

ACR Master

RECOGNITION AS A MASTER OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF RHEUMATOLOGY is one of the highest honors the College bestows. The designation of Master is conferred on ACR members, age 65 or older by October 1 of the year in which they are nominated, who have made outstanding contributions to the ACR and the field of rheumatology through scholarly achievement and/or service to their patients, students, and profession.

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2019 Recipients:

NIGHAT MIR AHMAD, MD, MBBS

JÜRGEN BRAUN, MD

CALVIN R. BROWN JR, MD

GERD R. BURMESTER, MD

GRANT W. CANNON, MD

ROWLAND W. CHANG, MD, MPH

JONATHAN S. COBLYN, MD

HANI EL-GABALAWY, MD

SIMON HELFGOTT, MD

JAMES N. JARVIS, MD

SHARAD LAKHANPAL, MBBS, MD

RONALD M. LAXER, MD

LINDA KAY MYERS, MD

J. LEE NELSON, MD

CHESTER V. ODDIS, MD

JOHN J. O'SHEA, MD

MICHELLE PETRI, MD, MPH

CARLOS PINEDA, MD, PHD

ROSALIND RAMSEY-GOLDMAN, MD, DRPH

JOHN D. REVEILLE, MD

WILLIAM F.C. RIGBY, MD

LEE STUART SIMON, MD

FREDRICA E. SMITH, MD

Nighat Mir Ahmad, MD, MBBS

Chair

Department of Rheumatology

National Hospital and Medical Center

Adjunct Faculty

University of Health Sciences Lahore

Lahore, Pakistan



Dr. Nighat Mir Ahmad graduated from Fatima Jinnah Medical College Lahore [FJMC] Pakistan and then proceeded to USA, where she did her residency training in Internal Medicine at Cook County Hospital Chicago, Illinois, USA.

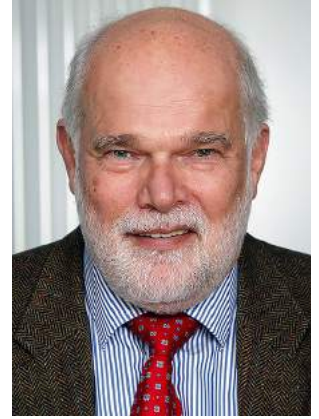
After passing Board in Internal Medicine, she pursued her career in Rheumatology. She did her fellowship in Rheumatology from Metro Health Hospital affiliated with Case Western University, Cleveland Ohio, with Mentors Prof. Asim Khan and Dr. Stan Ballou. Afterwards she did her Board certification in Rheumatology and came back to Pakistan with a vision of starting a training program in Rheumatology. She was the first American trained Rheumatologist to return to her country.

At that time, Rheumatology was relatively unknown specialty in the country with less than 10 Rheumatologists for a population of 180 million people with limited resources. She started a Rheumatology service in a small room in a Trust hospital and developed it to a Division of Rheumatology. Through her efforts, it was recognized as the first training program in Rheumatology by College of Physician and Surgeons Pakistan [CPSP]. As Head of Training Program and Associate Dean of PG Rheumatology at FMH College of Medicine, Rheumatology was taught to medical students and other specialists. A total of fifteen fellows have been trained there and are serving in areas of country where there was no Rheumatology service earlier. She was also pioneer in starting teaching and awareness of Paediatric Rheumatology. She served as chair of faculty of Rheumatology at CPSP and helped develop syllabus and Examination construct in the subject. She is actively involved in community service and is Founder Trustee & Chairperson of Arthritis Care Foundation [ACF], the first ever trust working for the welfare of rheumatic disease patients in Pakistan. Prof. Sara Walker and International Faculty were of tremendous help in achieving these objectives. She was awarded Gold medal for her services for Rheumatology by all Pakistan NGO's Association.

She is one of the Past Presidents of Pakistan Society for Rheumatology [PSR]. She has organized several International Conferences and Symposiums in Rheumatology especially for Family Physicians including public awareness seminars. She was on Faculty for training of Family Physicians, which received the first ever ILAR Grant "Empowering Health Professionals: Improving access to Care". In ACR 2018, the first ever study group was led by her. She serves as International member of APLAR and helped develop networking at regional level. She is currently on the International Committee of APLAR. She has recently received "Award of Excellence" by PSR for her outstanding contribution to the field of Rheumatology in Pakistan and her role in initiating fellowship training in Rheumatology by CPSP in Pakistan.

Jürgen Braun, MD

**Medical Director
Rheumazentrum Ruhrgebiet
Chair of Rheumatology
Ruhr University
Bochum, Germany**



Jürgen Braun was born in Duesseldorf, Germany, on September 2nd 1953. Since 2000 he is an extraordinary Professor of Rheumatology at the Free University Berlin, Germany, and, since 2004, at the Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. In 2001, he became Medical Director of the Rheumazentrum Ruhrgebiet, the largest hospital in Germany specialized in rheumatic diseases, in Herne. In October 2018 he also became chair of the new Department of Rheumatology at the Ruhr University Bochum.

