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For Immediate Release...

American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP) to Award
Harold F. Dvorak, MD, the ASIP 2013 Gold-Headed Cane Award

Bethesda, MD - Dr. Harold F. Dvorak, of Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, has been selected as the 2013 recipient of the ASIP Gold-Headed Cane Award. This is the most definitive honor granted by ASIP to a member, and it is in recognition of long-term contributions to pathology, including meritorious research, outstanding teaching, excellence in the field, and leadership in pathology.

Dr. Dvorak’s research includes seminal contributions in vascular and tumor biology, most notably his discovery of VPF/VEGF that has become a major focus of investigation. According to Dr. Robert b. Colvin of Massachusetts General Hospital, Dr. Dvorak’s insights and publications have “driven the whole field of angiogenesis and led to new and successful therapies. His work has been robust and durable in a field that is not always so.” Dr. Colvin further lauds Dr. Dvorak as an “outstanding model for young pathologist-investigators,” and being known as “incredibly generous to his fellows with his time, his teaching and his support.”

Dr. Steven J. Galli of Stanford University School of Medicine finds that Dr. Dvorak’s “scientific work marks him as one of the most significant and influential scientists currently active in the ASIP and his contributions to the wider world of academic pathology are broad, deep, and highly admirable.” He also stresses that it is particularly notable that Dr. Dvorak’s “approach to his work is his ability to employ to great effect the full range of research tools available to the well-trained investigative pathologist, from classical morphology...as well as advanced techniques in biochemistry, cell biology, immunology and molecular biology.” Dr. Galli further notes that some of Dr. Dvorak’s “most important contributions, including the discovery of VPF, were based on highly perceptive morphological observations.”

Dr. Peter A. Ward of the University of Michigan Medical School states that Dr. Dvorak’s “chief scientific advances relate to angiogenesis, its induction and its regulation in the setting of tumors, injured tissue and in wound healing. These observations have had profound influences across the scientific world and have been the basis for construction of new experiments to advance his seminal findings.” In addition, Dr. Ward points out that Dr. Dvorak “has received a series of scientific awards including the Rous-Whipple Award, the Lefoulon-Delalande Grand Prix of the French Academy of Sciences, the Szent-Gyorgyi Prize and the Earl P. Benditt Award, to name just a few.”
Dr. Dvorak received an A.B. from Princeton University, followed by an M.D. from Harvard Medical School. He served for 26 years as the Mallinckrodt Professor of Pathology at Harvard Medical School and the Chief of Pathology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Dr. Dvorak served as ASIP President from 1997-1998. Since retiring as Chief of Pathology, he became the Founding Director of the Center for Vascular Biology at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, and the Mallinckrodt Distinguished Professor of Pathology at Harvard Medical School.

Dr. Dvorak will receive the Gold-Headed Cane, a mahogany cane with a 14-karat gold head and engraved band, at the ASIP Annual Meeting and Centennial Celebration at Experimental Biology 2013 in Boston, MA on Monday, April 22, 2013 during the ASIP Awards Presentation and Membership Business Meeting.

The **American Society for Investigative Pathology** (ASIP) is a society of biomedical scientists who investigate the mechanisms of disease. Investigative pathology is an integrative discipline that links the presentation of disease in the whole organism to its fundamental cellular and molecular mechanisms by implementing a variety of structural, functional, and genetic techniques, and ultimately applies research findings to the diagnosis and treatment of diseases. ASIP is a member of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), a coalition of 24 independent societies that plays an active role in lobbying for the interests of over 100,000 biomedical scientists.

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