

# ACER Achievement Award

## Eric J. Stern, MD

Introduction by Gautham P. Reddy, MD, MPH

A gifted teacher, an accomplished scholar, and a visionary leader in education worldwide, Eric J. Stern, MD, currently serves as a professor and the Vice Chair for Academic Affairs in the Department of Radiology and as an adjunct professor in the Departments of Medicine, Medical Education and Biomedical Informatics, and Global Health at the University of Washington (UW), Seattle.

Born and raised in New Jersey, Dr Stern graduated magna cum laude from Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA, and pursued his medical degree at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)–New Jersey Medical School, Newark. After a transitional internship at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Livingston, NJ, he took his radiology residency at UMDNJ–University Hospital, Newark. He subsequently made a leap across the country for a 2-year stint at the University of California, San Francisco, where he progressed from fellow and clinical instructor in thoracic imaging to assistant clinical professor. In 1992, he took a position as an assistant professor at the UW. Dr Stern lives in Seattle with his wife, Karen, and their two daughters.

A prolific scholar with a focus on dynamic and high-resolution computed tomography (CT) of the chest and on thoracic trauma and emergencies, Dr Stern has coauthored 95 original articles, 24 other journal publications, 15 books, and six book chapters. He has obtained five research grants and mentored countless residents and fellows.

Dr Stern has received three teaching awards at the UW. He has presented more than 120 lectures at 89 conferences, including 30 international meetings, served as a visiting professor at 29 medical schools throughout the world, and directed 26 continuing medical education (CME) courses. Notably, he conceived and developed commercial contracts to create enduring CME for the UW Department of Radiology and for the Society of Thoracic Radiology (STR), yielding considerable educational and financial rewards for those organizations.

Dr Stern serves as a UW Faculty Senator and a member of the Senate Executive Committee and the Dean's Council for Academic Affairs. As the chair of the departmental Promotions Committee, he established a junior faculty development workshop and developed and coordinated the faculty mentorship program, advising more than 60 assistant professors.

Highlights of Dr Stern's service to professional societies include roles as president of the Pacific Northwest Radiological Society, treasurer (and future president) of the STR,

Essentials of Radiology track head and chair of the 2008 R&E Foundation Radiology Education Task Force of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), chair of the Scientific Exhibit Awards Committee of the American Roentgen Ray Society, and member of the AUR Board of Directors. He was an RSNA Sunday Image Interpretation Session panelist in 2008 and has received the American Board of Radiology Distinguished Service Award.

In 1994, Dr Stern was awarded a Melvin M. Figley Fellowship in Radiology Journalism, which allowed him insight into academic publishing at the *American Journal of Roentgenology* (AJR). He has served as an associate editor of *Radiology*, deputy editor of *Academic Radiology*, editor-in-chief of *Current Problems in Diagnostic Radiology*, and deputy editor, senior consulting editor, and international consulting editor of *AJR*.

During his sabbatical in 2001, Dr Stern studied expiratory lung CT at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. This experience sparked Dr Stern's interest in international radiology, and he became active in global organizations, including the International Society of Radiology (ISR). After serving as an RSNA International Visiting Professor in Vietnam, he envisioned an open-access electronic journal targeted to radiologists who work in less-developed countries or with underserved populations. Thus was born ISR's Global Outreach Radiology (GO RAD), of which

Dr Stern is the founding editor-in-chief. Dedicated to improving "the health and well-being of all," GO RAD is remarkably successful just 18 months after its inception, already allied with 22 journals encompassing five continents and three languages.

Clearly, Dr Stern has a rare gift: he is an innovative thinker who has the ability to bring a grand vision to fruition. Perceiving the need for an organization to serve as a home for clinician-educators and to recognize the value of teachers, Dr Stern brought to life the Alliance of Clinician-Educators in Radiology (ACER), which he led from 2007 to 2009 as the founding president. ACER quickly blossomed into the largest alliance in the AUR family, and the ACER program at the annual meeting expanded from a single session in its 1st year to a full slate embracing all aspects of faculty development, realizing the hopes of its founder.

It is an honor and privilege to bestow upon my colleague, mentor, and friend, Eric J. Stern, MD, the first Achievement Award of the Alliance of Clinician-Educators in Radiology.



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