AUR Gold Medalist Tribute

Kimberly E. Applegate, MD, MS, FACR

Introduction by Vijay M. Rao, MD

The AUR awards its highest honor, the Gold Medal, in recognition of unusually distinguished service or contributions to the organization, to academic radiology, and to our specialty. This year, Kimberly E. Applegate, MD, MS, FACR, receives the AUR Gold Medal. There is no doubt that Dr. Applegate exemplifies distinguished service to all three.

Kimberly is currently professor of radiology and pediatrics and director of practice quality improvement in radiology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. She was raised in rural northern California, where her father practiced solo family medicine; and while growing up, she often tagged along on house calls with him. Her family had many pets, and she also spent time volunteering with the local veterinarian. It is clear that her childhood experiences explain her fondness for both animals and children.

Dr. Applegate received her BA degree in chemistry from the University of California at Berkeley and her medical degree from George Washington University Medical School, Washington, DC. She also holds a master’s degree in epidemiology/health services research from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. She completed her radiology training at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center and did a 2-year fellowship in pediatric radiology at Boston Children’s Hospital.

Dr. Applegate is a highly accomplished leader in radiology. She currently serves as the American College of Radiology (ACR) Council Speaker and is the president of the AUR Research and Education Foundation. She is a member of the National Quality Forum Patient Safety Committee and an elected member of both the National and International Councils on Radiation Protection. Kimberly has served the radiology community as the past president of the AUR, the Radiology Alliance for Health Services Research, and the American Association for Women in Radiology (AAWR).

I got to know Kimberly on the national scene, having worked with her on a number of Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) and AAWR committees. When Kimberly participates, she strives to make a difference for the communities she serves, beginning with our patients, members of the respective organizations, and our medical colleagues. For example, she worked fiercely on the Society for Pediatric Radiology (SPR) Board of Directors and the Image Gently® campaign to promote radiation awareness in pediatric imaging. She has been a strong advocate for women and, as a representative of AAWR, was instrumental in negotiating for child care services for all attendees at the annual RSNA meeting.

Kimberly has served on the editorial boards of all of the major radiology journals, including Academic Radiology. She has served on research study sections for the National Institutes of Health and for the RSNA and has collaborated with others to understand the role of imaging in children with common clinical conditions in the emergency department, to understand variations in practice, and to share quality improvement practices.

Kimberly has received a number of awards, including the American Board of Radiology Lifetime Achievement Award, the Association of Radiology Research Distinguished Investigator Award, the American Roentgen Ray Society Scholar Award, the RSNA Editorial Fellowship (the first woman), the SPR Presidential Recognition Award, and the American College of Radiology Indiana Chapter Gold Medal. She is very much enjoys mentoring talented colleagues and trainees.

Dr. Applegate has authored over 170 peer-reviewed papers and book chapters and has presented scientific papers and lectures at scientific meetings around the world. She has a long-standing interest in health services research in radiology and coedited the only evidence-based imaging textbook series. From its start in 2006, Kimberly has been a member of the steering committee for the Image Gently® campaign to use radiation more appropriately in children worldwide. The campaign has received a number of awards for its advocacy, education, and collaboration to change imaging practice.

Kimberly is married to George F. Parker, MD, who is a forensic psychiatrist, professor of clinical psychiatry, and adjunct professor of law. They are proud to have raised three sons who are now in college: David and twins Andrew and Eric.

Kimberly Applegate, MD, MS, FACR, exemplifies service to our organization, to academic radiology, and to the radiology profession. For all this, she is richly deserving of the AUR’s highest honor, the Gold Medal, which we are delighted to bestow upon her tonight.
The AUR awards its highest honor, the Gold Medal, in recognition of unusually distinguished service and contributions to the organization, to academic radiology, and to our specialty. This year, Robert A. Novelline, MD, FACR, receives the Gold Medal of the AUR.

Dr Novelline’s professional career has been devoted to the subspecialty of emergency radiology and to radiologic education. Dr Novelline is currently professor of radiology at Harvard Medical School and former director of the division of emergency radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in science from McGill University and his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine, Dr Novelline completed a residency in radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. He subsequently completed a fellowship in both vascular and interventional radiology and radiology education, also at Massachusetts General Hospital. Many of Dr Novelline’s early investigations and publications dealt with pioneering work in therapeutic intravascular infusion therapy, therapeutic embolization, and angioplasty.

In 1982, Dr Novelline was appointed director of the newly formed division of emergency radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. The division is responsible for the diagnostic imaging of the hospital’s busy level I trauma center. Dr Novelline modernized emergency radiology at our institution with the introduction of computed tomography (CT) and ultrasonography for trauma and non-traumatic emergency conditions. He installed one of the first CT scanners in the emergency imaging division and pioneered investigations of the CT diagnosis of trauma and acute non-traumatic emergencies. He developed helical and multidetector CT protocols and techniques for imaging emergency patients that have been widely adopted nationally and internationally. His division has reported on new CT techniques for diagnosing appendicitis, diverticulitis, and urinary tract stones that have been broadly adopted. Dr Novelline is widely considered one of the founders of the subspecialty of emergency radiology, and he began one of the first fellowship programs in this area. He is a founding member of the American Society of Emergency Radiology (ASER), and he served as its second president. He is a recipient of the ASER Gold Medal.

Radiology education, particularly the education of medical students, has always been one of Dr Novelline’s passions. He directed both the Harvard Medical School core and advanced radiology clerkships at Massachusetts General Hospital between 1975 and 2012. He developed medical student curricula in radiology that have been adopted in many medical schools. He was the founder and first president of the Alliance of Medical Students Educators in Radiology (AMSER). Dr Novelline has been the author of the fourth through sixth editions of *Squire’s Fundamentals of Radiology*, currently the world’s best-selling radiologic textbook used by medical students throughout the world. The textbook has been translated into several languages.

Dr Novelline has published more than 150 original reports and reviews and has authored or coauthored 11 textbooks. As visiting professor, he has lectured nationally and internationally on emergency radiology and radiologic education. He also edited a core curriculum in emergency radiology for both radiology residents and medical students, which has been adopted by ASER.

Dr Novelline has held leadership positions in numerous radiologic societies, including his service as chairman of the refresher course committee of RSNA and as co-chairman of the RSNA/ACR Web site for public information about radiology, RadiologyInfo.org. In 2007, Dr Novelline received the RSNA Outstanding Educator Award.

In addition to serving as AUR President in 2011–2012, he was chairman of numerous committees, including the executive committee and education committee. He was also a member and then chairman of the ad hoc committee of residency program directors. This committee preceded the establishment of the Association of Program Directors in Radiology (APDR). As chairman of this committee, he prepared annual meeting programs for radiology resident program directors between 1987 and 1991. In 2004, Dr Novelline was honored as a recipient of the APDR Achievement Award. In 2012, he received the AMSER Excellence in Education Award.

I have had the privilege of working with Bob Novelline since I came to Massachusetts General Hospital in 1976. We have both shared a commitment to radiology education. I have been constantly impressed by his intelligence, dedication, integrity, and commitment to our specialty. Dr Novelline has made many contributions to the world of radiology and is highly respected for his sentinel contributions to radiologic education and the subspecialty of emergency radiology.