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Rauno Joks, MD
Associate Professor & Division Chief,
Allergy & Immunology
Department of Medicine
SUNY Downstate Medical Center

For more information about the Doctors Alan and Adele Josephson Memorial Fund contact either Dr. Joon Bradley at (718) 270-4418 / joann.bradley@downstate.edu, or Ingrid Dildy at (718) 270-6375 / ingrid.dildy@downstate.edu. You also may write to either at the Office of Philanthropy, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, 450 Clarkson Avenue, MSC 93, Brooklyn, NY 11203.

THE DOCTORS ALAN AND ADELE JOSEPHSON MEMORIAL FUND

Support the Legacy

The Division of Allergy & Immunology
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE presents
The 10th Annual Josephson Lectureship
May 8, 2014
SUNY Downstate Medical Center

featuring

Jeffrey V. Ravetch, MD, PhD
Theresa and Eugene M. Lang Professor
Leonard Wagner Laboratory of Molecular Genetic & Immunology
Rockefeller University

Rauno Joks, MD
Associate Professor & Division Chief,
Allergy & Immunology

The Office of Philanthropy
The Doctors Alan and Adele Josephson Memorial Fund
The Downstate Department of Medicine has, in memory of Dr. Alan Josephson, created The Doctors Alan and Adele Josephson Memorial Fund (formerly The Alan S. Josephson Memorial Lectureship and Scholarship). It was created with two goals in mind: to establish and maintain a yearly lectureship focused on immunology, and to provide scholarship funds to enable Downstate medical students to attend the yearly allergy and immunology society meetings.

Alan and Adele Josephson both left wonderful legacies at Downstate. Alan’s career was equally as esteemed as Alan’s. As the first hospital epidemiologist at Downstate she brought state of the art practices for monitoring nosocomial infections to the institution and defined the way that infection control has been practiced here ever since. As a teacher, mentor, and clinical investigator in her own right her influence has been felt well beyond the walls of the hospital. They each in their own way, contributed to improve patient care as well as to educate and inspire future generations.

Dr. Josephson was one of SUNY Downstate Medical Center’s longest serving and most respected faculty members. Alan was not only a caring physician and ground-breaking clinical investigator, but to the multitude of students and physicians he trained he was a devoted teacher and mentor. He came to Downstate after serving as First Chief Resident under Lewis Thomas, the Chair of Medicine at NYU, and Surgeon and Chief of the Immunology Unit in the Division of Air Pollution at the Laboratory of Medical and Biological Sciences in Cincinnati, Ohio. When he died in 2004, he had been at Downstate for over four decades—having served as Professor of Medicine and Chief of Allergy and Immunology, as well as an attending physician at Downstate’s University Hospital of Brooklyn and Kings County Hospital Center.

Dr. Josephson’s areas of clinical investigation centered on immunodeficiency, asthma, and mucosal immunity. His earlier studies included the characterization of penicillin antibodies, and the chemistry of certain air pollutant—notably the nitro-oils—establishing immunologic approaches to the evaluation of their toxic effects. Some of his early work centered on the role of T cells as a mediator in the treatment of cancer.

In addition to his clinical research, Dr. Josephson was the author of numerous articles and abstracts, a much respected and admired teacher, and a member of medical students and residents. He was active in the affairs of the University. He served as President of the Professional Staff of University Hospital of Brooklyn, as Assistant to the Dean for Grants at Downstate, and as a member of the Faculty Senate of the State University of New York.

Dr. Eli Friedman, Professor and former Chief of Renal Medicine at Downstate said, “By making the rapid changes in molecular biological understanding of immune globins comprehensible to people who have no training in their training. Josephson afforded a bridge into the present and future.”

The Division ofergy & Immunology Department of Medicine

May 8th, 2014
SUNY DOWNSTATE MEDICAL CENTER
Welcome
Jeffrey V. Ravetch, M.D., Ph.D.
Theresa and Eugene M. Lang Professor
Leonard Wagner Laboratory of Molecular Genetics and Immunology
The Rockefeller University

Lecture Topic: The antibody Fc domain: a determinant of structure and functional diversity in health and disease

Dr. Ravetch describes the cellular and molecular mechanisms that govern the generation of antibody specificity and the translation of that specificity into cellular responses. By identifying the genetic components that cause immune system cells to respond to specific antibodies, Dr. Ravetch hopes to gain a better understanding of how a functioning immune system protects organisms from invaders, and how a dysfunctional immune system attacks the body’s own tissues.

The Ravetch laboratory has focused on understanding autoimmunity in murine models of certain diseases by investigating the genetics and fate of the pathogenic anti-bacterial antibody complexes that form and trigger tissue damage. They simplify this complex problem by examining the mechanisms through which immune complexes influence both the afferent and efferent immune responses by interacting with a family of low-affinity surface receptors, the Fc receptors. These receptors, are expressed as pairs of activation and inhibitory molecules, providing a mechanism for establishing thresholds for cellular triggering and for terminating the activation response. Disruption of these pathways have revealed the central role these receptors play in appropriate immune responses.

CAREER

Dr. Ravetch graduated from Yale University in 1973. Dr. Ravetch graduated from Yale University in 1973 and received his Ph.D. in 1978 from The Rockefeller University, where he worked under Norton Zinder and Peter Model. He received his M.D. from Cornell University Medical College in 1979 and completed his postdoctoral research at the National Institutes of Health with Philip Leder. In 1982 Dr. Ravetch joined the faculty of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and in 1984 also became a guest investigator in Rockefeller’s Laboratory of Cellular Physiology and Immunology. He was appointed head of the Laboratory in 1996 and named Theresa and Eugene M. Lang Professor in 1997.

In addition to his clinical research, Dr. Ravetch was the author of numerous articles and abstracts, a much respected and admired teacher, and a member of medical students and residents. He was active in the affairs of the University. He served as President of the Professional Staff of University Hospital of Brooklyn, as Assistant to the Dean for Grants at Downstate, and as a member of the Faculty Senate of the State University of New York.

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