

Gold Medalist Tribute • David C. Levin, MD

Introduction by Vijay M. Rao, MD

After college, David C. Levin, MD, began his career in an unusual manner—as a jet fighter-interceptor pilot in the US Air Force. During his military service, Dr Levin decided to go into medicine and subsequently graduated from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. After a surgical internship and radiology residency at the University of California, Los Angeles, he began his academic radiology career as an angiographer and interventional radiologist at the New York Hospital–Cornell Medical Center. There Dr Levin became one of the few radiologists to gain extensive experience in performing coronary angiography, and his interest in diagnosing coronary disease persists to this day. After 2 years at Downstate Medical Center, he was recruited to the Brigham and Women’s Hospital–Harvard Medical School by Herbert Abrams, MD. Dr Levin spent the next 11 years there as director or codirector of cardiovascular and interventional radiology, and then as acting chairman of the department after Dr Abrams retired.

In 1986, Dr Levin came to Thomas Jefferson University as chairman of its department of radiology, a position he held until his “retirement” in 2002—except that David never really retired. His involvement in research and coronary CT angiography remains at a high level, and he continues to make important contributions to our department. He also is a consultant for several companies, including HealthHelp and OIA (Outpatient Imaging Affiliates, LLC), and for the ECRI Institute.

David has served as chairman of the Council on Cardiovascular Radiology of the American Heart Association and as president of the Society of Chairmen of Academic Radiology Departments. He has also held a number of leadership positions in the RSNA and the American College of Radiology (ACR).

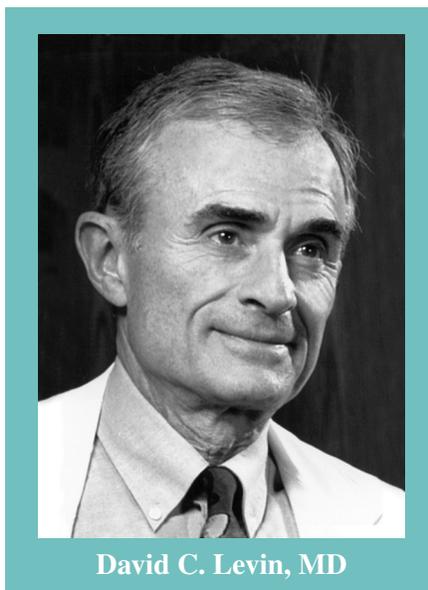
He has been an examiner for the American Board of Radiology oral examinations and has been a member of the editorial boards of six radiology journals. In research, he has authored 229 published articles and 267 abstracts. He has given 508 presentations at national medical meetings or as an invited lecturer at other academic institutions. Among these are 18 named or other special lectures around the country and abroad. The most recent special lectures were the 2007 Preston M. Hickey Lecture of the Michigan Radiological Society, the 2006 Benjamin Felson

Lecture of the Society of Thoracic Radiology, and the 2005 Robert D. Moreton Lecture of the ACR. In 1981, David received the first ever Herbert M. Stauffer Award of the AUR for the best published basic science research article—reporting findings from a study dealing with vascular resistance changes in an experimental model of arterial stenosis.

David’s early research dealt mostly with the angiographic aspects of coronary and vascular disease, but he has made his real mark in the past 15 years with health services research in imaging. He has emerged as a true champion of the concept that imaging should be

performed by radiologists, and much of his research supports that concept.

David and his wife of 39 years, Carol, are the parents of three accomplished children: Deborah, Greg, and Sarah. David has previously been awarded gold medals by the ACR, the American Roentgen Ray Society, and the Pennsylvania Radiological Society. He has been a friend and mentor to me personally, and it is my pleasure to introduce him for presentation of the Gold Medal of the AUR. As a major leader in academic radiology and research for many years, he is richly deserving of this high honor.



David C. Levin, MD