

SNMMI Honors Contributors at 2021 Annual Meeting

During its 2021 Annual Meeting, held virtually from June 11 to 15, SNMMI recognized contributions to the society and to the field of nuclear medicine. Several virtual award ceremonies were held to recognize service, scientific contributions, and the valuable roles SNMMI members play in advancing the diagnosis and treatment of cancer, heart disease, neurologic, and other conditions.

2021 SNMMI Fellows

Seventeen new SNMMI fellows were recognized on June 14 as part of a special plenary session during the society's 2021 Annual Meeting. SNMMI fellowship was established in 2016 to recognize distinguished service to the society as well as exceptional achievement in the field of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging. It is among the most prestigious formal recognitions available to longtime SNMMI members. Alan Packard, PhD (Boston Children's Hospital/Harvard Medical School; Boston, MA), the 2020–2021 SNMMI president, joined the new fellowship ranks. Also recognized as new fellows were Anca Avram, MD (University of Michigan Medical Center; Ann Arbor); Twyla Bartel, DO, MBA (Global Advanced Imaging, PLLC; Little Rock, AR); Wengen Chen, MD, PhD (University of Maryland School of Medicine; Baltimore, MD); Cathy Sue Cutler, PhD (Brookhaven National Laboratory; Upton, NY); Eric Frey, PhD (Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore, MD); Roger Howell, PhD (Rutgers New Jersey Medical School; Newark, NJ); Robert Mach, PhD (University of Pennsylvania; Philadelphia); David A. Mankoff, MD, PhD (University of Pennsylvania; Philadelphia); Darlene Metter, MD (UT Health San Antonio; TX); Helen Nadel, MD (Lucile Packard Children's Hospital; Palo Alto, CA); Julie Price, PhD (Massachusetts General Hospital; Boston, MA); Buck Rogers, PhD (Washington University in St. Louis; MO); Heiko Schöder, MD, MBA (Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center; New York, NY); Peter Scott, PhD (University of Michigan; Ann Arbor); Neil Vasdev, PhD (Centre for Addiction and Mental Health Research Imaging Centre; Toronto, Canada); and Jian Yu, MD (Fox Chase Cancer Center; Philadelphia, PA). Selection of SNMMI fellows is based on documented excellence of volunteer service to the society and at least 1 of 3 areas: excellence in scientific discovery and innovation, educational efforts in nuclear medicine and molecular imaging, or clinical practice of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging.

SNMMI Presidential Distinguished Service Awards

Sixteen SNMMI Presidential Distinguished Service Awards were given in recognition of long-time dedication to the society. The Presidential Distinguished Educator Award was presented to Hyewon Hyun, MD (Brigham and Women's Hospital; Boston, MA). Members of the SNMMI Scientific Program Committee Cabinet received presidential awards, including Umar Mahmood, MD, PhD (Massachusetts General Hospital; Boston); Heather Jacene, MD (Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Boston, MA); Giuseppe Esposito, MD, MBA (Georgetown University Hospital; Washington, DC); Donna J. Cross, PhD (University of Utah; Salt Lake City); Kathleen Krisak, BS, CNMT (Holyoke Medical Center; MA); and David Schuster, MD (Emory University; Atlanta, GA). SNMMI Annual Meeting staff members recognized with the Presidential Distinguished Service Awards included Ann Latham, Senior Director of Education

and Meetings; Amy Schull, Director of Meetings; Lisa Dickinson, Associate Director of Education; Catherine Lamb, Associate Director of Corporate Relations; Caroline Krystek, Senior Association Specialist; Delicia Hurdle, Senior Program Manager of Education; Brandi Eden, Senior Meetings Manager; and Jane Kamm, Senior Program Manager of Education.

Saul Hertz, MD, Lifetime Achievement Award

The SNMMI Therapy Center of Excellence named Eric Krenning, MD, PhD, as the recipient of the Saul Hertz, MD, Award for lifetime achievement, recognizing individuals who have made outstanding contributions to radionuclide therapy. Krenning completed his MD in 1972, received a PhD from the Erasmus University of Rotterdam (The Netherlands) in 1983, and is board certified in both internal medicine (1978) and nuclear medicine (2000). At Erasmus, he was a staff physician in the Department of Internal Medicine and Endocrinology from 1978 to 2012 and head of the Department of Nuclear Medicine from 1985 to 2012. He was made a fellow of the Royal College of Physicians (London, UK) in 1999. He is the founder and director of the research facility Cyclotron Rotterdam BV, situated on the campus of Erasmus Medical Center. A medical researcher for almost 50 years, Krenning's main interests include thyroid disease and nuclear endocrinology with radiolabeled peptides. He was instrumental in the conception, development, and first approvals of somatostatin analog-based radiopharmaceuticals. He has authored more than 500 peer-reviewed articles and more than 150 text chapters and published proceedings.

SNMMI established the Dr. Saul Hertz Lifetime Achievement Award in honor of the professional achievements of Hertz as a pioneering physician in radioiodine therapy. He was among the first to develop experimental data on radioiodine and apply it in the clinical setting to treat hyperthyroidism.



