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RSNA Announces Honored Lectures and Annual Oration Topics

CHICAGO, Nov. 28, 2005 — The Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) invites three eminent researchers to deliver honored lectures during the RSNA Scientific Assembly and Annual Meeting. This year, the presenters for the 91st Scientific Assembly are Lawrence H. Schwartz, M.D., from New York, N.Y.; William R. Brody, M.D., Ph.D., from Baltimore, Md.; and K. S. Clifford Chao, M.D., from Houston, Texas.

Oration topics this year are "Imaging in Drug Discovery: Emerging Roles and Challenges," "Radiology: Back to the Future" and "Integration of Functional Images into Future Radiation Oncology Research and Practice."

Eugene P. Pendergrass New Horizons Lecture

Radiology has become more important than ever in determining the effectiveness of various therapeutic interventions. Imaging also plays a vital role in therapeutic drug development, leading to speedier drug discovery and, in some instances, ensuring a drug's safety.

"Imaging can be used throughout the entire process of drug discovery," explained Lawrence H. Schwartz, M.D., an associate professor of radiology at Weill Medical College at Cornell University in New York City. "This includes monitoring pharmaceutical intervention on specific targets in early-phase drug discovery, selecting an optimal drug dose to maximize therapeutic effect, and determining whether the drug under evaluation is actually impacting the desired biochemical pathway."

Dr. Schwartz will deliver the New Horizons Lecture on Monday, November 28, on "Imaging in Drug Discovery: Emerging Roles and Challenges."

Dr. Schwartz says the expanded use of imaging in the drug development process necessitates cooperation among multidisciplinary teams to solve increasingly complex issues.

"Radiologists and other imaging scientists must play a key role in these teams," he said. "Active involvement by the entire radiology community in all phases of drug discovery—from the earliest proof of concept of a drug study, to the validation of imaging techniques used as the biomarker to actual clinical patient studies—is crucial."

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Dr. Schwartz is an attending radiologist and director of the Laboratory for Computational Image Analysis at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC) in New York City. He is also the director of magnetic resonance (MR) imaging and medical director of informatics and picture archiving and communication systems, or PACS, at MSKCC.

Dr. Schwartz may be best known for advancing the use of MR imaging to visualize tumors of the abdomen and pelvis, including preoperative imaging of complex liver, gallbladder, pancreatic, gynecologic and prostate cancers.

He has been an investigator or principal investigator in more than 130 research projects, including some funded by the National Institutes of Health. He has authored or co-authored more than 100 articles, book chapters and other publications. He is a reviewer for seven medical journals, including the *American Journal of Roentgenology, Journal of Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Journal of the American Medical Association* and *The Lancet*.

Annual Oration in Diagnostic Radiology

No one can predict the future of medical imaging, but 20 years from now, it will likely be a very different field than it is today.

"Two decades ago, few would have predicted the revolutionary advances that stem cells are poised to make today," said William R. Brody, M.D., Ph.D., president of The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. "Conversely, the predictions that were made back then about the promise of gene therapy have largely not yet been achieved,"

On Tuesday, November 29, Dr. Brody will deliver the Annual Oration in Diagnostic Radiology on "Radiology: Back to the Future."

"People love innovation, but they dislike change," Dr. Brody said. "In our rapidly evolving medical field, will radiologists be able to adapt to the pace of change required to survive?"

During his lecture, Dr. Brody will discuss how radiology has changed over the past 100 years and what should be done now to assure radiology's future success.

Prior to accepting his current role as president of Johns Hopkins, Dr. Brody was a professor of radiology and provost of the Academic Health Center at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Before that, he served for seven years at Johns Hopkins as the Martin Donner Professor and director of the Department of Radiology, a professor of electrical and computer engineering, professor of biomedical engineering and radiologist-in-chief.

Dr. Brody earned his medical degree and his doctorate in electrical engineering at Stanford University in California. He has authored or co-authored more than 120 articles, books, book chapters and proceedings. He holds a patent on a multiple-energy x-ray subtraction imaging system and has made contributions in medical acoustics, computed tomography, digital radiography and MR imaging. He is the co-founder and former chief executive officer of Resonex, Inc.

Annual Oration in Radiation Oncology

The paradigm in radiation oncology practice is beginning to shift. Advances in biochemistry, molecular biology and technology have made functional imaging of physiological processes in tumors more feasible and practical.

“Before a new era of functional imaging-guided therapy becomes a clinical reality, there are obstacles that we must overcome,” said K. S. Clifford Chao, M.D., an associate professor of radiation oncology at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. “These obstacles include imaging-pathological validation, spatial and temporal evolution of regions with biological interest within tumors, and a lack of clinical outcome studies.”

On Wednesday, November 30, Dr. Chao will deliver the Annual Oration in Radiation Oncology. His lecture, “Integration of Functional Images into Future Radiation Oncology Research and Practice,” will provide an overview of the role of current imaging strategies in radiation oncology, with a focus on functional imaging modalities as they relate to staging and molecular profiling of tumors, assessing therapeutic responses and defining radiation target volumes. He will also provide insights on improving operational efficiency of image-guided radiotherapy.

Prior to his affiliation with M.D. Anderson, Dr. Chao was an associate professor at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He has been an investigator or principal investigator for more than a dozen research projects over the past five years, many of them funded

by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Defense. He has several patents and patents pending.

Dr. Chao sits on the editorial boards of several journals, including the *International Journal of Radiation Oncology Biology and Physics* and the *American Journal of Clinical Oncology* and is a reviewer for several journals, including *Radiology, Cancer, Clinical Cancer Research, The Lancet* and *The Lancet Oncology*. He also serves on multiple grant reviewing sections for NIH and international funding agencies. He is the senior editor of two textbooks and the author of nearly 100 articles and book chapters.

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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.