become the most cited statistics in the nonprofit world.

"It is an honor to be recognized by AiP for a contribution to the understanding of wealth and philanthropy that is congruent with the legacy of Scott Fithian, who taught us all so much about an innovative approach to financial advisement," said Schervish, widely known as one of the country's leading experts on the philanthropic efforts of the ultra high net worth individual. "Equally important, I am honored to be recognized by an organization whose members are among the leaders in guiding clients to discern for themselves the intersection of spiritual life and financial life in a non-sectarian, non-denominational manner."

"AiP members help their clients discover and implement a spiritual dimension of care in their financial planning," Schervish added, "and by doing so, they have come to a deeper vocation of advisement for themselves. I am heartened to have made some recognizable contribution to their work and life."

"This prestigious award is only granted to those who have shown outstanding leadership in the quest for helping the public become more aware of their philanthropic planning opportunities to help themselves and their communities make the world a better place for all of us," said AiP president Johnne Syverson. "Dr. Schervish certainly exemplifies these traits with his concentrated efforts in educating the public and the professions regarding the financial and personal impact of the largest wealth transfer in the history of the world which is about to take place."

"I think of Paul as a friend, a mentor and a colleague," said Randy Fox, AiP past president. "He has great passion, great leadership, and incredible wisdom. He is most deserving of the Fithian Leadership Award and it truly honors his longtime work."

The **Center on Wealth and Philanthropy at Boston College** is a multidisciplinary research center specializing in the study of spirituality, wealth, philanthropy and other
aspects of cultural life in the age of affluence. Founded in 1970, the Center is a recognized authority on the relation between economic wherewithal and philanthropy, the motivations for charitable involvement and the underlying meaning of the practice of care.

www.bc.edu/research/cwp

Launched in 2005, the **International Association of Advisors in Philanthropy** is a U.S.-based non-profit membership organization, and includes members in the U.S., Canada and Australia. It attracts investment advisors, financial planners, wealth managers, attorneys, non-profit consultants, and charitable development officers who are serving high net worth/ultra high net worth clients. Its primary mission is to inspire and educate financial professionals about philanthropic planning and to help them integrate this growing client-centered service into their practices. The AiP is the result of a merger with the National Association of Philanthropic Planners (NAPP) and the National Association of Family Wealth Counselors (NAFWC) in 2005. Both non-profit organizations helped pioneer a new wave of philanthropic planning that continues today through the AiP.

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