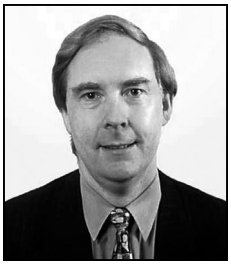
Brooks Honored with 2005 Kuhl–Lassen Award

David James Brooks, MD, DSc, Hartnett professor of neurology with the PET Neurosciences Group, Division of Neuroscience and Psychological Medicine at Imperial College School of Medicine (London, UK), was named the recipient of the 2005 Kuhl–Lassen Award at the 52nd annual meeting of the SNM in Toronto, Canada. On June 19, he delivered the Kuhl–Lassen Award lecture on "Applications of Imaging to Movement Disorders: A View from the Frontier."



David James Brooks

The Kuhl–Lassen award recognizes scientists who have made significant contributions to the field of functional brain imaging using SPECT or PET. The SNM Brain Imaging Council created the annual award to honor 2 founding pioneers of functional brain imaging: David E. Kuhl, MD, and Nils Lassen, MD. "I am extremely honored to be named the recipient of the Kuhl–Lassen Award by the Society of Nuclear Medicine," said Brooks. "Both David Kuhl's and Nils Lassen's work has had a great influence on my career, and I am delighted to accept an award bearing their names."

A pioneer in the clinically informed application of PET to the field of movement disorders, Brooks has produced groundbreaking studies in Parkinson's disease and related neurodegenerative processes using neuroimaging techniques to gain an improved understanding of the pathophysiology of those disorders. He has researched the progression of disease, primary mechanisms of onset and progression, differential diagnosis, and the role of imaging in enhancing the development of next-generation therapeutics in movement disorders.

A senior clinical scientist, Brooks's main research interests are functional imaging (both PET and functional MR imaging) and movement disorders. He and his research team have used functional imaging to investigate anatomy underlying motor tasks; the effects of pharmacologic manipulations and behavior on brain dopamine release in healthy subjects and patients with movement disorders; the pharmacologic and brain activation changes associated with onset, progression, and treatment complications of Parkinson's and Huntington's diseases; and the effects of neuroprotective and restorative therapies in those diseases.

Winn Named Outstanding SNMTS Educator

Jan Winn, MEd, RT(N), CNMT, was named recipient of the Outstanding Educator Award by the SNMTS in Toronto, Canada, at the 52nd annual meeting of the SNM. SNMTS President Nanci A. Burchell, CNMT, FSNMTS, presented the award at the Technologist Section's June 21 business meeting. The Education and Research Foundation for the SNM provided funding for this award.

Winn has been an associate professor in the department of radiologic technology in the College of Allied Health at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) (Oklahoma City) since 2000. She is also the department's vice chair, nuclear medicine program director, and Web program director. "Jan Winn is an exceptional educator whose recommendations pointed out her unique ability to easily explain complex concepts," said Burchell in presenting the award. "She incorporates the latest information in her classes, including new radiopharmaceuticals and the most updated protocols. She constantly seeks feedback from her students and technologists to ensure that the program is preparing students to be the best health care professionals."

An SNMTS member since 1985, Winn received her master's degree in the historical, philosophical, and social foundations of education from the University of Oklahoma and her bachelor's degree in radiologic technology with a focus on nuclear medicine technology from OUHSC. She is certified by the Nuclear Medicine Technology Certification Board and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. She serves as chair of the