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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THREE HONORED WITH IAFP PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

OAK BROOK – Three people were honored with the 2011 Illinois Academy of Family Physicians President's Award. Family physicians from around the state gathered at the IAFP Annual Awards banquet at the Marriott Oak Brook Hotel to honor outstanding contributions to the health of Illinois, including the Illinois Family Physician of the Year and Family Medicine Teachers of the Year and the President's Awards.

The IAFP President's Award is given at the discretion of the outgoing president to honor an individual or organization that has been instrumental in furthering the mission of the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians. David J. Hagan, MD of Gibson City, who served as IAFP president the past year, selected three outstanding individuals for his President's Awards this year.

Russell G. Robertson, MD – Dean Chicago Medical School

Dr. Robertson was recruited from Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine where he served as professor and as chair of the Department of Family and Community Medicine and chair of family medicine at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. While at Northwestern in 2010, he led a landmark study on the factors influencing the practice locations of Illinois' graduating residents, documenting our net loss of residency trained doctors who leave for other states. Dr. Robertson was one of 17 physicians nationwide appointed to the Council on Graduate Medical Education by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services in 2003. Now chair of the Council since 2008, Dr. Robertson and his fellow members advise Congress and the Department of Health and Human Services on issues related to physician supply and distribution. In this capacity he has been invited to serve on a number of national and international workforce bodies.

Matthew L. Hunsaker, MD, FAAFP – Program Director, Rural Medical Education Program, University of Illinois at Rockford College of Medicine

Dr. Hagan is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Rockford and is proud to honor Dr. Hunsaker, who has headed outstanding Rural Medical Education Program since 2004. In that role he is responsible for the entire curriculum as well as site development and visits. He is a faculty development instructor and family medicine interest group (FMIG) speaker at the medical school.

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Hunsaker is a practicing family physician at KSB Hospital in Dixon and Medical Director of the Tri-County clinic in Malta that serves as a collaborative training site with family nurse practitioners. He is also a certified FAA Aerospace Medical Examiner. He is a board member of the Illinois Rural Health Association and served as the IAFP Rural Health Committee chair in 2005-06. Dr. Hunsaker was unable attend due to a prior commitment. Dr. Hagan will personally deliver his award to him in Rockford at a date to be determined.

Kate Valentine – IAFP Education Manager

Kate joined the IAFP staff in 2002. She has become the Academy's CME guru, spearheading our outstanding live and online CME programming. In 2003, Kate shepherded the IAFP's journey to ACCME accreditation, awarded in 2004. Over the years has steadfastly maintained our high standards as ACCME rules have evolved and required even more compliance from CME providers. As a result, ACCME has upgraded IAFP's accreditation status from Accreditation to Accreditation with Commendation, which extends our accreditation term by two extra years, until March 2016. Accreditation with Commendation is awarded to providers that demonstrate compliance in all 22 criteria and is the highest level of accreditation that can be achieved through the ACCME. In late 2010, Kate took on the additional role of IAFP meetings manager.

