

2006 MCV Campus Alumni Award Recipients

MCV Alumni Association of VCU Award Recipients

Outstanding Alumnus Award - presented to a graduate who is nationally recognized and acknowledged by leaders in their chosen profession as having made distinguished contributions to health care.

***Dr. Charles E. Barr (D'54)**- Internationally respected and recognized, Barr has distinguished himself in the clinical, teaching, and research fields of dentistry. Barr is a clinical professor in the Division of Oral Medicine at the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Connecticut Health Center. He was appointed diplomate on the American Board of Periodontology in 1964 and appointed as a fellow with the American College of Dentists in 1988. He is a member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society and the Scientific Research Society, Sigma Xi. He has co-authored several books including AIDS: A Guide for Dental Practice.*

Hodges-Kay Service Award – presented to an alumnus in recognition of service to the MCV Alumni Association and participation in the activities of the association, their school and/or the University.

***Mr. Henry W. Addington (P '51)** – Provided generous levels of support toward the construction of the MCV Alumni House and Paul A. Gross Conference Center. For over a decade, has been an active member of the MCV Foundation's Board of Trustees. Has served on the School of Pharmacy's National Advisory Council for 8 years, annually sponsors 3-5 members of the graduating class to attend Reunion Weekend activities, and has established an endowed scholarship for students interested in pursuing independent community pharmacy.*

Division Recipients

*Allied Health-Dept. of Health Administration

Outstanding Alumnus Award

Dr. Jonathan B. Perlin (PhD '91, MD '92, HS '96, MSHA '97)

Appointed as Under Secretary for Health of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

**Basic Health Sciences-Dept. of Microbiology and Immunology

Outstanding Alumnus Award

***Dr. Gregg Duester (PhD '82)** Professor, Oncodevelopmental Biology at The Burnham Institute for Medical Research, in San Diego.*

Research: a leader in the field of retinoic acid and oncodevelopment.

Dentistry

Harry Lyons Outstanding Alumnus Award - presented to a graduate in recognition of his or her outstanding loyalty and service to the school, its alumni and students.

***Dr. Noel Strickler Root (DDS '82)**- is well known for his dedication in serving the community, his kind and caring personality which serves as an example to those around him, and for his abilities as a gifted teacher. He was instrumental in the development of the Jamaica Project which provides indigent rural peoples of that country with dental care while simultaneously providing dental students with the opportunity to utilize their health care skills in an environment unlike any other they have experienced. He has also played a key role in the Mission of Mercy (MOM) Project directing the Triage Core. He has recently left his private practice in Richmond to pursue his dream of establishing a public health dental clinic on the Eastern Shore.*

James H. Revere Outstanding Service Award - presented either to an alumnus or to an honorary alumnus who has shown outstanding leadership, loyalty, and service to the community, or to the School or University, or to professional or community organizations.

***Dr. J. Robert Eshleman (DDS '60)**- has faithfully served on the faculty since 1960 (over 45 years), researched and developed acid-etch bridges, served as Interim Chair of the Restorative Dentistry Department from 1983 to 1986, and also served as Chair, Restorative Dentistry Department 1986-1992. He has presented numerous continuing education classes, volunteers throughout the dental community for agencies such as the Cross-Over Clinic, participated in dental mission to Guyana. He continues to teach and has one of the busiest schedules in the school. He is highly respected and sought-out by the students and is a true role model for everyone.*

Medicine

Outstanding Alumnus Award – Presented during Reunion Weekend to an alumnus who is nationally recognized and acknowledged by leaders in the field of medicine as having made distinguished contributions to health care.

***Dr. Jeffery K. Taubenberger (MD '86, PhD'87 - Anatomy)**- successfully initiated a project to crack the code to the genetic sequence of the 1918 human influenza virus.*

Caravati Service Award – Presented during Reunion Weekend to an alumnus in recognition of service to the MCV Alumni Association, participation in activities of the School of Medicine and contributions to their local community.

