ACR Awards of Distinction

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ACR
AWARDS of
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PRESIDENTIAL GOLD MEDAL
The highest award that the ACR can bestow, the Presidential Gold Medal is awarded in recognition of outstanding achievements in rheumatology over an entire career. Established by the past presidents of the ACR, candidates will have made important contributions in multiple areas such as clinical medicine, research, education, or administration. Funding support for this award of distinction is provided by the Rheumatology Research Foundation.

2019 RECIPIENT
John P. Atkinson, MD, MACR

Samuel B. Grant Professor of Medicine
Professor of Molecular Microbiology
Director, RVCL Research Center
Washington University School of Medicine
St. Louis, MO

John Atkinson received his BA and MD degrees from Kansas University and was an internal medicine resident at Massachusetts General Hospital. After a three-year fellowship in the Public Health Service at the NIH (NIAID), he came to Washington University School of Medicine for training in Allergy, Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology. In 1976, he was named a HHMI investigator and Chief of the Division of Rheumatology which he directed from 1976-1992 and from 2007 to 2017. From 1992 to 1997 he was the Adolphus Busch Professor and Chairman of the Department of Medicine.

His basic and clinical investigations focus on the complement system. Initially, these studies centered on C4 and C2 and, more recently, on characterization of complement receptors and regulators. In 1985, his laboratory identified and then cloned a novel inhibitor—membrane cofactor protein (MCP) or CD46. He has published 300 original reports and 200 reviews, editorials, book chapters and case reports. His research awards include the Paul Klemperer Medalist from New York Academy of Medicine (1990), Lee C. Howley, Sr. Prize from the National Arthritis Foundation (1991), Distinguished Investigator Award from ACR (1998), and the American Association of Immunology Steinman Award for Human Immunology Research (2012). He was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 1996. He received the Distinguished Faculty Award at Founders’ Day from Washington University (1993) and Distinguished Alumni Award from University of Kansas (1998). He has participated in more than 50 named lectures and professorships. He is particularly thankful for the over 70 predoctoral students and postdoctoral fellows who have contributed so much to the “science” emanating from the laboratory and the for the enjoyment and excitement they bring to those of us in academic medicine. Further, he has been extremely fortunate to have had a talented, dedicated and long-term [many for three to four decades] staff and colleagues who have been responsible for the success of research and educational activities.

He has held leadership positions in the National and Local Arthritis and Lupus Foundations and at ACR and NIAMS. At the NIH he has also served as Chairman of the General Medicine A Study Section, the Warren G. Magnuson Clinical Center Board of Scientific Counselors, and the National Human Genome Research Institute Board of Scientific Counselors. He particularly enjoys teaching and interacting with medical students, house staff and rheumatology fellows. He received Distinguished Service Teaching Award 16 times [given by medical students], was elected Teacher of the Year on three occasions, and was the National AOA Distinguished Teacher in 1991. His avocations are bird watching and fishing. Most importantly, he is grateful for his wonderful wife of over 50 years, Andrea, their two daughters and a son and now six grandchildren.
Distinguished Service Award
The Distinguished Service Award is awarded to an ACR member for outstanding and sustained service to the ACR.

2019 Recipient
Polly Ferguson, MD
Marjorie K. Lamb Professor of Pediatrics, Director of Pediatric Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Dr. Polly Ferguson received her medical degree from the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine. She then completed her training at the University of Virginia School of Medicine including her Pediatric Residency, Pediatric Rheumatology and Immunology Fellowship, and a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. From 2000-2002, she was an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. In 2002, she joined the faculty at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine where she is currently the Marjorie K. Lamb Professor of Pediatrics, and Director of Pediatric Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology at the University of Iowa Stead Family Department of Pediatrics.

Her NIH funded research focuses on uncovering the genetic and immunologic basis of autoinflammatory disease, particularly those that affect the bone, as well as understanding the role of inflammation in neurologic disease. She has identified several genes that cause sterile osteomyelitis and has translated findings into effective treatment. She has served as a mentor to many undergraduate, graduate, post-doctoral fellows and junior faculty from the University of Iowa and beyond. She is the Program Director of the University of Iowa Department of Pediatrics K12 Child Health Research Career Development Award (CHRCDA) Program. Her H-index is 30 and her work has been cited more than 4,900 times.

