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NEWS RELEASE

HRET Selects Linda Burnes Bolton as 2016 TRUST Award Recipient

CHICAGO – January 28, 2016 – The Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association (AHA) has selected Linda Burnes Bolton, Dr.P.H., R.N., FAAN, as the recipient of the 2016 TRUST Award. Dr. Burnes Bolton is the system chief nurse executive, vice president for nursing, chief nursing officer and director of nursing research at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Her research, teaching and clinical expertise includes: nursing and patient care outcomes, improving organization performance, quality care and cultural diversity within the health professions. She is co-investigator of the regional Collaborative Alliance for Nursing Outcomes research team.

Established in 2003, the TRUST Award honors individuals who have exhibited visionary leadership in the health care field and who symbolize HRET’s mission to use research and education to improve health care quality in policy and practice. The TRUST Award is presented annually by HRET to a health care leader who has made significant contributions to improving the U.S. health care delivery system.

Dr. Burnes Bolton was recently elected to the National Academy of Medicine (formerly the Institute of Medicine), which is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine, and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service. In addition she served on the American Organization of Nurse Executive (AONE) Board of Directors and as president in 2015. She also is currently a member of the Equity of Care committee of the AHA. She has a strong background and leadership role in the nursing profession; has done extensive work around population health and equitable care; and serves on the board of Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, among many other governance roles. She was committee vice-chair on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing, at the Institute of Medicine.

“Linda is passionate, influential and her expertise and research are at the forefront of health care,” said Michael Rock, M.D., chair of the HRET Board of Trustees. “She is most deserving of the TRUST Award this year, and her work has made real, significant improvements for patient care and the work we are doing in the field.”

Dr. Burnes Bolton has held board and officer positions for several national organizations, such as president of the American Academy of Nursing and the National Black Nurses Association. She has provided leadership for several state and national programs, including service as chair of the National Advisory Committee on Transforming Care at the Bedside, and Veteran Affairs Commission on Nursing. She is the chair of the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation initiative to Transform Care at the Bedside (TCAB) and Principal Investigator of the American Academy of Nursing Technology Drill Down research project. She also holds positions as an associate clinical professor at the University of California, San Francisco (USCF) School of Nursing and University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) School of Nursing. She is a trustee at Case Western Reserve University.

“The touchpoints that Linda has through nursing, her work on health literacy for the underserved and organizational improvements are central to our nation’s efforts to better patient care,” said Maulik S. Joshi, Dr.P.H., AHA associate executive vice president, and president, HRET. “Her body of work is truly the embodiment of the TRUST Award and the honor is one that is richly deserved.”

She was named one of the top 25 women in health care in 2011 by *Modern Healthcare* magazine and is the recipient of numerous awards for her scholarly and world community service, including receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from AONE in 2007 and the Distinguished Alumnae Award from Arizona State University (ASU) in 2008.

Dr. Burnes Bolton earned her Bachelors of Science degree in Nursing from ASU. She completed her Masters of Science degree in Nursing, Master in Public Health and Doctorate in Public Health from UCLA.

This is 14th year of the HRET TRUST Award. HRET will honor Dr. Burnes Bolton at a reception on July 17 in San Diego during the Health Forum/American Hospital Association Leadership Summit. To learn more about the TRUST Award, click [here](#).

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About HRET

Founded in 1944, the Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) is the not-for-profit research and education affiliate of the American Hospital Association (AHA). HRET’s mission is to transform health care through research and education. It focuses on identifying and exploring key issues affecting the health care delivery system. HRET’s applied research focuses on improving quality, eliminating disparities, improving care coordination, improving leadership and governance, conducting data analysis and supporting the spread of improvement. Through AHA’s Hospitals in Pursuit of Excellence (HPOE) strategy, HRET has helped hospital leaders to accelerate performance improvement by disseminating best practices, producing actionable reports and toolkits, conducting leadership development programs and implementing national improvement projects. For more information, visit www.hret.org.