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**International Center for Alcohol Policies (ICAP)
Announces Award for Effective Partnership:**

*President of the National College of Ireland, Professor Joyce O'Connor,
Recognized for Contributions to Partnerships in Alcohol Policy Arena*

WASHINGTON, D.C. (9 June 2005) – The International Center for Alcohol Policies has recognized Professor Joyce O'Connor for her achievements in fostering dialogue among stakeholders and promoting the understanding of the role of alcohol in society.

The ICAP Award for Effective Partnership was presented to Professor O'Connor at a Gala Dinner held at the Dorchester Hotel, London. Dr. Jacques Baudouy, Director of Health, Nutrition and Population at the World Bank, who served as chairman of the award selection committee, read the citation and presented the Award. One occasion for the presentation was ICAP's 10th anniversary.

Established in 1995 to promote global public/private partnerships in the area of alcohol policy, ICAP is a not-for-profit organization supported by nine international beverage companies with a mission of helping to reduce the abuse of alcohol worldwide and to promoting understanding of the role of alcohol in society through dialogue and partnerships involving the beverage industry, the public health community and others interested in alcohol policy.

Prof. O'Connor was selected from a broad range of nominees involved in the alcohol and partnership arena. Her achievements in the area of alcohol policy and partnership span a thirty plus year career, during which she has brought the concepts of partnership into research, international cooperation, education and training, as well as business, entrepreneurship and community service. She was recognized as an Eisenhower fellow in 1989, and has held a number of positions including as Irish Representative to the World Health Organization where she chaired an Expert Advisory Panel of the World Health Organization on Alcohol and the Workplace.

In reading the citation, Dr. Baudouy remarked that Professor O'Connor is "first and foremost, a scholar; a individual with vision, ideas, exuberance, the courage to take on daunting projects, and more importantly the skill and determination to see them through to completion."

In association with ICAP, Professor O'Connor was the convener and chairman of the taskforce which led to the consensus ("*Dublin*") *Principles of Cooperation among the Beverage Alcohol Industry, Governments, Scientific Researchers, and the Public Health Community* which were developed in an attempt to ensure transparency and mutual respect in partnerships between the various sectors involved in alcohol research. Furthermore, she co-edited a recently published volume in the ICAP Series on Alcohol in Society entitled *Corporate Social Responsibility and Alcohol: The need and potential for partnership*.

Marcus Grant, ICAP President, said "Joyce O'Connor has provided significant leadership in the field of partnership and corporate responsibility, not only in her work on alcohol-related issues but also in exploring the roles and synergies for public-private partnerships more broadly. ICAP is pleased to recognize her valuable contributions."

In accepting the Award, Professor O'Connor said that she was honored to receive the award and hoped that it would help stimulate progress on tackling the issues of alcohol use and misuse; "My fervent belief and hope is that in instituting this award, ICAP recognizes that it carries a heavy responsibility to work in partnership with all relevant parties including Government, Health Agencies and Consumers, to tackle the problem of alcohol abuse and misuse. I have no doubt that the key to progressing this agenda is for all parties to work together on focused and targeted campaigns to identify and tackle particular problems areas."

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