

Thomas Receives Loevinger–Berman Award

Stephen R. Thomas, PhD, former chair of the Medical Internal Radiation Dose (MIRD) Committee and developer of the widely used conjugate-view method for planar imaging quantification, received the Loevinger–Berman Award on Sunday, June 14, at the annual SNM meeting in Toronto, Canada. The award was established in 1999 by the MIRD Committee in honor of Robert Loevinger, PhD, and Mones Berman, PhD, who formulated the MIRD schema for internal dose calculations. The award is given in recognition of excellence pertaining to the field of internal dosimetry as it relates to nuclear medicine through research and/or development, significant publication contributions, or advancement of the understanding of internal dosimetry in relationship to risk and therapeutic efficacy. Previous award winners include Roger J. Cloutier (1999), Dandamudi V. Rao, PhD (2000), Keith F. Eckerman, PhD (2001), Sven-Erik Strand, PhD (2002), John W. Poston, Sr., PhD (2003), Roger W. Howell, PhD (2004), James S. Robertson, MD, PhD (2005), Gordon L. Brownell, PhD (2006), Evelyn E. Watson (2007), and Harold L. Atkins, MD (2008).

Thomas received his undergraduate degree in physics from Williams College (Williamstown, MA) in 1963. He served as a member of the Peace Corps in Ghana from 1964 to 1966. In 1973, he received his PhD in solid state physics from Purdue University (West Lafayette, IN). He completed a postdoctoral fellowship in 1975 at the University of Cincinnati (OH) Radioisotope Laboratory (later renamed the Eugene L. Saenger Radioisotope Laboratory) under Eugene L. Saenger, MD (recipient of the 28th SNM de Hevesy Nuclear Medicine Pioneer Award). During this time he developed lasting friendships with Saenger, James G. Kereiakes, PhD, Harry R. Maxon III, MD, and others. He remained at the Department of Radiology in the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine throughout his academic career, becoming a professor of radiology in 1987 and director of the Division of Medical Physics in 1991.

Starting with his early work in quantitative imaging and pediatric dosimetry and extending to a series of landmark papers on thyroid dosimetry with Maxon and Kereiakes, Thomas has authored or contributed to some of the most well-known papers in internal dosimetry. He has published more than 100 papers, edited 6 books, and contributed 20 book chapters. His 10 most frequently cited papers have



Thomas (left) receives Loevinger-Berman Award plaque from Sgouros at SNM Annual Meeting.

been referenced more than 1,250 times in the peer-reviewed literature. In recognition of his work on thyroid cancer dosimetry, he was appointed as a member of the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements Scientific Committee 57 (Task Group 7) to investigate thyroid cancer risk from radiation exposure, serving from 1978 to 1985. His dedication, service, and contributions to professional organizations have also been hallmarks of his career. As a member of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, he chaired a number of committees, including the Program Committee (1988–1992), and served as president in 1997. At the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), he cochaired the Scientific Program Committee (1988–1992) and, in 2001, became a member of the Board of Trustees of the RSNA Education and Research Foundation. He joined the SNM MIRD Committee in 1979, became vice chair in 1995 and chair in 2006, and retired from the committee in 2008. In recognition of his many contributions to internal dosimetry, the MIRD Committee was delighted to select Stephen R. Thomas, PhD, as the 11th Loevinger–Berman Award recipient.

*George Sgouros, PhD
Chair, SNM MIRD Committee*