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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE: 02-02-02

February 27, 2002

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**DR. FRANCIS G. O'CONNOR SELECTED AS FINALIST FOR 2001 HUMANISM IN
MEDICINE AWARD**

BETHESDA, Md. -- Army Lt.Col. Francis G. O'Connor, MD, Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Director of Primary Care Sports Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences' (USU) F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine has been selected as a distinguished finalist for the 2001 Humanism in Medicine Award, an annual award sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) through the support of the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative.

Dr. O'Connor is one of 56 honorees from across the nation who were selected by the AAMC's Organization of Student Representatives (OSR) who base their decisions on five characteristics of humanism in medical education: positive mentoring skill, active in community service, compassion/ sensitivity, collaboration and observance of professional ethics.

"Medical Students learn by exposure to role model physicians who are not only scientifically qualified but who also exemplify compassion, understanding and partnership," said Mike Magee, MD, senior medical advisor for Pfizer Inc and director of the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative. "Dr. O'Connor is such a physician, and the students of the USU F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine, through this award, have expressed their appreciation to him as both as a physician and an outstanding human being."

Dr. O'Connor also works as staff at the National Naval Medical Center and Dewitt Army Community Hospital. He is the medical consultant to the Army Ten Miler, Marine Corps Marathon, and D.C. Marathon, and Northern Va. Special Olympics. Dr. O'Connor is also the team physician at Hayfield High School in Alexandria Va, and the Madeira School in Great Falls Va.

Established by Congress in 1972, the Uniformed Services University is the nation's only fully accredited federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing. It has provided the country with more than 3,900 outstanding military and public health physicians, scientists and health care practitioners. USU also is recognized as a leader in education, research and consultation programs in areas such as military medicine, medical readiness, tropical diseases and disaster medicine.