Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation Awards $25,000 in Nursing Grants to FIU College of Nursing & Health Sciences

MIAMI (August 8, 2013) --- Florida International University College of Nursing & Health Sciences (“FIU CNHS”) has been awarded $25,000 in grants from the Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation (“Foundation”) for the 2013-2014 academic year.

Five nursing students enrolled in the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program will each receive a $5,000, one-year scholarship to help with the cost of their nursing education at FIU through the Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation Nursing Scholarship Fund. FIU’s MSN program is designed to prepare professional nurses for roles as nurse practitioners specializing in the care of children, older adults, and families through clinical concentrations in Child Health Nursing, Adult Gerontology Nursing, and Family Health Nursing. A Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing clinical track will be added to the FIU MSN program offering in the fall semester, providing more career opportunities for the graduating students.

This award renews the Foundation’s long-time support of FIU’s nursing students in giving financial assistance through the Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation Nursing Scholarship Fund, and the complementary Dr. John T. Macdonald-Frederick Poppe Nursing Scholarship Fund for undergraduates. “For more than three decades, we have seen the FIU College of Nursing and Health Sciences produce thousands of nursing practitioners and leaders who have delivered outstanding levels of care and fostered a dedication for health advocacy benefiting the well-being of countless patients throughout South Florida,” said Kim Greene, LCSW, executive director for the Foundation. “We are proud to continue supporting the College in its efforts to care for and serve the residents in our communities.”

“As the country’s healthcare system readies for dramatic changes, the need for nurse practitioners to take on primary care provider roles is becoming inevitable,” commented Dr. Ora L. Strickland, dean of the FIU College of Nursing & Health Sciences. “This grant from the Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation is a much welcomed and appreciated contribution towards our mission of preparing highly qualified, culturally competent future nurse practitioners who will address this growing need, especially in providing care and advocating for health policies addressing vulnerable and underserved populations.”

About the Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation: The Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation, Inc., is a private grant-making foundation, supporting projects and programs designed to improve, preserve or restore the health and health care of the people in Miami-Dade County. For more information or a grant application please contact Ms. Kim Greene, Executive Director, 1550 Madruga Avenue, Suite 215, Coral Gables, FL 33146, (305) 667-6017, website: www.jtmacdonaldfdn.org.
About the FIU Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and 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 (CNHS) when it joined with the School of Health Sciences in October 2006. The College is the second-largest producer of nursing professionals in the state, offering undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, baccalaureate completion and specialty programs in nursing education, including the nation’s first, and award-winning, Foreign-Educated Physician to Nursing program. The College also offers a bachelor’s degree in Health Services Administration, entry-level master’s degrees in Athletic Training, Speech-Language Pathology and Occupational Therapy, and a Doctor of Physical Therapy.

About FIU:
Florida International University is recognized as a Carnegie engaged university. Its colleges and schools offer more than 180 bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs in fields such as engineering, international relations, architecture, law and medicine. As one of South Florida’s anchor institutions, FIU is Worlds Ahead in its local and global engagement, finding solutions to the most challenging problems of our time. FIU emphasizes research as a major component of its mission. FIU has awarded 200,000 degrees and enrolls 50,000 students in two campuses and three centers including FIU Downtown on Brickell and the Miami Beach Urban Studios. FIU is a member of Conference USA and has 400 student-athletes participating in 18 sports. For more information about FIU, visit http://www.fiu.edu/.