Dr. Ferguson has been an active volunteer for the American College of Rheumatology (ACR). She has served on the Pediatric Rheumatology Section Executive Committee, the Pediatric Rheumatology Special Committee (serving as Chair for three years), the Committee on Research, the Abstract Review Committee (pediatric rheumatology for ACR and for PRSYM), the Abstract Oversight Committee, a research sub-committee of the Government Affairs Committee, the Committee on Nominations and Appointments (ACR), and the Committee on Membership and Nominations (ARP) and is a member of the JIA Treatment Guideline Development Group. In addition to her service to the ACR, she serves has served on numerous local, regional and national committees including current service as a member of the NIH/NIAID Board of Scientific Counselors, the Arthritis Foundation Medical and Scientific Advisory Committee, and the American Board of Pediatrics Rheumatology Sub-board.
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Distinguished Clinician Scholar Award

The Distinguished Clinician Scholar Award is awarded to a rheumatologist who has made outstanding contributions in clinical medicine, clinical scholarship, or education.

2019 Recipient

J. Timothy Harrington, MD

Professor of Medicine, Retired
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Principal, Harrington Consulting, LLC
Madison, Wisconsin, USA

Dr. Tim Harrington was born and raised in Madison, Wisconsin. He received his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Medicine degrees from the University of Wisconsin—Madison in 1962 and 1965. He completed internal medicine training at the Massachusetts General Hospital [Boston, MA, 1965-67], Research and Clinical Associateships at the National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health [Bethesda, MD, 1967-69], and further internal medicine residency training at Parkland Memorial Hospital and The University of Texas Southwestern School of Medicine [Dallas, TX, 1969-70]. He then completed a rheumatology fellowship at Southwestern [1970-72]. His basic research training focused on immunochemistry and cellular immunology, and he initially chose rheumatology as a related clinical specialty. Dr. Harrington next spent six years in academic research, education, and administration at the University of Texas Health Science Center—San Antonio before returning in 1976 to Madison to begin his rheumatology practice.

While practicing and teaching rheumatology from 1976 to 2012, Dr. Harrington pursued a career-long interest in optimizing the processes of caring for rheumatic disease patients, using quality improvement methodologies. He has collaborated extensively with like-motivated colleagues across the United States and internationally, frequently publishing delivery of care innovations in the medical literature. He has co-authored two books, Great Health Care: Making It Happen with Eric Newman, MD [2012] and Great Health Care Value: Chronic Diseases, Practice Teams, and Population Management with Andrew Johnson, MS, MBA [2019]. He has taught practice re-design widely, and has consulted with many practices and health systems.

Dr. Harrington joined the American Rheumatisms Association in 1970, which became The American College of Rheumatology in 1988. He was appointed to the Committee on Rheumatologic Care in 1978, and served subsequently as the founding chair of the Communications and Marketing Committee [1986-97] and Osteoporosis Taskforce [1995-96], as ACR News Editor, and on the Finance Committee [2000-2003], the Workforce Taskforce [2005-07], and the Quality Measures Sub-Committee [2005-12]. He founded the Practice Improvement Abstract Section [2004], and served on the Abstract Selection Committee [2004-06]. He received the Paulding Phelps Award in 1993 and was elected an ACR Master in 2005. He also served as Chief Quality Officer for CORRONA [2008-13] and led the Rheumatoid Arthritis Practice Performance [RAPP] Project [2013-2016], among other practice improvement initiatives.

“I am deeply grateful for this ACR recognition, and I appreciate the academic and practicing scientists, internists, and rheumatologists who mentored me, the many colleagues who have shared my passion for optimizing the care of rheumatic disease patients, the younger rheumatologists and health professionals who have welcomed my teaching and mentoring, and most of all, my patients, practice partners, and staff. The love of my children, grandchildren, and family is priceless.
Distinguished Clinical Investigator Award

The Distinguished Clinical Investigator Award is awarded to a clinical scientist making outstanding contributions to the field of rheumatology. This award was known as the Clinical Research Award prior to 2006.

2019 Recipient

Susan Manzi, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine  
Director of the Lupus Center of Excellence  
Chair of the Medicine Institute  
Allegheny Health Network  
Pittsburgh, PA

Dr. Manzi graduated phi beta kappa and magna cum laude from the University of Notre Dame and received her MD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine where she was elected to the alpha omega alpha honor society and received the Jack Meyers Medical Alumni Association Award for excellence in exemplifying medical ideals. She completed her medical internship and residency at Duke University Medical Center, her fellowship in Rheumatology at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, and her Masters of Public Health from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. Dr. Manzi is currently Professor of Medicine, Director of the Lupus Center of Excellence, and Chair of the Medicine Institute, Allegheny Health Network, Pittsburgh, PA.

