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The Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine Announces Award Recipient

ELLEN R. GRITZ, PH.D., NAMED 2008

ALMA DEA MORANI, M.D. RENAISSANCE WOMAN AWARD WINNER

Philadelphia – May 8, 2008 Ellen R. Gritz, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Behavioral Science and Olla S. Stribling Distinguished Chair for Cancer Research, Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, Texas, was named the 2008 Alma Dea Morani, M.D. Renaissance Woman Award recipient by The Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine (FHWIM). Wilma Bulkin Siegel, M.D., Chair of the FHWIM Awards Committee, announced, “Ellen Gritz is truly a deserving candidate and emulates the essence and spirit of this award.”

Ellen R. Gritz, Ph.D., was recruited from the University of California, Los Angeles to become the founding Chair of the Department of Behavioral Science in the Division of Cancer Prevention at the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in July 1993. She holds the Olla S. Stribling Distinguished Chair for Cancer Research, awarded in 2005, and previously held the Frank T. McGraw Memorial Chair in the Study of Cancer, awarded in 1999. “Dr. Gritz is a significant advocate for preventative medicine, as well as a driving force in cancer research,” says Barbara Atkinson, M.D., President of The Foundation for the History of Women in Medicine. “We are truly fortunate to have her as our 2008 recipient.”

Dr. Gritz is an established leader in cancer prevention and control research. She has a long record of distinguished activity including membership of the external advisory boards of multiple Cancer Centers. She is the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of the American Legacy Foundation, the large, non-profit public health foundation established in 1998 as part of the Master Settlement Agreement to combat smoking by teens and adults in America. Finally, she is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Lung Cancer Partnership, a national non-profit organization founded by scientists and clinicians to raise the profile of needed research into lung cancer, investigate gender differences in the disease and its treatment, and advocate for patients and survivors. Dr. Gritz has received several awards, most recently elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine, one of our nation’s highest academic honors.

Dr. Gritz is a generous and active supporter of cultural activities in Houston. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Houston Grand Opera and a member of the Advisory Board of the Houston Zoo. In addition, she actively supports the Society for Performing Arts, the Houston Ballet, the Asia

Society, and the Houston Friends of Music. Truly a renaissance woman, she also enjoys growing orchids as a member of the Houston Orchid Society and has over 30 years of SCUBA diving experience in locations around the world. Additional information on Dr. Ellen Gritz can be found at our website at www.fhwim.org.

The 2008 Alma Dea Morani Award will be presented on Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at The College of Physicians of Philadelphia. For information on the award, or for an invitation to the 2008 presentation, please contact the Foundation.

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