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**Isaiah Josh Fidler, DVM, PhD, Receives the  
2016 ASIP Gold-Headed Cane Award**



Dr. Isaiah Josh Fidler, of the MD Anderson Cancer Center at the University of Texas, will receive this year's ASIP Gold-Headed Cane Award. This is the most definitive honor granted by ASIP to a member, in recognition of long-term contributions to pathology, including meritorious research, outstanding teaching, excellence in the field, and leadership in pathology.

Dr. Fidler is best known for the innovative and high-impact research that he conducted over the past 40 years and has "contributed to our understanding of the origins and pathogenesis of cancer metastasis and has dramatically changed our approach to treating many forms of cancer," according to Dr. Stanley Hamilton, of the MD Anderson Cancer Center. Dr. Hamilton goes on to praise Dr. Fidler's groundbreaking experiments, which "provided the first evidence that only a small fraction of cells that enter circulation survive to produce metastasis." Dr. Hamilton goes on to praise Dr. Fidler's pioneering work that "provided the first definitive evidence that tumors are biologically heterogeneous and that metastatic cells pre-exist in a cancer cell population and are not the result of adaptation during the metastatic process."

Dr. Rakesh Jain, of Harvard Medical School, praises Dr. Fidler's continued work on understanding the processes of tumor progression and biologic diversification of human malignancies....He has also demonstrated that specific organ microenvironments influence the resistance of metastatic cells to chemotherapy and experimental biological therapies." Dr. Fidler's current research "focuses on the biology and therapy of human brain metastasis, which has significant worldwide impact." Dr. Jain emphasizes that Dr. Fidler has "isolated subpopulations of tumor cells that home to the brain and identified their properties on the cellular and molecular levels [and has also demonstrated that] astrocytes establish gap junction communication with metastatic cancer cells in the brain leading to upregulation of multiple survival genes in the tumor cells and, hence, to their resistance to chemotherapy."

Dr. William Stetler-Stevenson, of the National Cancer Institute, praises Dr. Fidler's over 590 primary research articles. Dr. Stetler-Stevenson also highlights Dr. Fidler's many honors and awards such as G. H. A. Clowes Award from the American Association of Cancer Research, the City of Paris Medal of Vermeil, WHO Medal for Biological Science, the Bristol-Myers Squibb Award for Distinguished Achievement in Cancer Research, the Paget-Ewing Award from the Metastasis Research Society, the American Cancer Society's Distinguished Service Award, and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nature Publishing Group. Dr. Fidler has left a scientific

legacy of over 40 clinical fellows and more than 50 post-doctoral fellows according to Dr. Stetler-Stevenson.

Dr. Fidler received his DVM from Oklahoma State University in 1963 and his PhD from the University of Pennsylvania in 1970. Dr. Fidler has been a member of ASIP since 1972.

Dr. Fidler received the Gold-Headed Cane, a mahogany cane with a 14-karat gold head and engraved band, at the ASIP 2016 Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology in San Diego, California on Monday, April 4, 2016 during the ASIP Membership Business Meeting and Awards Presentation. He presented a special Gold-Headed Cane Award Lecture on “Biology and Therapy of Cancer Metastasis” on Saturday afternoon, April 2, 2016.