

The AAAAI Foundation and William T. Shearer and Lynn Des Prez Lecture: Investing Together in Our Future



Dr. Shearer is Professor of Pediatrics and Immunology at Baylor College of Medicine, and the former Chief of the Allergy and Immunology Service at Texas Children's Hospital. He graduated from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis in 1970. He received his clinical training in pediatrics, allergy and immunology at the Washington University's affiliated hospitals, St. Louis Children's Hospital, and Barnes Hospital.

He received a Research Scholar Award from the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and a Faculty Research Award from the American Cancer Society for his early research work. He joined the faculty of Washington University in 1974 and was promoted to professor in 1978 prior to moving to Baylor

College of Medicine.

In 1981 he was elected to membership in the American Society for Clinical Investigation and received the Distinguished Teacher Award in 1984 from Baylor College of Medicine. Washington University conferred its Alumni Achievement Award on Dr. Shearer in 2000, the Houston Regional Cabinet Award in 2003, and in 2008 appointed him an Ethan A.H. Shepley Trustee of the Washington University Board of Trustees and member of the School of Medicine National Council at Washington University. In 2008 he was elected to the Association of American Physicians, Chair of the Program Directors Assembly (1986-1991), Vice-President of the ACGME Residency and Review Committee for Allergy and Immunology (1996-2001).

Dr. Shearer has been active in professional and clinical immunology organizations at the national level for many years, serving as Director and Chair of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology (1900-1995); Director of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (1992-2002); Chair of the Academy's Clinical and Laboratory Immunology Committee which published the Core Content Outline for Clinical and Laboratory Immunology and the Practice Parameters for the Diagnosis and Management of Immunodeficiency; and member and Associate Editor of the *Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology* (2000-2015). He has been elected Councilor (1997-2001) and President of the Clinical Immunology Society (2001-2002). For editing the *Primer on Allergy and Immunologic Diseases* 5th edition, he was given the Special Recognition Award of the Academy in 2004. In 2005, he received the Arnold J. Rudolph - Baylor Pediatric Award for Lifetime Excellence in Teaching.

Lynn Des Prez is a Philadelphia native and served as the Administrative Director of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology for 31 years following an economic and legal background. She and Bill shared a long-distance marriage until 2006, when she moved to Houston. She continues her involvement with allergy and immunology through Bill's many activities. She shares his philanthropic efforts via the ARTrust™ and a Diversity Scholarship at Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine. She functioned as 2011-2012 President of the AAAAI Associates in raising scholarship and asthma camp funds. In 1997 she received the AAAAI Distinguished Layperson Award. In 2002 she received the ACAAI Distinguished Service Award. She has served professional and civic associations, was a church elder, and holds office on a prison ministry and Houston's Etoffe Litteraire. She is interested in continuing education, health, finance, technology, and musical theatre. Bill's 7 children and 7 grandchildren keep them very busy.

2018 marks the 4th year of the AAAAI Foundation and William T. Shearer and Lynn Des Prez Lecture: Investing Together in Our Future award. It will be presented in Plenary Session 4101: Cutting Edge-Food Allergy Pathogenesis, Diagnosis and Therapy on Monday, March 5, 2018: 8:15 to 9:45 am, Convention Center, South Concourse, Level 1, South Hall A1.

**The AAAAI Foundation and William T. Shearer and Lynn Des Prez Lecture:
Investing Together in Our Future Lecturer –
Talal A. Chatila, MD MSc**



Dr. Chatila is the Denise and David Bunning Professor of Pediatrics in the Field of Allergy and Immunology, Harvard Medical School, and the Director of the Food Allergy Program at Boston Children's Hospital.

Dr. Chatila's research focuses on elucidating the mechanisms involved in the breakdown of oral tolerance in food allergy, and the role of regulatory T cells in the disease process.

This research effort has led to the identification of several genetic networks that regulate oral tolerance and are associated with food allergy in human subjects, including those involving FOXP3, DOCK8 and IL4R genes.

The long-term goal of these studies is to develop novel therapeutic approaches that re-establish oral immunological tolerance in food allergic subjects by manipulating these networks.

Dr. Chatila is also investigating the role of altered intestinal microbiota in precipitating food allergy and means of their reprogramming to establish tolerance to food allergens. These studies aim to develop alternative microbial therapies for the prevention and treatment of food allergy.