FIU College of Nursing & Health Sciences Endowed Professor JoAnne Youngblut Inducted into the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame

MIAMI (Sept. 9, 2019) – JoAnne M. Youngblut, PhD, RN, FAAN, The Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Endowed Chair in Prevention and Family Health at Florida International University’s (FIU) Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences, has been inducted into the 2019 class of the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame. She was one of 23 nurse researchers selected worldwide and honored on July 27, 2019 during Sigma Theta Tau International’s (STTI) 30th Annual International Nursing Research Congress in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Of more than 19 million nurses worldwide, Dr. Youngblut joined the 176 nurse researchers to receive this prestigious honor since its inception in 2010.

Dr. Youngblut’s 30-year program of research on critically ill children and their parents, grandparents and siblings has been funded largely by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute for Nursing Research, and has been used globally. She is an expert in the science of care for critically ill children and their families and in research methods. Her sustained level of achievement in nursing research has had a national and global impact on nursing, children, families, communities, and policy.

“Dr. Youngblut is a renowned nurse researcher and outstanding professor who is esteemed by her peers and students alike,” said Ora L. Strickland, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean of the college. “Her groundbreaking research on childhood trauma and the impact on family dynamics has been powerful in its objective to understand and improve the well-being of family members struggling to cope through unimaginable circumstances.”

One such NIH-funded study examined preschool children admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) with head trauma and the effects on families, especially mothers and fathers, during and after hospitalization. Findings from “Child & Family Functioning after Pediatric Head Trauma,” were published in Pediatric Critical Care Medicine, the Journal of Pediatric Psychology, and the Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation.

In her three most recent NIH-funded studies, Dr. Youngblut, in collaboration with fellow nurse researcher Dorothy Brooten, PhD, RN, FAAN, studied the physical and mental health and functioning of multiethnic families through the first 13 months after the death of their child in a pediatric or neonatal ICU. Findings demonstrated significant increases in parents’ acute illnesses, newly diagnosed chronic health conditions, PTSD and depression. Results were published in Pediatrics, the Journal of Pediatrics, and the Journal of Community Health among others.

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Dr. Youngblut’s career and leadership in nursing and nursing research eclipses 40 years. She has more than 100 peer-reviewed articles in well-respected prominent journals. She was invited and has served on NIH research grant review panels since 1993. She served as a member of the Nicklaus Children’s (aka, Miami Children’s) Hospital Board of Directors and was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing. She has received research awards from the Southern and Midwest Nursing Research Societies, Florida and Ohio Nurses Associations, Southern Nursing Research Society’s Distinguished Researcher Award, FIU’s 2011 Faculty Excellence in Research Award, and a University Distinguished Alumna Award from Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP). Her recognition and ability to work across professions resulted in her serving as the ANA representative to the AMA/AAMC Clinical Research Summit. In 2014, she was named the Dr. Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Endowed Chair in Prevention and Family Health, making her the first endowed chair in the history of the FIU Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences.

Dr. Youngblut earned her PhD in Clinical Nursing Research and her Master of Science in Parent-Child Nursing from the University of Michigan; and obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from IUP.

The International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame was created by STTI to recognize nurse researchers who have achieved significant, sustained and widespread national or international achievements in research that positively shape the nursing profession and benefit the people it serves.

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About the FIU Nicole Wertheim College Nursing & Health Sciences:
Established in 1982, the School of Nursing at Florida International University (FIU) in Miami, Florida was elevated to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences when it joined with the School of Health Sciences in October 2006. It was renamed as the Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing & Health Sciences in September 2013. The College offers undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees, as well as specialty certificates in programs across the departments of Nursing education, Athletic Training, Communication Sciences & Disorders, Health Services Administration, Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy, The College’s Doctor of Nursing Practice program and Master of Science in Nursing programs are ranked No. 50 and No. 56, respectively, in the U.S. News and World Report 2020 Best Graduate Schools listing. For more information, visit cnhs.fiu.edu.

About FIU:
Florida International University is Miami’s public research university. FIU is focused on student success. According to U.S. News and World Report, FIU has 35 programs in the top 100 in the nation among public universities, including 15 in the top 50. FIU is a top U.S. research university with more than $200 million in annual expenditures and is designated as an “Emerging Preeminent State Research University” by the Florida Board of Governors. FIU ranks 15th in the nation among public universities for patent production, which drives innovation, and is one of the institutions that helps make Florida the top state for higher education. The Next Horizon fundraising campaign is furthering FIU’s commitment to providing students Worlds Ahead opportunities. Today, FIU has two campuses and multiple centers, and supports artistic and cultural engagement through its three museums: Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum, the Wolfsonian-FIU, and the Jewish Museum of Florida-FIU. FIU is a member of Conference USA, with more than 400 student-athletes participating in 18 sports. The university has awarded more than 330,000 degrees to many leaders in South Florida and beyond. For more information about FIU, visit www.fiu.edu.