Dr. Manzi is recognized internationally as a pioneer in the investigation of premature cardiovascular disease in systemic lupus erythematosus and in the discovery of biomarkers for lupus diagnosis, monitoring and stratification. She has published over 200 scientific reports and book chapters and is inventor of the cell-bound complement activation products (CB-CAPs) technology platform for which she holds more than 20 patents. Her research program has received multi-million dollars supported from many organizations including the NIH, the Department of Defense, the Lupus Foundation of America and the Arthritis Foundation. Dr. Manzi has served on Advisory Boards for the Food and Drug Administration and more than 20 pharmaceutical and biotech companies and has chaired or served on numerous NIH study sections and data safety monitoring boards. She has served as Medical Director and is currently Chair of the Board of Directors of the Lupus Foundation of America. Dr. Manzi has mentored more than 100 undergraduate, graduate, and medical students, postdoctoral fellows and junior faculty.

Dr. Manzi has served the American College of Rheumatology in numerous capacities including the Committee on Research, the Professional Meeting Committee, the Educational Products Committee, and as Clinical Chair of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee. She is recognized annually as a Top Doctor by Pittsburgh Magazine and as one of the Best Doctors in America. She has served as Treasurer and is currently Vice Chair of the Systemic Lupus International Collaborating Clinics. Dr. Manzi received the Pitt Innovator Award in both 2005 and 2006 for discovery of CB-CAPs. She has been recognized by the Pittsburgh Business Times with the Fast Tracker Award, the Business Women First Award, the Business Women First Mentor Award, and the Healthcare Hero Award. Dr. Manzi received the 2017 Richard E. Deitrick Humanity in Medicine Award from the Allegheny County Medical Society, as a physician who has improved the lives of patients by caring for them with integrity, honesty, and respect. She received the 2019 Catholic Youth Association John E. McGrady Award for dedication to community service.
Distinguished Basic Investigator Award
The Distinguished Basic Investigator Award is awarded to a basic scientist making outstanding contributions to the field of rheumatology.

2019 Recipient

Bruce Cronstein, MD, MACR
Paul R. Esserman Professor of Medicine
Director of the NYU Clinical and Translational Science Institute
Director of the Division of Translational Medicine
New York University School of Medicine
New York, NY

Dr. Cronstein received his BA in History from Lake Forest College and his MD from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. After training in Internal Medicine at the University of Cincinnati and Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City, Dr. Cronstein completed a fellowship in Rheumatology at NYU School of Medicine. Dr. Cronstein then joined the faculty of NYU School of Medicine in the Division of Rheumatology where he has remained. Dr. Cronstein is currently the Paul R. Esserman Professor of Medicine, Director of the NYU Clinical and Translational Science Institute and Director of the Division of Translational Medicine.

During his Rheumatology fellowship Dr. Cronstein was introduced to laboratory investigation in the laboratories of Drs. Rochelle Hirschhorn and Gerald Weissmann [both ACR Masters] where he became totally immersed in experimental work. Dr. Cronstein's first discovery in the laboratory was that adenosine, a molecule that is generated as a result of the utilization of ATP, the cell's energy storage molecule, inhibits inflammation. From this initial seminal observation Dr. Cronstein went on to discover that the anti-inflammatory effects of methotrexate, the anchor drug for the treatment of Rheumatoid Arthritis, are mediated, primarily, by an increase in adenosine release from cells at inflamed sites. While exploring the mechanisms for methotrexate's toxic effects Dr. Cronstein discovered that adenosine is also involved in the pathologic mechanism leading to fatty liver and liver fibrosis. In subsequent studies Dr. Cronstein and his laboratory have demonstrated that adenosine plays an important part in wound healing and in the subsequent fibrosis and scarring that occurs in extensive wounds. Dr. Cronstein and his colleagues have also made important observations on the anti-inflammatory mechanism of action of such drugs as aspirin, corticosteroids, colchicine and sulfasalazine. His laboratory has discovered that adenosine is critical for maintaining bone homeostasis can be used to promote bone regeneration. Most recently Dr. Cronstein has discovered that adenosine maintains chondrocyte homeostasis and is working on developing a novel adenosine-based therapy for the treatment and reversal of osteoarthritis.

Dr. Cronstein has also been extensively involved in the education of medical students and mentoring of junior faculty members and in 2006 founded the Masters of Science in Clinical Investigation program at NYU School of Medicine. Dr. Cronstein is the founding director of the NYU Clinical and Translational Science Institute.