Eric Krenning, MD, PhD

Cardiovascular Council Awards

The SNMMI Cardiovascular Council (CVC) presented the 2021 Hermann Blumgart Award, its highest recognition, to Robert deKemp, PhD, head imaging physicist in cardiac imaging at the University of Ottawa Heart Institute (Canada). The CVC Board of Directors chooses the awardee based on dual criteria of scientific contributions to the field of cardiovascular nuclear medicine and service to the council. deKemp is also an associate professor of Medicine, Engineering, and Physics and a medical scientist in the Faculty of Medicine and member of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at the University of Ottawa. He received his PhD from McMaster University (Hamilton, Canada) and moved to Ottawa in 1994 to help establish the National Cardiac PET Centre at the Heart Institute. He is a leading expert in the physics of cardiac PET imaging and pioneered the application of ^{82}Rb PET perfusion imaging in Canada.



Robert deKemp, PhD

Panithaya Chareonthaitawee, MD, was named by the CVC as the 2021 recipient of the Outstanding Educator Award and Lectureship. She is an associate professor of medicine in the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine (Rochester, MD). The award recognizes a current CVC member who has made extraordinary and consistent contributions to the nuclear cardiology community and to SNMMI. Chareonthaitawee received her undergraduate degree from Columbia University (New York, NY) and her MD from Northwestern University (Chicago, IL). After internal medicine residency and cardiology fellowship at Mayo, she was an advanced fellow in cardiac PET at the Imperial College School of Medicine (London, UK). She is a past president of the SNMMI CVC. She serves as director of the Mayo Clinic Nuclear Cardiology Laboratory, the Department Diversity Chair, and associate program director of the internal medicine residency at Mayo.



**Panithaya
Chareonthaitawee, MD**

General Clinical Nuclear Medicine Council Awards

The General Clinical Nuclear Medicine Council (GCNMC) presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to Harvey A. Ziessman, MD, MBA. The award was established to recognize physicians and scientists who have distinguished themselves through a career dedicated to the advancement of patient care in the field of nuclear medicine. Ziessman's nuclear medicine career began with a residency at the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor). He first practiced nuclear medicine at Georgetown University (Washington, DC) and spent 17 years at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD). He has been a leader and pioneer in nuclear medicine and molecular imaging and is well known for his research on gastrointestinal transit and cholecystokinin hepatobiliary imaging. He has published almost 100 peer-reviewed articles, numerous reviews and book chapters, and 11 books, including *Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging* (with Janis O'Malley, MD, now in its 5th edition). He has organized and lectured at numerous categorical seminars and continuing education sessions at SNMMI meetings and is a past Speaker of the SNMMI House of Delegates. He has been the Newsline editor of *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine* for the past 9 years. He was instrumental in transforming the Gastrointestinal Council into the GCNMC and was one of its first presidents. He has served on the American Board of Nuclear Medicine and on the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Residency Review Committee.



**Harvey Ziessman,
MD, MBA**

The GCNMC Lectureship recognizes a speaker who presents original insights on the value of general clinical nuclear medicine

in clinical practice. The 2021 GCNMC Lectureship awardee was Philip Wells, MD, MSc, chair of the Department of Medicine at the Ottawa Hospital (Canada) and professor at the University of Ottawa. He received his medical school education and specialty training in internal medicine at the University of Ottawa. He then studied hematology and completed a master's degree in clinical epidemiology at McMaster University (Hamilton, Canada), concentrating on the special problems of venous thrombosis. He joined Ottawa University in 1994 and subsequently established the Thrombosis Treatment and Assessment Unit at the Ottawa Hospital, now the largest thrombosis clinical practice and clinical research unit in the world. He is best known for pioneering the concept of clinical prediction rules to assist in diagnosis of patients with suspected deep vein thrombosis and/or pulmonary embolism. His predictive models are used worldwide and are incorporated into many national and organizational guidelines. Wells has received more than \$30 million in research funding and has authored nearly 400 peer-reviewed articles. His work has been acknowledged through a Canada Research Chair, the Ottawa Hospital J. David Grimes Career Achievement Award, a University of Ottawa Lifetime Achievement Award, a University of Ottawa Research Chair, and most recently, a Faculty of Medicine Distinguished Research Chair.



Philip Wells, MD, MSc

RPSC Berson-Yalow Award

The SNMMI Radiopharmaceutical Sciences Council named Ashley C. Knight, MSc, from the University of Toronto (Canada), as the 2021 Berson-Yalow Award recipient. The award celebrates the contributions of Solomon A. Berson, MD, and Rosalyn S. Yalow, PhD, who pioneered the principle of the competitive binding assay and used it to develop the field of radioimmunoassay, a mainstay of early nuclear medicine. Although radioimmunoassay is no longer used extensively, this award continues to recognize outstanding original work in the field of nuclear medicine and the use of competitive receptor binding assays in vitro and/or in vivo. Knight was recognized for basic research presented at the SNMMI Annual Meeting on in vitro evaluation of ³H-CPPC for imaging macrophage colony stimulating factor-1 receptors. Coauthors on the research included colleagues from the University of Toronto, the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (Toronto), Codiak Biosciences (Cambridge, MA), and Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital (Boston, MA).



Ashley C. Knight, MSc

Additional awards and recognitions from the 2021 SNMMI Meeting will appear in the September issue of Newsline.