



NEWS RELEASE

from

AICUP

Association of Independent Colleges
and Universities of Pennsylvania

101 North Front Street | Harrisburg, PA 17101 | www.aicup.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: DONNA KLINGER
717.232.8649 x 232
klinger@aicup.org

AICUP HONORS CONNELLY FOUNDATION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO HIGHER EDUCATION IN SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

*AICUP Awards Connelly Foundation the Robert P. Casey Medal for Commitment to
Independent Higher Education*

HARRISBURG, APRIL 13, 2016 -- The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP) on Monday night presented the Connelly Foundation with the Robert P. Casey Medal for Commitment to Independent Higher Education during an awards ceremony at the Hilton Harrisburg. The foundation, led by Josephine Connelly Mandeville and Emily Connelly Riley, received the award at AICUP's annual meeting of its 89 member college and university presidents.

In a statement released to the press, AICUP President Dr. Don Francis thanked the Connelly Foundation for its numerous contributions to Southeastern Pennsylvania's independent colleges and universities since its founding in 1955 by John and Josephine Connelly. Many Southeastern Pennsylvania colleges and universities and their students have benefitted from the generosity of the Connelly Foundation through student scholarships, capital projects, endowment gifts, and more.

"It is an honor to recognize the Connelly Foundation for its longstanding work on behalf of the higher education sector," Francis said. "Because of the thoughtfulness and generosity of donors like the Connelly Foundation, the dream of attaining an education from a rigorous academic institution is well within the grasp of thousands of young scholars and their families. The Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania thanks the Connelly Foundation for its leadership and commitment to our schools, all of the hardworking students and their families."

Among the college and university presidents who cosponsored the nomination of the Connelly Foundation for the Robert P. Casey Medal were Father Peter Donahue of Villanova University, Sister Patricia Fadden of Immaculata University, Dr. Colleen Hanycz of La Salle University, Dr. Sharon Hirsh of Rosemont College, Sister Maureen McGarrity of Holy Family University, Dr. Rosalie Miranda of Neumann University, Dr. Kathleen Owens of Gwynedd Mercy University, Dr. Mark C. Reed of Saint Joseph's University, Dr. Donald Taylor of Cabrini College and Sister Carol Jean Vale of Chestnut Hill College.

The Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Pennsylvania (AICUP), the only statewide organization that serves exclusively the interests of private higher education within the Commonwealth, exists to complement and support the work of campus leaders. With a membership of 89 private colleges and universities within Pennsylvania, the Association provides a variety of services and programs tailored specifically to the needs and situation of independent higher education. A list of AICUP's member colleges and universities is included on its website at www.aicup.org.

NOTE: Photo attached.



Caption: Emily Connelly Reilly, holding the Foundation's award, poses with members of the Foundation's trustees and staff as well as presidents of colleges and universities that have benefitted from the Connelly Foundation's generosity. From left are Eleanor L. Davis, a Foundation trustee; Amy Snyder, chief financial officer of Connelly Foundation; Dr. Kathleen Owens of Gwynedd Mercy College; Sister Patricia Fadden of Immaculata University; James Gallagher, a Foundation trustee; Emily Connelly Reilly, Connelly Foundation executive vice president; Victoria Kim Flaville, Connelly Foundation senior vice president and chief operating officer; Sister Carol Jean Vale of Chestnut Hill College and Dr. Sharon Hirsh of Rosemont College.