



American Society for Investigative Pathology

Investigating the Mechanisms of Disease

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For Immediate Release...

**American Society for Investigative Pathology (ASIP) to award Frederick F. Becker, MD
the 2012 ASIP Gold-Headed Cane Award**



Bethesda, MD - Dr. Frederick F. Becker, Professor of the Department of Molecular Pathology at the University of Texas System, MD Anderson Cancer Center, has been selected to receive the 2012 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. Becker's research activities include the regulation and manifestations of cell growth and proliferation as related to regeneration and carcinogenesis. According to Dr. Michael E. Lamm of Case Western Reserve University, Dr. Becker's research has "led to significant contributions in such areas as liver regeneration, protein synthesis by the liver, chemical carcinogenesis, DNA methylation in relation to oncogenesis, and most recently methods for identifying and isolating neoplastic cells from heterogeneous populations." Dr. Lamm further lauds Dr. Becker's leadership roles over the years, his important advisory positions, and his service on numerous journals during his "distinguished career."

Dr. Stanley R. Hamilton, a colleague of Dr. Becker's at MD Anderson, points out that during his tenure as Chairman of Pathology at that institution, Dr. Becker greatly expanded the Department and was a strong supporter of faculty and trainee research. Dr. Hamilton also states that Dr. Becker "fostered remarkable research growth" and "contributed heavily to the reputation that our institution now has in both basic and translational cancer research." In addition, Dr. Fred Gorstein of Jefferson University Hospitals points out that through his work, Dr. Becker has served as a mentor to "generations of students and colleagues," and has contributed greatly to "our fundamental understanding of cell biology and cancer as well as the training and nurturing of two generations of science scholars."

Dr. Gorstein commends Dr. Becker for contributing to the field "a landmark treatise on cancer, Cancer, a six-volume work which served as a standard reference source for many years," as well as The Liver: Normal Function and Disease, a five-volume work that "provided a comprehensive review of our knowledge at the time." These works, along with over 250 peer-reviewed papers, and numerous book chapters and monographs, point to Dr. Becker's cutting edge research and vision, and have allowed Dr. Becker to participate in many capacities as a scientific leader on a national level. As stated by Dr. Hamilton, "It is unusual to find an individual who is able to do

high-quality research over an entire career and also contribute through administrative talents to the careers of literally hundreds of other faculty members.”

Dr. Becker received his B.A. from Columbia University, followed by a medical degree from New York University. He completed a fellowship in experimental pathology at the Department of Pathology at NYU before being assigned to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. Of note, it was at NNMC that Dr. Becker began a long association with Dr. Judah Folkman. After a period of time at NYU as a junior faculty member, Dr. Becker moved on to the University of Texas System in numerous capacities as Department Chair, Scientific Director of the Tumor Institute (MD Anderson), and Professor.

Dr. Becker will receive the Gold-Headed Cane, a mahogany cane with a 14-karat gold head and engraved band, 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

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. It uses 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 100,000 biomedical scientists.

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