***Dr. Wyatt S. Beazley III (M '61, HS '66)** – Currently serving as co-chair of the School of Medicine's \$87 million campaign, he has served as chair of the Medical School Advisory Council, has served as host of the Reunion Weekend Grand Alumni Dinner (for retired faculty and alumni who graduated more than fifty years ago), and hosts many School of Medicine events at his home throughout the year.*

Nursing

Outstanding Nurse Alumnus Award - This award is presented in recognition of a successful nursing career. The recipient is recognized as a leader and expert who has contributed to health-related and other groups and has impacted the nursing profession with creativity and innovation.

***Mrs. Patti Rager (BSN '71, MSN '78)**- Launched Nursing Spectrum magazine in the Washington DC/Baltimore and Philadelphia regions in 1990. Later became its president and publisher when Gannett acquired the publication in 1996. Since that time, Rager has grown the company six-fold. Nursing Spectrum's 13 regional print magazines reach over 1 million RNs from coast to coast. The award winning websites garner nearly 2 million page views each month and enable RNs to participate in popular nursing online communities. The CE division creates seminars, home and online study modules as well as overseas study tours and cruises. On April 3rd, Rager was promoted to chairman of Nursing Spectrum which will allow her to step away from some day to day responsibilities and focus on other issues.*

Outstanding Service Award - This award honors School of Nursing alumni who have shown outstanding leadership and service to the community, the School or University, or professional or community organizations.

***Mrs. Nancy Mitchell (BSN '57)**- In 1995, Mrs. Mitchell helped to form the Greensville-Emporia Coalition for Delaying Parenthood in Youth. Prior to the formation of this coalition, Emporia had consistently ranked # 1 in the state for teenage, unwed pregnancies. Over the past eleven years, both Emporia and Greensville have recognized significant declines in these rankings. Among the 135 Virginia cities and counties, Emporia's total teen pregnancy rate declined from 9th in 2003 to 22nd in 2004. Mrs. Mitchell's efforts have been recognized with the "Making A Difference Award" from the Virginia Department of Health, and the Volunteer of the Year Award from the Hospice Support Group of Southside Virginia.*

Pharmacy

Distinguished Pharmacy Alumnus Award-presented to an alumnus most worthy of recognition for significant contributions to the profession and/or the community.

***Mrs. Cynthia Pigg, (BS '81-Med Tech, BS '84-Pharmacy, MHA '91)** Launched a dynamic career in which she has become a well-known and highly respected expert within managed care circles. Has progressed through a number of positions of increasing responsibility at CIGNA Pharmacy Management, directing operations at both the regional and national levels, culminating in her appointment to vice president for CIGNA Pharmacy Management. She left CIGNA to accept the national leadership position of executive director for the Foundation for Managed Care Pharmacy in July 2005. As the chief executive of FMCP, she is leading the Foundation's efforts to support research and education to advance sound medication management principles and strategies to improve patient health outcomes and quality of life.*

Pharmacy Alumnus Service Award - Presented during Reunion to the graduate most worthy of recognition for loyalty and service to the school.

***Mr. John Hasty (BS '56)** Over the past fifty years, he has been an advocate for pharmacists, for the profession of pharmacy and for the VCU School of Pharmacy. Member of the School's National Advisory Council and Chairman of a \$10 million capital campaign to support pharmacy student scholarships and academic excellence. Has received numerous awards and recognitions from a*

wide range of organizations for his outstanding service and dedication to his profession. He is perhaps most recognized for his work in establishing the Virginia Pharmacists Aiding Pharmacists program which provides assistance to drug and alcohol addicted pharmacists, as well as the Virginia Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth. His commitment to advancing the profession earned him state and national recognition including the first “National Pharmacist of the Year” award presented by First Lady Nancy Reagan. He was also the recipient of the prestigious Daniel B. Smith Award presented by the American Pharmaceutical Association for his work in combating drug abuse.

****Will be presented at a later date.***

*****Will be presented at Basic Health Sciences Seminar, September 19, 2006***