

## APDR Achievement Award • Philip O. Alderson, MD

*Introduction by Janet L. Strife, MD*

The highest award of the Association of Program Directors in Radiology (APDR) is given to Philip O. Alderson, MD, in recognition of his strong leadership and continued commitment to radiology organizations to improve radiology education, the quality of practice, and the research that ultimately improves patient care.

Dr Alderson was born in San Francisco, California, and then raised and educated in St Louis, Missouri, where he graduated from Washington University in 1966 and Washington University Medical School in 1970. He trained in radiology and nuclear medicine at the Mallinckrodt Institute and subsequently moved to Johns Hopkins, where he first was assistant professor and then associate professor of radiology and associate director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine. In 1980, he moved to Columbia University Medical Center, where he became professor of radiology and director of the Division of Nuclear Medicine. He became vice-chairman of the department in 1986 and has been the chairman of the department since 1988.

During his 12 years as residency program director at Columbia, Dr Alderson significantly enhanced the residency program. He was president of the APDR from 1988 to 1989. During this time, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education was initiating its core competencies for residency training. Dr Alderson worked with the American College of Radiology to develop the Noninterpretive Skills Video Series for Residents. He also initiated new programs at the annual meeting with the AUR to enhance education and training.

Although his research has addressed numerous topics, he has advanced techniques and knowledge in

the practice of nuclear medicine and particularly as it relates to pulmonary and cardiac imaging. His publications include more than 150 articles, 40 book chapters, and four books. Dr Alderson has been a popular guest lecturer in multiple countries and throughout the United States.

He worked with C. Douglas Maynard, MD, and others to enhance funding and development of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB), and during his term in office, national funding for NIBIB increased substantially. Many radiologists have benefited from his vision and clarity of mission to increase research funding.

Dr Alderson has had multiple leadership roles, having served as president of the New York (City) Roentgen Society, the New York State Radiological Society, the Society of Chairmen of Academic Radiology Departments, the AUR, the Fleischner Society, the Academy of Radiology Research, and the American Roentgen Ray Society. He currently is president of the American Board of Radiology (ABR) and has worked to improve the dialogue with the APDR as the

ABR works on the computer-based examinations of the future.

Bright and hard working, Dr Alderson adds energy, political knowledge, and insight to discussions, yet his “no-nonsense attitude” and his disciplined approach to meetings contribute to groups advancing their agendas and allow individuals and organizations to set goals and achieve them.

The APDR thanks Phil for his organizational skills and his wisdom, leadership, and vision to improve tomorrow by planning, thinking, and acting today.



Philip O. Alderson, MD