After his final medical exam at the Free University Berlin, in May 1985 (MD), J. Braun received his first scientific degree (Dr. med.) in 1987. He later received degrees in Internal Medicine [1993] and in Rheumatology [1996] after working with Prof. J. Sieper and Prof. G. Burmester in Berlin.

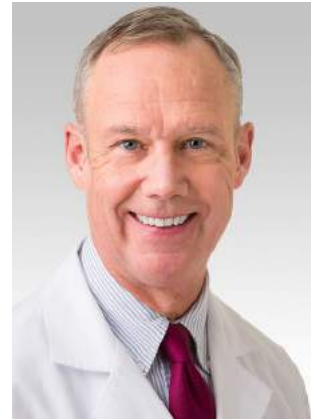
Concentrating on the disease now called axial spondyloarthritis (axSpA), J. Braun was the first to report on the successful use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) to detect sacroiliitis [Arthritis & Rheumatology 1994] and he used a computed tomography (CT) based biopsy technique to show which cytokines (TNF) are expressed in the sacroiliac joint [Arthritis & Rheumatology 1995]. Later he reported on the high prevalence of axSpA [Arthritis & Rheumatology 1998]. J. Braun organized the pilot study on the use of the anti-TNF agent infliximab in ankylosing spondylitis [Arthritis & Rheumatology 2000], and later the randomized controlled trial [Lancet 2002]. Prof. Braun authored and co-authored more than 630 publications in mostly major scientific journals.

Prof. Braun has been invited to speak about his research at the National Institutes of Health, the ACR, EULAR and APLAR Congresses, and many other international venues. Prof. Braun has served as meet the professor events at ACR and other congresses and symposia. Prof. Braun has been an advisory board member of the German Society for Rheumatology (DGRh) since 2007, in 2009 and again in 2013 he became member of the Steering Committee of the DGRh and vicepresident for two years, and he has been the President of the DGRh between 2011-2012. Since 2015 he continued to be in the Steering Committee of the DGRh as treasurer of the society. Since 2007, he is also Executive Board member of the German 'Verband Rheumatologischer Akutkliniken' e. V. (VRA), and since 2019 he is the head of that organization. Since 2013, Prof. Braun is also the scientific head of the 'Rheumaakademie' (rheumatologic education on behalf of the DGRh).

Prof. Braun has been a steering committee member of the Assessments in Axial Spondyloarthritis (ASAS) International Society [2004-2010 and 2013-2019] and also of GRAPPA, the Group for Research and Assessment of Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis [2005-2009]. Prof. Braun received several prestigious awards for his research, including Research Award of the German Morbus Bechterew Society [DVMB] in 1996, the Tosse award in Pediatric Rheumatology in 1998, the Carol Nachman-Research-Award in 2000 and the EULAR award in 2003. In 2004, he was appointed inaugural R. Inman lecturer at the University of Toronto. In 2014, he received the Franciscus-Blondel Medal of the city of Aachen.

Calvin R Brown Jr., MD

**Professor of Medicine
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Chicago, Illinois**



Dr. Calvin Brown completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Michigan and medical education at Wayne State University. His medical internship and residency were completed at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and were followed by rheumatology fellowship at the University of Michigan Medical Center. Subsequently he joined the faculty of Rush University in Chicago where he helped develop the new Division of Rheumatology and founded and lead the rheumatology fellowship program there. He subsequently did a fellowship in Sports Medicine at Rush in 1988-1999. In 2008 he moved to Northwestern to assume the role of fellowship program director there.

Dr. Brown's clinical interests focused on sports medicine and disability assessment in the rheumatic diseases. His academic focus has been education in the rheumatic diseases, and competency based medical education. He is a co-author of the rheumatology entrustable professional activities, and has coauthored papers in the field.

As an active ACR member, Dr. Brown has served several roles including Board of Directors of the Rheumatology Research Foundation, and member of the Committee on Communication & Marketing and Committee on Rheumatology Training and Workforce Issues. He is past president of the Chicago Rheumatism Society and former board member of the Illinois Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation.

Gerd R. Burmester, MD

**Professor of Medicine
Director, Department of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology
Charité – University Medicine Berlin
Humboldt University and Free University of Berlin
Berlin, Germany**



Dr. Gerd Burmester completed his medical education at Hannover Medical School in Hannover, Germany. He then became a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Rockefeller University and a Visiting Scholar at the Hospital for Joint Diseases in New York under the mentorship of Dr. Robert Winchester. He received his medical and rheumatology training in the Department of Medicine in the University of Erlangen, Germany, under Dr. Joachim Kalden and became a Professor of Rheumatology there. He was then appointed as a full professor and director of the newly formed Department of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology at the Charité – University Medicine Berlin, also his current position, where he is the clinical partner of the German Rheumatism Research Center [DRFZ].

