



American Society for Investigative Pathology
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Rous-Whipple Award - 2000

Errol C. Friedberg



Dr. Errol C. Friedberg, Professor and Chair, Department of Pathology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center is the recipient of the 2000 Rous-Whipple Award for pathologists over age 50 who have had a distinguished career in research, and who are continuing to contribute to the field.

Dr. Friedberg is the senior author of the standard text on DNA repair, "DNA Repair and Mutagenesis" and more than 240 scientific papers. Principal nominator Dr. Harold L. Moses of the Vanderbilt Cancer Center calls him "one of the premier investigators in the world in the DNA repair field."

Nominators cited Dr. Friedberg's work leading to the phage T4 UV endonuclease being commercially available as a dimer-specific enzyme probe. Dr. Friedberg was also a pioneer in using yeast genetics as a guide for human cells in the nucleotide excision repair (NER)-defective disease xeroderma pigmentosum. His recognition, along with colleague Dr. Roger Kornberg of Stanford, that the RNA polymerase II basal transcription factor TFIIH is not only essential for transcription but also for NER, was one of the two major advances in the DNA repair field that prompted the journal *Science* to designate the DNA repair machinery of cells as "Molecule of the Year" in 1994.

Errol Friedberg was born in Johannesburg, South Africa, and received his MD from the University of Witwatersrand there. He made landfall in the United States at Cleveland Metropolitan General Hospital as a Pathology resident in 1965 and became a U. S. citizen in 1974. After a brief stint at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Dr. Friedberg began a 19 year association with Stanford University, rising to Professor. He moved to his current position at Texas Southwestern in 1990. He has been a member of the UAREP Board of Directors since 1994.

Dr. Friedberg will receive a monetary award and a plaque, has been invited to present a lecture at the ASIP Annual Meeting, and to have his paper published in the *American Journal of Pathology*..