

Courtemanche & Associates Presents 2005 Excellence in Education Award

Marlene Strader, PH.D., RN Accepts Award at the C&A Annual Conference Charleston, SC, December 7, 2005 – Courtemanche & Associates announced today the recipient of the 1st Annual Innovation in Education Award, which recognizes excellence in education and consultation regarding regulatory compliance in healthcare.

The recipient of this prestigious award is Marlene K. Strader, PH.D., RN. Dr. Strader is currently a resident of St. Petersburg, Florida, where she works as an independent healthcare consultant. Since 1993, Dr. Strader has served in a variety of roles, including a field representative and member of the faculty with Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, and their partner company Joint Commission Resources. Prior to that, Dr. Strader served as Associate Professor of Nursing at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, Illinois and Associate Professor of Nursing at University of Missouri-St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Strader received her Baccalaureate and Master's degree in Nursing from St. Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, where she also earned her Doctorate in Organization and Administration of Higher Education. Currently, Dr. Strader is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and Phi Kappa Pi Honor Societies. She has also co-authored several articles in healthcare journals as well as a book, *Role Transition to Patient Care Management*.

"Marlene constantly amazes me with her passion for teaching as well as her wealth of knowledge", said Judy Courtemanche, President of Courtemanche & Associates Healthcare Synergists. "She has an incredible talent for dissecting very complicated material and delivering that information to healthcare professionals and colleagues in ways that make it meaningful and understandable."

"This award was a complete surprise" said Dr. Strader. "It is very special when colleagues appreciate your work, based upon my demand of perfection in myself as well as others. Working in healthcare almost all of my life and as a consultant for the past ten years in hospitals across the United States, I have gained an appreciation for all of the individuals behind the scenes who valiantly work day and night with minimal recognition to make sure everyone is on target to meet all requirements imposed by multiple accreditation agencies. These individuals are the reason for my desire to provide updated education so their jobs can be made less difficult."

This award was presented to Dr. Strader on Thursday, December 1, during the Courtemanche & Associates Annual Best Practice and 2006 JCAHO Update Conference at The Mills House Hotel and Hibernian Hall in Charleston, South Carolina.

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