Dr. Cronstein has contributed to the American College of Rheumatology by serving on the Committee on Ethics and Conflict of Interest, and two terms on the Committee on Research which he has also chaired. He served as a member of the Board of Directors of the American College of Rheumatology from 2014-2017. In recognition of his scientific contributions Dr. Cronstein was the 2013 recipient of the Lee C. Howley Sr. Prize for Research in Arthritis from the Arthritis Foundation and in 2016 was named a Master of the American College of Rheumatology.
Paulding Phelps Award
The Paulding Phelps Award is awarded to a clinical rheumatologist for outstanding service to patients, community, and the practice of medicine.

2019 Recipient
Alfred E. Denio, MD
Rheumatology Fellowship Program Director
Geisinger Health System
Danville, PA

Dr. Alfred Denio was born in Columbia, South Carolina and grew up in Clarion, a small town in rural Northwest Pennsylvania. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1977 and his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1981. He completed his internal medicine residency at the Geisinger Health System in 1984 and after a Chief Medical Resident year, fulfilled his Rheumatology Fellowship in 1987. He then joined Drs. Stephen Lindsey and Roger Lidman at the Center for Arthritis, Norfolk Virginia and received an appointment to the community faculty at the Eastern Virginia School of Medicine. He returned to Geisinger in 2010 and, currently, he is the Rheumatology Fellowship Program Director there and Assistant Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine Adjunct, Temple University School of Medicine.

Dr. Denio has dedicated his career to physician education and was on the community faculty of Eastern Virginia School of Medicine where he served as volunteer Director of Rheumatology at the Medical School. He was very active in the development and organization of the M1-M2 longitudinal mentorship program there personally recruiting and helping train over 100 community faculty to have medical students in the office as an early clinical experience. He organized the rheumatology teaching for EVMS from 2000-2010 and founded a free Rheumatology Clinic at the Chesapeake, Va. Public Health Department where he volunteered one day a month for patients without health insurance. He assumed the Rheumatology Fellowship Program Director position at Geisinger in July 2012. Dr. Denio has also been active in organizing state societies in two states. In Virginia, he served as an officer from 2001-10 and in Pennsylvania, he helped initiate the Annual Scientific Meeting for the Pennsylvania Rheumatology Society (PRS) serving as Program Committee chair. He has led an effort to organize OSCEs for the state's Rheumatology fellows held yearly in conjunction with the PRS Meeting and will become the PRS President this year.

In the ACR, Dr. Denio has served on a number of committees/taskforces including the Committee on Rheumatologic Care (CORC), Strategic Planning Committees, Leadership Development Taskforce, Rheumatology Research Fund Peer Review Committee, and the Board of Directors serving as liaison in that capacity to Government Affairs, Training and Workforce, and Communications and Marketing. He chaired the Affiliate Society Council leading the effort to form the Insurance Subcommittee of CORC and the EMR Subcommittee later merging to form Registries and HIT. He has received a number of awards including Eastern Virginia School of Medicine Distinguished Service Award, Dept. of Internal Medicine, the Dean’s Community Faculty Achievement Award EVMS and the Community Service Award from the City of Chesapeake, Va. He enjoys fishing, woodland gardening, and bluegrass music, currently residing with his wife Kathleen in Lewisburg, Pa.
**Henry Kunkel Young Investigator Award**
The Henry Kunkel Young Investigator Award is awarded to a young physician scientist, age 45 or younger by October 1 of the year in which they are nominated, who has made outstanding and promising independent contributions to basic or clinical research in the field of rheumatology.

**2019 Recipients**

**Katherine P. Liao, MD, MPH**

Associate Professor of Medicine  
Assistant Professor Biomedical Informatics  
Harvard Medical School  
Director, VERITY Bioinformatics Core  
Division of Rheumatology  
Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Director, Applied Bioinformatics Core  
Massachusetts Epidemiology Research and Information Center  
VA Boston Healthcare System  
Boston, MA

Dr. Katherine Liao received her MD from SUNY Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn, followed by an internal medicine residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. She then trained as a fellow in rheumatology at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) where she also completed an MPH at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public. After fellowship, stayed on as a faculty member at BWH and Harvard Medical School (HMS). As well, she has a joint appointment with the Veteran’s Affairs (VA) Boston Healthcare System.

