



American Society for Investigative Pathology

Investigating the Pathogenesis of Disease

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Patricia A. D'Amore, PhD, Receives the 2012 ASIP Rous-Whipple Award



Dr. Patricia D'Amore, Professor, Department of Ophthalmology (Pathology) at Harvard Medical School and Co-Director of Research at the Schepens Eye Research Institute, has been selected as the recipient of the ASIP 2012 Rous-Whipple award, which is presented to a senior scientist with a distinguished career in research who has advanced the understanding of disease and has continued productivity at the time of this award.

Dr. D'Amore's research career is focused on understanding the mechanism of vascular growth and development. She is particularly interested in the role of polypeptide growth factors such as VEGF and TGF- β and in investigating the contribution of cell-cell interactions in the cells of the vasculature.

Dr. Michael Klagsbrun, Harvard Medical School/Children's Hospital Boston, comments of Dr. D'Amore that he has "never met an individual so involved in so many areas at the same time: running an institution administratively; running a successful eye-oriented research program; and teaching and serving on myriad committees devoted to student education." Dr. Klagsbrun calls Dr. D'Amore "an individual with amazing energy and creativity," and an "outstanding and focused scientist" who is a "pillar of solid research in retinal vascular disease."

Dr. Harold Dvorak of Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and a former recipient of the Rous-Whipple Award in 2002, commends Dr. D'Amore as "an outstanding scientist," and states that he "personally turn(s) to her work on many occasions for insight into the angiogenic process." He goes on to say that Dr. D'Amore, "making use of both tissue culture and whole animal approaches, (has) made a number of extremely important discoveries." Dr. Dvorak also mentions that in addition to her scientific endeavours, Dr. D'Amore is "widely recognized as an outstanding mentor (and) she is also a talented and highly regarded teacher." Dr. Dvorak appreciates Dr. D'Amore as a member of the scientific community who has "contributed much to an understanding of the pathology and molecular biology of angiogenesis."

Dr. Michael Gimbrone, Harvard Medical School/Brigham and Women's Hospital, describes Dr. D'Amore's national and international activities as impressive in scope, in that "she has been, for more than two decades, a primary organizer and/or active participant in numerous interdisciplinary forums at the

interface of vascular biology, angiogenesis, and translational research.” Dr. Gimbrone finds that Dr. D’Amore offers an “often paradigm-shifting nature of the working concepts she has introduced into the field of angiogenesis and its clinical applications to ophthalmology.”

Dr. D’Amore is the Co-Director of Research, the Ankeny Scholar of Retinal Molecular Biology, and a Senior Scientist at the Schepens Eye Research Institute in Boston, MA. In addition, she is Chair of the AMD Center of Excellence at Schepens. She is Professor of Ophthalmology (Pathology) at Harvard Medical School and holds a PhD in Cell Biology from Boston University.

Dr. D’Amore presented her award lecture, “The Many Roles of VEGF in the Adult,” on Sunday, April 22, 2012 at the ASIP Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology 2012 in San Diego, CA. She received the Rous-Whipple Award on Monday, April 23, 2012 during the ASIP Awards Presentation and Membership Business Meeting.