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CHICAGO, Nov. 29, 2005 — Today the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) conferred its highest honor, the Gold Medal Award, upon Edmund A. Franken Jr., M.D., of Iowa City, Iowa; C. Douglas Maynard, M.D., of Winston-Salem, N.C.; and H. Rodney Withers, M.D., D.Sc., of Los Angeles, Calif.

Gold Medals are presented each year to individuals who have rendered exemplary service to the science of radiology and who have received unanimous approval by the RSNA Board of Directors—a tradition originated in 1919.

Edmund A. Franken Jr., M.D.

Edmund A. Franken Jr., M.D., is a respected researcher, educator and philanthropist who has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the field of radiology for more than 40 years. He is currently a professor of radiology at the University of Iowa College of Medicine in Iowa City.

“Dr. Franken is one of the leading pediatric radiologists in the United States, with an established worldwide reputation,” said RSNA President David H. Hussey, M.D. “He is also an excellent department chair, pulling together many diverse elements with seeming tranquility. Dr. Franken has a tremendous ability to keep everybody working in the same direction, and during his tenure at the University of Iowa, his department flourished to become one of the leading academic radiology centers in the country.”

Dr. Franken said receiving the RSNA Gold Medal is the most prestigious award of his professional life. “My career has included several components—practitioner, teacher and researcher in pediatric radiology, administrator of an academic department and investigator in medical imaging and perception,” he said. “Receiving this award makes me feel like the totality of

my efforts has been appreciated and recognized. I hope to continue working in various educational and scientific roles with RSNA.”

Dr. Franken graduated from the University of Oklahoma Medical School in 1961 and served for two years as a medical officer in a branch of the U.S. Public Health Service before completing a radiology residency at the Indiana University Medical Center. In 1967, he became chief of radiology at the James Whitcomb Riley Children’s Hospital of Indiana University and spent the next 12 years teaching and practicing pediatric radiology, with a particular emphasis on the gastrointestinal tract. He published his first book, *Gastrointestinal Radiology in Pediatrics*, in 1975.

In 1979 he was appointed professor and chair of radiology at the University of Iowa, where he served for the next 15 years and where he is still active today. Under Dr. Franken’s department leadership, the university tripled the number of radiology faculty. Dr. Franken helped jump-start the residency and fellowship programs, contributing to the establishment of radiology as a significant constituent in the medical school curriculum. During this time, Dr. Franken teamed up with Kevin Berbaum, Ph.D., and worked on perceptual research for more than 20 years.

An RSNA member since 1971, Dr. Franken was the first RSNA International Visiting Professor in 1987. He was named an RSNA Roentgen Centennial Fellow in 1995 and was RSNA first vice-president in 1996.

Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Franken has published more than 200 articles and served as editor-in-chief of *Academic Radiology* from 1997 to 1999. He has received gold medals from the Society for Pediatric Radiology and the Association of University Radiologists.

C. Douglas Maynard, M.D.

C. Douglas Maynard, M.D., is a revered physician and scholar whose influence has been a driving force in the field of radiology for the past 50 years.

“Dr. Maynard’s high level of integrity sets a goal for all those with whom he is associated,” said RSNA President David H. Hussey, M.D. “He has significantly influenced the practice of radiology in this country. He has always demonstrated vision, insight and ingenuity within and outside of RSNA. Dr. Maynard has generated an amazing number of great ideas within our specialty, and he is an inspiration to all who know him,” Dr. Hussey said.

Dr. Maynard is honored to be recognized by his peers. “Many of the accomplishments for which I am being recognized are the result of collaborative work with other individuals,” he said.

“To have been associated with so many other volunteers in this fantastic endeavor has been one of the most enjoyable aspects of my radiology career.”

Having spent much of his youth in Costa Rica, Dr. Maynard returned to the United States to attend Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C., where he has maintained close ties ever since. In 1966, he was appointed to the radiology faculty at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest and became the director of the nuclear medicine laboratory at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

Dr. Maynard later served as assistant dean for admissions and associate dean for student affairs at Wake Forest, as well as chairman of the Department of Radiology and acting dean of the medical school. He now serves on the board of directors of Wake Forest University Health Sciences.

Among his crowning achievements, Dr. Maynard was instrumental in the creation of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering. He also helped create the combined graduate biomedical engineering program between the Wake Forest University School of Medicine and the Virginia Tech School of Engineering in Winston-Salem.

In 2002, Dr. Maynard received the Medallion of Merit from Wake Forest University, the highest honor the university bestows. He has received gold medals from the Association of University Radiologists, American Roentgen Ray Society, American College of Radiology and Colegio Interamericano de Radiologia.

From 1993 to 2000, Dr. Maynard served on the RSNA Board of Directors, which culminated in his presidency in 2000.

H. Rodney Withers, M.D., D.Sc.

H. Rodney Withers, M.D., D.Sc., is an acclaimed pioneer in the field of radiation biology, whose groundbreaking efforts have helped establish radiation therapy as the standard of care for patients with cancer.

“Dr. Withers is one of the most innovative minds in the fields of radiation oncology and radiation biology,” said RSNA President David H. Hussey, M.D. “He’s probably the world’s leading expert on the effects of radiation on normal tissues. He’s received almost every award a radiation oncologist could receive.”

Dr. Withers said earning the RSNA Gold Medal represents an important professional accomplishment. “It is a very special honor to be recognized by a Society that, year after year, mounts such a wonderful scientific meeting and, less conspicuously, continues yearlong to support the research of young physicians. I am privileged to join those who have been honored by the Society in the past, and I know I will be honored by the medalists who follow,” Dr. Withers said.

Born in Queensland, Australia, Dr. Withers attended the University of Queensland Medical School and subsequently conducted his doctoral work at the University of London. He specialized in radiation oncology in the 1970s at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and the University of Texas Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston. In 1980, Dr. Withers was appointed professor and director of experimental radiation oncology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), a position he held for the next 14 years.

After a leave of absence to serve as professor and director of the Institute of Oncology at the Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney, Australia, Dr. Withers returned to UCLA in 1991, where he became professor and vice-chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology and director of experimental radiation oncology. In 1992, he began an American Cancer Society clinical research professorship, an undertaking he is still involved with today. He served as professor and chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology at UCLA from 1994 to 2005.

Dr. Withers is responsible for many landmark advances in radiation biology involving the effects of ionizing radiation on normal and malignant tissue. He has also devoted himself to the study of the kinetics of metastases development. The clinical implementation of his research has enabled millions to receive safe and effective radiation therapy treatment for cancer.

Dr. Withers serves on myriad committees, including various ad-hoc review committees for the National Cancer Institute and the Scientific Review Group to the Joint Coordinating Committee for Radiation Effects Research, a division of the U.S. Department of Energy.

He is a recipient of the Enrico Fermi Award, the U.S. government's oldest science and technology award for recognition of lifetime achievement in the field of nuclear energy. Dr. Withers has also received the gold medal from the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology, the Kettering Prize from the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation, the Radiation Research Society's Failla Award and the H.S. Kaplan Award of the International Association for Radiation Research.

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Note: Copies of RSNA 2005 news releases and electronic images will be available online at RSNA.org/press05 beginning Monday, Nov. 28.

RSNA is an association of more than 38,000 radiologists, radiation oncologists, medical physicists and related scientists committed to promoting excellence in radiology through education and by fostering research, with the ultimate goal of improving patient care. The Society is based in Oak Brook, Ill.