Heritage Lectureship

The Heritage Lectureship will be presented by Jean-Laurent Casanova, MD PhD in plenary 2101 Preparing for the Next Pandemic: From Mechanisms to Vaccines in Convention Center, North Building, Lower Level, Hall 6 on Saturday, February 26 at 8:50 am

The AAAAI Foundation is proud to introduce the AAAAI Foundation Heritage Lectureship. The Lectureship is our way of honoring and memorializing former members whose lectureship tenure has passed, but still have funds to support more education. Remaining assets from the AAAAI lectureships presented at the Annual Meeting were graciously transferred to the Foundation to create the Heritage Lectureship. The following lectureships were transformed into the first Heritage Lectureship at the 2019 Annual Meeting:

The Robert J. Becker Memorial HEDQ Lectureship

The Robert J. Becker Memorial HEDQ Lectureship was started in 1992 with a donation by Robert J. Becker, MD FAAAAI. Becker was a member of the AAAAI for 50 years from 1947 until his death in 1997. Becker was a practicing allergist and was founder of First Health Group Corporation of Downers Grove, Illinois. He was interested in the social, economic and political aspects of medicine in the United States. Lectureship Tenure: 15 years

The Jerry Dolovich Memorial Lectureship

Jerry M. Dolovich, MD, divided his professional work between clinical allergy and allergy-related research and teaching. Dolovich’s main initial research interest was late allergic responses. He concentrated his research on practical problems encountered in the clinic, including the identification of ethylene oxide as an allergen. His later research interests were in the study of nasal polyps. Dolovich’s personal and professional characteristics endeared him to many and facilitated the process of discovery in his science. He was valued and beloved by his patients, colleagues and students. He knew and never forgot his facts, and he never forgot his patients. Lectureship Tenure: 19 years

The Elliot Middleton Memorial Lectureship

Elliott M. Middleton, MD FAAAAI, was interested in research early in his career as a medical student at Columbia. His research continued and flourished throughout his academic career. His focused on the various biochemical factors that governed the *in vitro* release of histamine from animal and human peripheral blood leukocytes, adrenergic-cholinergic “imbalance” in allergic reactions and asthma, α-adrenergic effects on leukocyte function in asthmatic individuals, and the biochemical basis for the modulation of allergic reactions by drugs. Later in his life, he became a recognized expert on flavonoids. Middleton also served as AAAAI President and was a fine clinician and outstanding teacher, as the more than 75 fellows he mentored during his career will attest. Lectureship Tenure: 16 years

The John E. Salvaggio Memorial Lectureship

John E. Salvaggio, MD FAAAAI, was Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Tulane University and in 1989 became Vice Chancellor for Research. He was president of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology and played a major role in developing the standards
and credentials during the board’s formative years. He also served on the Executive Committee of the AAAAI and was President from 1985 to 1986. Salvaggio’s main research interests related to the mechanisms and pathogenesis of occupational and environmental pulmonary disease induced by organic dust and simple chemicals. He authored or co-authored more than 400 original scientific articles, books and chapters. Lectureship Tenure: 16 years

The Burton Zweiman Memorial Lectureship

Burton X. Zweiman, MD FAAAAI, is widely regarded for his many accomplishments in the education, research and clinical arenas. His extraordinary skills as an educator won him the most prestigious teaching awards at Pennsylvania University. In the research arena, he made important contributions to our early understanding of the actions of immunosuppressive agents. He made seminal observations on the immunopathogenesis of demyelinating diseases and, throughout his entire career, provided important insights into the cellular basis of IgE-mediated inflammation. In the clinical arena, Zweiman is recognized as the physician’s physician. Lectureship Tenure: 17 years

Jean-Laurent Casanova, MD PhD

Jean-Laurent Casanova received his M.D. in 1987 and his Ph.D. in 1992, after training at the Pasteur Institute in Paris and the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research in Lausanne. He was appointed professor at Necker in 1999 and with Laurent Abel, cofounded the Laboratory of Human Genetics of Infectious Diseases. He was appointed professor at Rockefeller University in 2008 and named HHMI investigator in 2014. He continues to partner with Dr. Abel, maintaining their lab in Paris and NY.

Over the last 25 years, they discovered the first monogenic inborn errors of immunity, rare and common, which predispose otherwise healthy individuals to a single infectious disease, including a variety of viral, bacterial, and fungal infections. In response to the SARS-CoV2 Global Pandemic, Dr Casanova cofounded the COVID Human Genetic Effort with Helen Su at the NIAID. He discovered monogenic inborn errors of type I interferon immunity underlying severe forms of COVID-19 in previously healthy individuals. This led to his discovery that pre-existing autoantibodies to type I interferons account for at least 10% of severe cases.

Dr. Casanova was recipient of multiple international awards, including the Dautrebande Prize (Belgium, 2004), Richard Lounsbery Award (USA/France, 2008), E. Mead Johnson Award (USA, 2010), InBev Baillet-Latour Health Prize (Belgium, 2011), Ilse and Helmut Wachter Foundation Award (Austria, 2012), Milstein Award (USA, 2012), Robert Koch Award (Germany, 2014), Sanofi-Institut Pasteur Award (France, 2014), Stanley J. Korsmeyer Award (USA, 2016), and Inserm Grand Prix (France, 2016). He was elected to EMBO (2005), USA National Academy of Sciences (2015), USA National Academy of Medicine (2015), and Royal Academy of Medicine of Belgium (2021).