Dr. Liao’s clinical research interests center around the role of inflammation and cardiovascular disease in rheumatoid arthritis (RA). Her work has contributed to our understanding of the complex relationship between inflammation, lipids, and cardiovascular risk in RA, with current studies examining the role of coronary microvascular dysfunction and poor clinical outcomes in RA. In parallel, Dr. Liao has established novel approaches integrating state-of-the art bioinformatics methods such as machine learning and natural language processing, into clinical research studies using electronic health record (EHR) data. Her studies include leveraging large mega-cohorts such as the VA’s Million Veterans Program with linked clinical and genomic data for clinical research. She and her team have developed methods to analyze these complex datasets to perform large scale phenotypic screens, enhancing methods such as the Phenome-Wide Association Studies (PheWAS), to study the potential effects of targeting inflammatory pathways across multiple conditions.

Dr. Liao currently serves as Chair of the ACR’s Research and Publications Subcommittee of the Committee of Registries and Health IT, overseeing research aspects of the Rheumatology Informatics System for Effectiveness (RISE). Dr. Liao previously served on the ACR/European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) RA Classification Criteria Committee, which developed the current RA classification criteria in use today. She also served as co-chair of the ACR Health Services Abstract Review Committee for ACR/ARP Annual Meeting.
Amr H. Sawalha, MD
Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics
Chief, Division of Rheumatology, Department of Pediatrics
Vincent Londino Endowed Chair in Pediatric Rheumatology
Director, Lupus Center of Excellence
Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology,
Department of Medicine
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Pittsburgh, PA

Amr H. Sawalha, M.D., is Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, and Vincent Londino Endowed Chair in Pediatric Rheumatology at the University of Pittsburgh, Departments of Pediatrics and Medicine. He is Director of the Division of Rheumatology at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, where he will also establish and lead a new Autoimmune Genomics Research Center. Dr. Sawalha is Director of the Lupus Center of Excellence that spans the clinical and research enterprises of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and the University of Pittsburgh. He is a graduate of Jordan University of Science and Technology and completed his residency training at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and his fellowship in Rheumatology at the University of Michigan. Dr. Sawalha was on faculty at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation before he returned to Michigan in 2012, where he was Professor of Internal Medicine and Marvin and Betty Danto Research Professor of Connective Tissue Research, Director of the NIH-funded rheumatology training grant, and Associate Director of the NIH-funded University of Michigan Basic Autoimmunity Center of Excellence. He moved to the University of Pittsburgh in the Spring of 2019.

Dr. Sawalha’s research program focuses on elucidating genetic and epigenetic contribution to the pathogenesis of systemic autoimmune and inflammatory diseases. His team applies state-of-the-art genomic, epigenomic, and bioinformatics methodologies, and subsequent functional studies using both in vitro and in vivo systems to identify and characterize genetic loci and pathways involved in the pathogenesis of immune-mediated diseases.

Dr. Sawalha has authored close to 150 peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters, and review articles. He is on the editorial board of several journals in his field and serves as a reviewer for numerous scientific journals in rheumatology, genetics, and immunology. He is a member of the Medical Scientific Advisory Council of the Lupus Foundation of America and member of the Vasculitis Foundation Medical and Scientific Advisory Board. He currently serves as Chair of the Abstract Oversight Committee of the American College of Rheumatology. Dr. Sawalha has received numerous awards including the Edmund L Dubois, MD, Memorial Lectureship Award from the American College of Rheumatology in recognition for his work in lupus and has been elected as member of the American Society for Clinical Investigation.
Distinguished Fellowship Program Director Award

The Distinguished Fellowship Program Director Award is awarded to a current or former rheumatology program director that has made outstanding contributions in the mentoring and training of future rheumatologists. ACR members in good standing who are current or former rheumatology program directors for a minimum of five years and who participate in related ACR educational activities.

2019 Recipient

Marcy B. Bolster, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Director, Rheumatology Fellowship Training Program
Division of Rheumatology, Allergy and Immunology
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

Dr. Marcy Bolster obtained her undergraduate and medical degrees from Duke University, trained in Internal Medicine at Eastern Virginia Graduate School of Medicine, and completed her rheumatology fellowship training at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). She joined the MUSC faculty and was the Director, Rheumatology Fellowship Training Program (1999-2012), Medical Director, Center for Osteoporosis and Bone Health, and the Medical Director, MUSC Musculoskeletal Institute. Dr. Bolster joined the faculty at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in 2012 as the Director, Rheumatology Fellowship Training Program. She is an associate professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School (HMS).

