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NEWS RELEASE

HRET Selects Stephen Shortell as 2015 TRUST Award Recipient

CHICAGO – January 16, 2015 – The Health Research & Educational Trust (HRET) of the American Hospital Association (AHA) has selected Stephen M. Shortell, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., as the recipient of the 2015 TRUST Award. Dr. Shortell is the Blue Cross of California distinguished professor of health policy and management and professor of organization behavior at the School of Public Health and Haas School of Business at University of California (UC), Berkeley where he also directs the Center for Healthcare Organizational and Innovation Research. He previously served on the faculties of the University of Chicago, the University of Washington and Northwestern University before coming to UC Berkeley in 1998. He is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in health care research whose work has contributed to performance improvements at the organizational level in quality and outcomes of care and promoted more integrated care.

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.

Shortell served as dean of the UC Berkeley School of Public Health from 2002 to 2013 and also holds appointments in the department of sociology at UC Berkeley and the Philip R. Lee Institute for Health Policy Research, UC, San Francisco. During his time as dean, the School implemented many innovative programs including a popular upper division undergraduate major in public health, a largely online Master of Public Health degree program (the first on the Berkeley campus) and a Center for Healthcare Leadership. Under his leadership, the percent of under-represented students who were admitted and enrolled increased four-fold.

His research examines the performance of integrated delivery systems; the organizational factors associated with quality and outcomes of care; the development of effective hospital-physician relationships; and the factors associated with the adoption of evidence-based processes for treating patients with chronic illness. He was the originator of the National Survey of Physician Organizations that provides information on physician practices and their adoption of evidence-based care management processes. This work was drawn on in crafting the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) component of the Affordable Care Act. He is currently conducting research on changes in physician practices over time; on evaluation of ACOs; and on ACO involvement in patient activation and engagement activities.

“Stephen, through his seminal research and vision, has been leading the field forward for decades,” said Michael Rock, M.D., chair of the HRET Board of Trustees. “He embodies the goal of the TRUST Award to improve health care.”

Shortell has received many awards for his research and leadership including the Baxter-Allegiance Foundation Prize for Health Services Research, the Distinguished Investigator Award from Academy Health, the Gold Medal Award from the American College of Healthcare Executives, the Distinguished Research Scholar Award from the Division of Health Care Administration of the Academy of Management and the Hansen Public Health Leadership award from the University of Iowa. He and his colleagues also have received several book-of-the-year and article-of-the-year awards. He is the author or co-author of nearly 300 publications in peer-reviewed journals and of 14 books including *Remaking Healthcare in America: Building Organized Delivery Systems*, which has served as a blueprint for many health systems across the country.

Shortell is an elected member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences where he served two terms on the governing council (1997-2003), past President of Academy Health and past editor of Health Services Research (1996-2002). He serves on many advisory boards and committees interested in improving the performance of health care systems including the Kaiser Permanente Institute for Health Policy, the Centene Corporation and the ThedaCare Center for Value Creation. He also is currently working on the implementation of health care reform in California and is chair of the Berkeley Forum for Improving California’s Healthcare System.

Shortell received his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame; his master’s degree in public health from UCLA and his Ph.D. in behavioral sciences from the University of Chicago.

“Stephen possesses a rare combination of skills as a leader, researcher and influencer,” said Maulik S. Joshi, Dr.P.H., HRET president and senior vice president of research at the AHA. “His influence in health care is great, and for that reason, we are honored to present him with this year’s TRUST Award.”

This is 13th year of the HRET TRUST Award. HRET will honor Shortell at a reception on July 23, 2015, in San Francisco, 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.