Peter G. Anderson, DVM, PhD Receives the 2012 ASIP Robbins Distinguished Educator Award

Dr. Peter G. Anderson, Professor, Department of Pathology, University of Alabama at Birmingham, has been selected as the 2012 recipient of the Robbins Distinguished Educator Award, which is named in honor of Dr. Stanley Robbins (1915-2003), formerly of Boston University and Brigham and Women’s Hospital. Dr. Robbins was a pioneer of pathology education and a member of ASIP for over 50 years. This award, partially supported by an unrestricted educational grant from Elsevier, an ASIP Corporate Partner, recognizes individuals whose contributions to education in pathology have had a manifest impact at a regional, national, or international level.

Dr. Anderson has a national and international reputation as a cardiovascular investigator and educator. As outlined by Dr. Jay McDonald of the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Dr. Anderson’s research initially focused on mechanisms of cardiac ischemia and ischemia/reperfusion injury; he then extended his vascular biology interests into characterizing vascular responses to stents, which led to becoming a co-investigator on a patent for drug-containing stents. Dr. Anderson is considered a medical educator of the highest standard, implementing high-tech, computer-based educational products and an innovative teaching style. Dr. McDonald considers Dr. Anderson to be “a gifted, fully-committed teacher.” Dr. Anderson has also held numerous leadership positions in national and international education organizations including the American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP), the International Association of Medical Science Educators (IAMSE), and the National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME), among others.

Dr. Kevin Roth, Chair of the Department of Pathology at UAB, recognizes that Dr. Anderson has “an incredible record of innovative teaching and an unquestionable dedication to advancing pathology education.” He goes on to state that Dr. Anderson “has received virtually all departmental, School of Medicine, and university-wide educational awards” and that he has received numerous national awards as well. Dr. Roth describes Dr. Anderson’s teaching as innovative and transformational, stating that Dr. Anderson’s numerous awards “do not adequately describe the passion that (he) has for pathology education.” Dr. Roth also cites Dr. Anderson’s “Pathology Education Instructional Resource (PEIR)” website as “an internationally available treasure house of educational materials.”

According to Dr. L. Maximilian Buja of the University of Texas System, Dr. Anderson is a teacher and mentor who reaches out and establishes partnerships at many levels, and is “an individual who is committed to diversity in the health care field.” Dr. Buja regards Dr. Anderson as “a very productive and excellent cardiovascular investigator and outstanding medical educator.”

Dr. Anderson received his D.V.M. in Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University in 1981, and received his Ph.D. in Experimental Pathology from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1986. After a residency and postdoctoral fellowship at UAB, he became a faculty member there, rising to Professor of Pathology in 2002.
Dr. Anderson received the Robbins Distinguished Educator Award at the ASIP Annual Meeting (at Experimental Biology 2012) in San Diego, CA on Monday, April 23, 2012 during the ASIP Awards Presentation and Membership Business Meeting.