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NICHOLS NAMED GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH AMBASSADOR
CGFNS CEO to Advocate for Greater U.S. Investment in Global Health Research

Philadelphia, PA—July 11, 2007—Barbara L. Nichols, DHL, MS, RN, FAAN and CEO of the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS International) has been named an Ambassador in Research!America's Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research. Dr. Nichols is now one of 50 of the nation's foremost global health experts who have joined forces to increase awareness about the critical need for greater U.S. public and private investment in research to improve global health.

“Our nation's leaders must understand that increased U.S. investment in global health research will not only help improve health conditions in impoverished countries, it will help to prevent the emergence and spread of diseases that can endanger Americans here and abroad,” said Nichols. “Put simply, it's a matter of national security.” Nichols noted that a recent case of a man traveling with a drug-resistant form of tuberculosis proves that diseases cannot be contained within any country's borders.

Dr. Nichols is uniquely qualified to help inform our nation's leaders that greater U.S. investment in global health research will benefit Americans as well as people around the world. She is the author of over 70 publications on nursing and healthcare delivery including her most recent contribution *Building Global Alliances III The Impact of Global Nurse Migration on Health Service Delivery* as a Guest Editor for “Policy, Politics and Nursing Practice”, August 2006. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and is on their Personnel Certification and Accreditation Committee. During her tenure as the CEO of CGFNS International, Dr. Nichols has received many accolades from the community. Two of these include being a 2006 Inaugural Inductee to the National Black Nurses Association Institute of Excellence and the 2007 Distinguished Scholar, Howard University College of Pharmacy, Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, Division of Nursing.

As an Ambassador, Dr. Nichols will work to raise the visibility of global health research through the news media and in meetings with policy makers, opinion leaders and the public. One of her central messages will be to stress the importance of effective collaboration among the nation's government, industry, academic, patient advocacy and philanthropic research sectors.

“Investing in global health research is the smart thing to do for America and the right thing to do for the world,” said The Honorable John Edward Porter, chair of the Society's Advisory Council and Research!America board chair. “Dr. Nichols has personally seen the value of saving lives and protecting health around the world, and her insights will help bring this important story to more Americans.”

The Society, named for The Honorable Paul G. Rogers, a former Florida Congressman and renowned champion for research to improve health, was established in 2006 by Research!America with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. In its first two years, the Society's Advisory Council—which includes three Nobel Laureates—selected 50 of the nation's leading scientist advocates to serve as Ambassadors.

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Research!America is the nation's largest not-for-profit public education and advocacy alliance working to make research to improve health a higher national priority. Founded in 1989, it is supported by 500 member organizations that together represent the voices of more than 125 million Americans. Visit www.researchamerica.org for more information.

CGFNS International is an internationally recognized authority on credentials evaluation and verification pertaining to the education, registration and licensure of nurses and healthcare professionals worldwide. CGFNS is an immigration-neutral, nonprofit organization with 30 years of experience in certifying the credentials of 500,000 internationally educated nurses and other healthcare workers. (www.cgfns.org). CGFNS, together with the International Council of Nurses, is a co-sponsor of the International Centre on Nurse Migration (www.intlnursemigration.org).

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