

For Immediate Release

Contact: Douglas A. Klegon, Ph.D.
(312) 424-9420



American College of
Healthcare Executives
for leaders who care®

Suite 1700
One North Franklin Street
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3424
(312) 424-2800 Phone
(312) 424-0023 Fax
ache@ache.org

GAUTAM TO RECEIVE ACHE'S CONLEY AWARD

CHICAGO, February 21, 2006—Kanak S. Gautam, Ph.D., has been named the winner of the American College of Healthcare Executives 2006 Dean Conley Award for his article “A Call for Board Leadership on Quality in Hospitals,” published in the January 2005 issue of *Quality Management in Health Care*.

The award will be presented on March 29, 2006, at the Wednesday Hot Topic Session #1 during the American College of Healthcare Executives 49th Congress on Healthcare Leadership at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

Named for ACHE's executive director from 1942 to 1965, the Dean Conley Award is granted annually to recognize the contributions made to healthcare management literature and to encourage healthcare executives to write and publish articles. “A Call for Board Leadership on Quality in Hospitals” was selected by ACHE's Article of the Year Awards Committee.

- more -

NEWS RELEASE

In his article, Gautam discusses the slow pace of quality improvement in hospitals and explores a number of reasons why board leadership is lacking in quality initiatives. He suggests several strategies for boards to lead the effort in improving hospital quality. These strategies include visible participation in quality activities, clarification of roles, increased informal dialogue with physicians, creation of a quality management department, instituting high-quality standards and committing to external quality audits.

Gautam is associate professor of health management and policy in the School of Public Health at Saint Louis University, Mo.

Other Recommended Reading

The Article of the Year Awards Committee recommends two additional articles: "The Business Case for Better Buildings," by Leonard L. Berry et al., from the September 2004 issue of *Frontiers of Health Services Management*, and "Is the Shortage of Hospital Registered Nurses Getting Better or Worse? Findings From Two Recent National Surveys of RNs," by Peter I. Buerhaus, Karen Donelan, Beth T. Ulrich, Linda Norman and Robert Dittus, published in the March/April 2005 issue of *Nursing Economic\$*.

American College of Healthcare Executives

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of 30,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,000 participants each year. ACHE is also known for its journals, the *Journal of Healthcare Management* and *Frontiers of Health Services Management* and its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, as well as ground-breaking research and career development and public policy programs. ACHE's publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on all aspects of health services management in addition to textbooks for use in college and university courses. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare leaders by providing exceptional value to its members.

###

