ASIP lauds Dr. Peter Ward, M.D., Godfrey D. Stobbe Professor and Chairman, Department of Pathology, University of Michigan, with the 2005 Chugai Award for Excellence in Mentoring and Scholarship. This award, generously funded by Chugai Pharmaceutical Co, Ltd., is presented to a member of ASIP with a distinguished career that especially links excellence in mentoring and education with outstanding research achievements in experimental and investigative pathology.

Dr. Ward is a distinguished scientist recognized internationally as one of the leaders in inflammation and immunopathology research and has mentored numerous residents, post-doctoral fellows, graduate students, and junior faculty in his role of principal investigator of NIH training grants and chair of two departments of pathology since 1973.

Dr. Ward was previously awarded the three most prestigious awards from ASIP. He received the Park-Davis (now the Amgen Award) in 1971, the Rous-Whipple Award in 1996, and the Gold-Headed Cane Award in 2001. He is the only individual in the history of ASIP to be honored with all four major awards.

Dr. Ward’s earliest studies established that motility responses of neutrophilic leukocytes were linked to activation products of the fifth component of the complement cascade. The initial studies have had a substantial impact in the scientific arena, resulting in many investigators applying similar scientific approaches to study leukocyte biology.

“He was one of the first scientists to describe a chemotactic defect in a human with recurrent bacterial infections, thus providing the precedent for the subsequent recognition of a large and diverse array of clinical disorders involving motility defects in leukocytes,” said Dr. Steven Kunkel, Ph.D., Endowed Professor in Pathology Research, University of Michigan.

In addition to his research contributions, Dr. Ward has been a national leader and champion for pathology education and for the specialty of pathology. He has served in a variety of roles in every major pathology organization including the Residency Review Committee for Pathology of the ACGME (1989-1995), American Board of Pathology (1996), President of ASIP (1979-1980) and President of the United States and Canadian Academy of Pathology (1992-1993).

Dr. Ward’s mentoring activities have spanned 30 years at the University of Connecticut and the University of Michigan. At the University of Connecticut, he played an active role in launching the careers of academic scientists with a focus on pathology research; those scientists currently hold full professor status at leading academic institutions. During his tenure at Michigan, Dr. Ward has continued his mentoring by guiding more than 30 students. Many previous trainees now hold faculty positions at such institutions as University of Nebraska; Loyola School of Medicine; University of Hanover Medical Center, Hanover, Germany; and University of Zurich Hospital, Zurich, Switzerland.

“Many of his former trainees are currently appointed to the faculty of medical schools and research institutes both in the United States and internationally,” said Dr. Joseph Fantone, M.D., Director, Anatomic Pathology at the University of Michigan. “He is a strong and collegial leader and a person of high integrity who serves as an outstanding role model for his trainees and junior faculty in academic pathology.”

In addition to the recognition from ASIP, Dr. Ward has received numerous other honors, including the Distinguished Service Award, Association of Pathology Chairs; Fellow, American Association for the Advancement of Science; and election to the Institute of Medicine, the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Ward received his B.S. from the University of Michigan, College of Literature, Science and the Arts and his M.D. from the University of Michigan Medical School.

Dr. Ward will receive the Chugai Award at ASIP’s Annual Meeting in San Diego and on April 4, when he will present The Chugai Award Lecture and chair the Symposium for Young Investigators.