Devous Honored with 2004 Kuhl–Lassen Award

Michael D. Devous, Sr., PhD, Professor of Radiology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and Professor of Human Development and Communication Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas, has been named as the recipient of the 2004 Kuhl–Lassen Award. The SNM Brain Imaging Council presented the award on June 20 at the SNM annual meeting.

The Kuhl–Lassen award recognizes scientists who have made significant contributions to the field of functional brain imaging using SPECT or PET. The Brain Imaging Council created the annual award to honor 2 founding pioneers in functional brain imaging: David E. Kuhl, MD, and Nils Lassen, MD. In praising the selection of the 2004 awardee, Kuhl said of Devous, "He has made great contributions to advancing brain imaging science. At the same time, he has been one of the very best teachers in the field. It is appropriate that his peers chose to recognize him. Their selection enhances the stature of the Kuhl–Lassen Award."

"It is a great honor to be recognized by my peers who have also contributed so much to this intriguing field of

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Masanori Ichise (left) presented Michael Devous with the Kuhl-Lassen Award.

Tetalman Award Goes to Zaidi

Habib Zaidi, PhD, is the recipient of the 2004 Mark Tetalman Award of the SNM Education and Research Foundation (ERF). The award recognizes outstanding achievement among young investigators in nuclear medicine and is named after a young nuclear medicine physician whose death ended a promising career. Zaidi is senior physicist and head of the PET Instrumentation and Neuroscience Laboratory at Geneva University Hospital (Switzerland). "The Tetalman Memorial Award is beyond a tremendous honor, because it substantiates my choice of an academic career in the physics of nuclear medical imaging," said Zaidi.

He received a doctorate in medical physics from Geneva University for a dissertation on Monte Carlo modeling and scatter correction in PET. He is actively involved in developing imaging solutions for biomedical research and clinical diagnosis, in addition to lecturing in graduate and postgraduate courses on medical physics and medical imaging. His research is supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation and focuses on dosimetry, image correction, reconstruction and quantification techniques in emission tomography, and statistical image analysis in functional brain imaging. Most recently he has worked on novel designs for dedicated high-resolution PET scanners in collaboration with the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN).

Habib Zaidi

Among the contributions cited by the ERF in honoring Zaidi were his work relating to Monte Carlo modeling and image correction for PET, including the development of a Monte Carlo simulation package to generate datasets corresponding to the geometry and actual size of most commercial and prototype cylindrical PET scanners. This package has been successfully implemented on a high-performance parallel platform. His group is also pursuing research on PET/CT simulation packages PET/CT and a new method for determination of the attenuation map in 3D brain PET imaging using coregistered MRI.

Zaidi's research efforts have been recognized with the prestigious 2003 Young Investigator Medical Imaging

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study," said Devous in accepting the award. "I can't imagine a more interesting career, unless as a poet, than to be part of the effort to unravel one of the last great mysteries of biology—the intersection between thought and the physical functioning of the brain."

Devous received his undergraduate degree from Washington University in 1970 and earned his doctorate in nuclear chemistry and physics from Texas A&M University in 1976. Among his awards and honors are the SNM Presidential Distinguished Service Award (1997), the Award of Merit from the Hong Kong Society of Nuclear Medicine (1997), and the Charles A. Dana Foundation award (2001). His wide-ranging investigations include the role of functional brain imaging in exploring the biology of psychiatric and neurologic disorders as well as in understanding brain function and central nervous system pathology in animal models. His work with functional brain imaging has included foci on mood disorders, deafness and speech disorders, substance abuse, bipolar disorders, dementia, schizophrenia, anxiety disorders, head trauma, epilepsy, and stroke.

Previous recipients of the Kuhl–Lassen award include Dean F. Wong, MD, PhD, Johns Hopkins University; Ronald S. Tikofsky, PhD, Columbia University; Yoshiharu Yonekura, MD, PhD, Fukui Medical University, Japan; Peter Herscovitch, MD, National Institute of Mental Health; Nora Volkow, MD, director of the National Institute of Drug Abuse; Albert H. Gjedde, DSc, MD, Aarhus University, Denmark; Marcus E. Raichle, MD, Washington University; and Louis Sokoloff, MD, National Institute of Mental Health.

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Science Award given by the Nuclear Medical Imaging and Sciences Technical Committee of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Varian Prize awarded by the Swiss Society of Radiobiology and Medical Physics. He is a member of the editorial boards of a number of Scientific journals He is the editor of 2 textbooks on therapeutic applications of Monte Carlo calculations in nuclear medicine and quantitative analysis in nuclear medicine imaging. He recently joined the Computed Imaging for Medical Imaging collaboration hosted by CERN to work on novel design of high-resolution, parallax-free Compton-enhanced PET scanners.

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young investigators of Indian origin working in the United States went to Dr. Rakesh Kumar from the University of Pennsylvania for best abstract in clinical science and to Dr. S. Vemulapalli from Duke University for best abstract in basic science.

The relationship between the IASNM and SNM(I) is growing, and IASNM is building a relationship between the SNM and the SNM(I). An important milestone for Indians in North America was the assumption of the presidency of the SNM by a person of Indian origin. Mathew Thakur, PhD, has contributed significantly to the field, not least with his development of white cell labeling techniques. To commemorate Mathew's presidency, we plan a strong presence in India at the annual meeting of the SNM(I), December 15–18, in Mysore. A number of speakers, including Drs. Tom Miller of Washington University (chair of the SNM Scientific Committee), Steve Larson of Memorial Sloan–Kettering Cancer Center (a director of the American Board of Nuclear Medicine), and Alexander McEwan from the Cross Cancer Institute (president of the Nuclear Oncology Council) have agreed to participate. The SNM(I) has graciously drawn up a program that will feature keynote lectures by these speakers. A finalized list of speakers and topics will be available shortly.

During the past year, the IASNM has taken several steps toward strengthening the organization and expanding its services. The Web site (www.iasnm.org) is fully functional and updated regularly. Jim Strommer at the University of California at Los Angeles has provided valuable assistance in maintaining the site.

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Errata

In the August issue of Newsline, page 20N, **Suzuki et al. from the Jikei University School of Medicine (Japan)** should have been listed as the authors of the study on differentiation of Parkinson's disease from dementia with Lewy bodies discussed in the text and presented in Figure 13.

In the same issue, page 37N, the text should have indicated that "**83** FDA-approved RDRCs conducted **280** studies" in 2002.