With a strong interest in training and education Dr. Bolster has devoted her career to the training of rheumatology fellows, internal medicine residents and medical students. She values the importance of mentorship in her own professional development as well as through her commitment to sharing her dedication to patient care and education in the rheumatic diseases with learners at all stages of training. She has helped to train over 50 rheumatology fellows. Dr. Bolster is active in medical education at MGH with involvement in the Women in Medicine Trainees Council, Department of Medicine Education Council, and the Graduate Medical Education Committee. She participates in undergraduate medical education as rheumatology faculty involved in the recent curriculum design for teaching first-year students at HMS in the Immunity, Defense and Disease block.

Dr. Bolster has demonstrated leadership in several projects within the ACR. She served as Chair, Committee on Rheumatology Training and Workforce Issues (COTW, 2012-2015) and in this role contributed to the 2015 Workforce Study (GME assessment), participated in the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Milestones project during which time she co-chaired the ACR Working Group for the development of the Rheumatology Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs), Rheumatology Curricular Milestones, and an updated Rheumatology Fellowship Core Curriculum (2012-2015). She is currently involved in the ACGME Milestones 2.0 project. Other educational leadership roles within the ACR have included her contributions to the development of a Core Curriculum Outline for nurse practitioners and physician assistants entering rheumatology practice (2015-2017), Rheum2Learn (2008-2010, online internal medicine resident education modules in rheumatology), and the Rheumatology In-training Examination (2006-2009). Dr. Bolster has held leadership roles with the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) as Member, Rheumatology Board (2009-2014), followed by Chair, ABIM Rheumatology Exam Committee (2014-2018); Chair, ABIM Rheumatology Board; and Member, ABIM Council (2014-current). She is devoted to training and assessment of trainees in rheumatology, and in this way demonstrates commitment to facing the gaps in the rheumatology workforce. She is the recent recipient of a Rheumatology Research Foundation Clinician Scholar Educator grant and looks forward to joining the community of rheumatology medical educators, the Clinician Scholar Educators.
Excellence in Investigative Mentoring Award
The Excellence in Investigative Mentoring Award recognizes the importance of the mentor/mentee relationship. A dedicated mentor can significantly influence the successful development and career of a mentee. This award honors an active ACR or ARP member for their contributions to the rheumatology profession through outstanding and ongoing mentoring. Funding support for this award of distinction is provided by the Rheumatology Research Foundation.

2019 Recipient
Patricia Katz, PhD
Professor of Medicine
Health Policy and Urology
University of California San Francisco
San Francisco, CA

Dr. Patricia Katz received a master’s degree in psychology and PhD in educational measurement from the University of South Carolina. After five years at the Educational Testing Service in Evanston, Illinois, she came to the University of California San Francisco in 1986, and joined the faculty in 1993. While she has been based in the Division of Rheumatology since then, she has worked with investigators throughout the campus, including the Divisions of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine andHospital Medicine, Departments of Urology and Surgery, and the Institute for Health Policy Studies. She is currently Professor of Medicine, Health Policy and Urology at UCSF and serves as an IRB Vice-Chair.

Dr. Katz has over 25 years of experience in rheumatology research. She has authored more than 250 publications and has received grants from a variety of sources including the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Rheumatology Research Foundation (RRF). Her research has followed two main paths—the measurement of patient-centered outcomes, and the impact of “lifestyle” factors, primarily obesity, physical inactivity, and sleep, on clinical and patient-centered outcomes—and has included a strong emphasis on the study of disparities in health outcomes. Dr. Katz is the co-director of the Rheumatology Division’s mentoring program. In addition to helping to develop that program, she has worked individually with over two dozen post-doctoral students and fellows as a career and research mentor. Dr. Katz has also actively mentored a number of junior rheumatology faculty members, both at UCSF and other institutions.

Dr. Katz has served on numerous ACR and ARP committees, including the ARP Program Committee and the ACR Subcommittee on Diagnostic, Classification, and Response Criteria, and has served as Chair of two Task Forces. She has also served on both the Scientific Advisory Council and Board of Directors of the RRF. She regularly reviews grant applications for the RRF, the NIH, and international rheumatology funding agencies. Dr. Katz is a past Editor-in-Chief of Arthritis Care & Research and the current co-Editor-in-Chief of ACR Open Rheumatology. Dr. Katz received the ARP Distinguished Scholar Award in 1997, the STAR Award in 2005, the ARP Presidential Award in 2003 and 2010, and the ARP Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015.