AUR Gold Medalist Tribute

N. Reed Dunnick, MD

Introduction by G. Scott Gazelle, MD, MPH, PhD

Each year since 1978, the AUR has presented its highest honor, the Gold Medal, to outstanding radiologists who have made substantial contributions to our field. This year, N. Reed Dunnick, MD, will receive the Gold Medal for his contributions to the AUR and to radiology as a clinician, scientist, mentor, and leader.

A native of Indiana, Reed considered pursuing either engineering or medicine and elected to attend nearby Purdue University, which had outstanding programs in both. Fortunately for all of us, he chose medicine. Looking for a change from small midwestern towns, Reed selected Cornell for medical school. After medical school, he completed 2 years of residency in internal medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, NY, before joining the U.S. Public Health Service as a staff associate at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

While there, Dr Dunnick was inspired by Dr John Doppman, chief of radiology, and in 1973 moved west to begin his radiology residency at Stanford University, where he also served as chief resident. After residency, Dr Dunnick returned to the NIH, serving as a staff radiologist from 1976 to 1980. In 1980, he was recruited to Duke as associate professor of radiology and chief of uroradiology. He was promoted to professor of radiology in 1984 and held several additional leadership positions, including chief of vascular/interventional radiology, chief of body CT, and director of diagnostic imaging. In 1992, he was recruited to lead the Department of Radiology at the University of Michigan, where he has remained ever since. He currently serves as the Fred Jenner Hodges Professor and Chair of Radiology.

Dr Dunnick’s academic contributions are documented in more than 250 peer-reviewed scientific publications, 62 book chapters, and 10 textbooks. He has given 150 invited presentations and 23 named lectures and has participated as a faculty member in more than 400 educational programs nationally and internationally. Dr Dunnick was a pioneer in CT and cross-sectional imaging of the genitourinary tract, and he has written extensively on these topics and more broadly on abdominal and pelvic imaging and interventional radiology.

In addition to his contributions as a clinician, scientist, educator, and leader, Dr Dunnick has been exemplary in his commitment to volunteerism and service to our professional organizations. He has served as President of the Academy of Radiology Research, American Board of Radiology, American Roentgen Ray Society, Society of Chairs of Academic Radiology Departments, Society of Computed Body Tomography and Magnetic Resonance, and Society of Uroradiology, served on the American College of Radiology Board of Chancellors, and currently serves on the RSNA Board of Directors.

He has also been a remarkable mentor to generations of academic radiologists. He guides by example, with sage advice, and by helping each individual discover how to make his or her own greatest contributions. With a gentle but steady hand, he has steered countless radiologists and scientists to where they are today and where they will be tomorrow.

Dr Dunnick began his service to the AUR as a member of the Stauffer Award committee in 1986. He has served in numerous additional leadership roles, including chair of the Publications, Corporate Support, Editorial Executive, Program Planning, Awards, Membership, Scientific Program, Nominating, and Gold Medal Award Committees. He was Founding President of the Radiology Research Alliance and in 2006 became the 54th President of the AUR.

Reed has two daughters, Cory and Amanda. Cory is an associate professor of dermatology at the University of Colorado. She is married to a radiologist and has three daughters. Amanda earned an MPH degree at Emory, currently works at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and is a commander in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. Reed is married to Marilyn A. Roubidoux, MD, also a radiologist, who has three daughters, Sasha, Andrea, and Marie, and four grandchildren.

N. Reed Dunnick, MD, has contributed tremendously to the field of radiology, to the AUR, and to the careers of countless individuals who have been fortunate to know him as a leader, a colleague, a mentor, and a trusted friend. It is with great pleasure that we bestow upon him our highest honor, the AUR Gold Medal.