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**Leading Philanthropy Expert and Sociologist Paul G. Schervish, Ph.D.  
to Receive Distinguished Fithian Leadership Award**

*The International Association of Advisors in Philanthropy (AiP) to Bestow their Annual Award to Boston College Professor Schervish at its Upcoming Conference in Chicago April 24*

March 28, 2008----In early 2006, Professor Paul G. Schervish accepted the first AiP Leadership Award on behalf of the legendary Scott Fithian who was unable to attend the ceremony due to his failing health. On April 24, Schervish will again be accepting the prestigious Fithian Leadership Award. But this time, he is the honoree.

Originally named the AiP Award, the name was changed in honor of Scott Fithian after he passed away in 2006. Scott C. Fithian is widely considered a pioneer through his innovative and ground-breaking work in the area of values-based and legacy planning. He was founder of The Legacy Companies, and his methodology continues to inspire advisors and their clients to approach their planning in a more meaningful way.

The annual Fithian Leadership Award is the highest recognition awarded by the International Association of Advisors in Philanthropy (AiP) to an individual with a distinguished career in service to the philanthropic community. Awardees are chosen for their efforts to uphold the standards of excellence in ethics, service and charitable planning encouraged by the Association.

Professor Schervish heads the Center on Wealth and Philanthropy at Boston College, and is widely known as one of the country's leading experts on the philanthropic efforts of the ultra high net worth individual. Professor Schervish continues to serve as a faculty member of The Legacy Companies started by Fithian. Professor Schervish and his colleague John J. Havens predicted through their research studies that of there would be a \$41 trillion transfer of assets to baby boomers, estate taxes and their heirs. More recently the Center calculated that in 2007 the transfer would be \$52 trillion with approximately \$21-24 trillion donated to charity over the next 50 years from charitable bequests and lifetime giving.

“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. “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.”

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Schervish continued, “AiP members help their clients discover and implement a spiritual dimension of care in their financial planning; 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.”

AiP president, Johnne Syverson CFP®, AEP, CAP, and partner at Syverson Strege & Company in West Des Moines, Iowa said, “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. 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, President, InKnowVision in Naperville, Illinois, and 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 and friendship with Scott.”

**The award ceremony will take place on Friday, April 25th at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Rosemont (Chicago) Illinois.**

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**The award selection process:** It begins with a call for nominations which are sent to the AiP Administrative Director by February 28 of each year, for consideration by the Board of Directors. The Board reviews each nominee and selects a winner on a majority vote.

**About the AiP:** Launched in 2005, the International Association of Advisors in Philanthropy (AiP) 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.

**About the Center on Wealth and Philanthropy at Boston College:** Directed by Paul Schervish, it 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](http://www.bc.edu/research/cwp)

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