

Lewis Recognized with 2018 Paul C. Aebersold Award

On June 23 at the SNMMI Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA, Jason S. Lewis, PhD, was presented with the 2018 Paul C. Aebersold Award for Outstanding Achievement in Basic Nuclear Medicine Science. Lewis is the Emily Tow Jackson Professor and Chair in Oncology, vice chair for research, and chief of the Radiochemistry and Imaging Sciences Service in the Department of Radiology at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC; New York, NY). “Dr. Lewis has made significant contributions to the field of radiochemistry and nuclear medicine, at both basic and clinical levels,” said Sally W. Schwarz, RPh, MS, BCNP, chair of the SNMMI Committee on Awards and a past president of the society. “Jason’s accomplishments are enabling a better understanding of the biology of cancer, which is improving treatment of the disease.”

Lewis’s research interests focus on radiotracers and radiochemistry. In his lab at MSKCC, faculty and trainees are developing radiopharmaceuticals for targeted diagnosis and treatment of cancer. “I am researching new ways to use PET imaging to diagnose cancer as well as developing new radio-immunotherapies for treating this disease,” said Lewis. “By combining small biomolecule-based targeting agents with positron-emitting or therapeutic radioisotopes, we can both interrogate the molecular profiles of cancer using noninvasive nuclear imaging and treat tumors specifically with endoradiotherapy. Our research program is a molecular imaging-based program focused on the targeting of non-standard nuclides, with an emphasis on developing these novel radiopharmaceuticals for clinical translation.”

Dr. Lewis received his undergraduate degree in 1992 and an MSc in chemistry the following year from the University of Essex (Colchester, UK) in the laboratory of Jonathan R. Dilworth, DPhil, DSc. In 1966 he earned a doctorate in biochemistry from the University of Kent (Canterbury, UK), where his mentor was Philip J. Blower, DPhil. His postdoctoral work was with Carolyn J. Anderson, PhD, and Michael J. Welch, PhD, at the Washington University School of Medicine (St. Louis, MO). Lewis became an assistant professor at Washington University’s Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology from 2003 to 2008. In 2008 he joined MSKCC, where today, in addition to his other appointments, he is the



Left to right: Carolyn J. Anderson, PhD, Jason S. Lewis, PhD, Umar Mahmood, MD, PhD, and Satoshi Minoshima, MD, PhD

director of the Radiochemistry and Molecular Imaging Probe Core Facility and of the Center for Molecular Imaging & Nanotechnology. He is also a professor at the Gerstner Sloan Kettering Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and at Weill-Cornell Medical College (New York, NY).

Dr. Lewis serves on grant review panels for the National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute and on a number of editorial boards. He was president of the World Molecular Imaging Society (2014–2015). He received the SNMMI Berson–Yalow Award (2013), a Distinguished Investigator Award from the Academy of Radiology Research (2014), and was the 2017 SNMMI Michael J. Welch Award winner. He is an associate editor for *The Journal of Nuclear Medicine* and has published more than 300 papers, books, book chapters, and reviews on cancer imaging and radiochemistry.

The Aebersold Award, first presented in 1973, is named for Paul C. Aebersold—a pioneer in the biologic and medical application of radioactive materials and the first director of the Atomic Energy Commission’s Division of Isotope Development. In accepting the award, Lewis said, “I am truly honored to receive this honor, although it is important for me to accept it on behalf of all the amazing students, postdocs, and lab members who have worked so hard on all of our projects.”

(Continued from 7N)

Imaging, Milton Mills, NH); and Mark Tulchinsky, MD (Penn State Health, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, PA).

Selection of SNMMI fellows is based on documented excellence in volunteer service to the society and at least

1 of 3 additional 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 fellowship is recognized with the designation FSNMMI.