After the reunification of Germany and Berlin becoming the capitol again, the development of the rheumatology service led to a major expansion of rheumatologists and to one of the largest academic rheumatology departments in Germany with a close cooperation with the DRFZ, initially with Avrion Mitchison and subsequently Andreas Radbruch, where he established a strong liaison for translational medicine. He built up an interdisciplinary clinic for inflammatory diseases and the largest university based routine laboratory for autoimmune diseases.

Dr. Burmester's clinical interests focus on inflammatory joint diseases and systemic autoimmune disorders, especially rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis and SLE, where he was involved in all major new therapeutic approaches including biologics, autologous stem cell transplantation and more recently JAK-inhibitors. Translational research included the role of immune response genes in rheumatic disease, the delineation of immune cells in tissue sites of inflammation and the analysis of biomarkers in rheumatology including immunomics and transcriptomics.

As an active ACR member, Dr. Burmester frequently presented at the ACR congresses and served on the ACR congress preparation committee. As EULAR president and member of the steering group, he took part in the ACR/EULAR leadership meetings and was a member of joint ACR/EULAR publications committees on classification items. Moreover, he participated in the ACR/EULAR exchange program. In Germany, he was President of the German Society of Rheumatology [DGRh], Spokesperson of the national Competence Center Rheumatology [German Ministry of Research] and Chairman of the DGRh Committee on Rheumatology Research in Germany.

Grant W. Cannon, MD

**Associate Chief of Staff, Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Thomas E. and Rebecca D. Jeremy
Presidential and Endowed Chair for Arthritis Research
University of Utah School of Medicine
Salt Lake City, Utah**



Dr. Cannon completed his medical education and did his Internal Medicine and Rheumatology training at the University of Utah. He has been on the University of Utah faculty for his medical career and the Associate Chief of Staff for Academic Affiliations at the George E. Wahlen Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. He holds the Thomas E. and Rebecca D. Jeremy Presidential Endowed Chair for Arthritis Research at the University of Utah School of Medicine.

Dr. Cannon's work has focused on clinical trials of anti-rheumatic drugs, basic science research in animal models of arthritis, and work with the Veterans Affairs rheumatoid arthritis registry. His clinical research has involved participation in multi-centered clinical trials of rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, and seronegative spondyloarthropathies. These clinical trials have included both conventional compounds and biologic agents. His animal model research has focused on adjuvant-induced arthritis in rats with an emphasis on the genes controlling arthritis. His most recent work has evaluated patients with rheumatoid arthritis in the Veterans Affairs rheumatoid arthritis registry to merge registry data with administrative databases to evaluate pharmacoepidemiology issues, clinical outcome measures, and the use of the electronic medical records as a means to collect data for clinical research. Dr. Cannon has also been significantly involved with undergraduate and graduate medical education for which he has received awards from the Department of Internal Medicine and School of Medicine as well as the University of Utah Distinguished Teaching Award.

Dr. Cannon's involvement in the American College of Rheumatology and the Arthritis Foundation has included planning and participation in the annual scientific meeting as an abstract review committee chair, service on the editorial board of *Arthritis and Rheumatology*, and membership on the board of the Utah chapter of the Arthritis Foundation. Dr. Cannon has been a key member of the Veterans Affairs rheumatology consortium, the VA rheumatoid arthritis registry, and serves as the Chair of the Veterans Affairs rheumatology field advisory committee. He is also a Master in the American College of Physicians.

Rowland W Chang, MD, MPH

**Professor of Preventive Medicine, Medicine, and
Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Chicago, Illinois**



Dr. Rowland “Bing” Chang obtained his medical education at Tufts University School of Medicine and his graduate public health education at the Harvard School of Public Health. His medical residency was completed at the Mt Auburn Hospital, Cambridge MA, and was followed by rheumatology training at the Royal Postgraduate Medical School (Hammersmith Hospital) and a clinical/research rheumatology fellowship at the Brigham & Women’s Hospital under Drs. Ronald Anderson and Mathew Liang. He was recruited to Northwestern by Dr. Frank Schmid in 1982 and participated in the successful application for an NIH P60 funded Multipurpose Arthritis Center grant that supported education, epidemiology, and health services research projects pertaining to persons with arthritis. Since then, Dr. Chang and other Northwestern rheumatology investigators have benefited from continuous federal funding for clinical/epidemiologic/health services research that has resulted in the creation of a unique infrastructure and a critical mass of investigators, an ideal environment for their work and that of their trainees. He is currently Professor of Preventive Medicine, Medicine, and Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation at Northwestern, his academic home for more than 37 years.

Dr. Chang is noted for his clinical/epidemiologic/health services research focused on the outcomes of rehabilitation and orthopaedic surgical treatments for persons with arthritis, as well as the determinants of functional limitation in clinical and community populations with arthritis. Dr. Chang has co-led an NIH funded interdisciplinary research group with Dorothy Dunlop, PhD, that has been among the first to identify sedentary behavior and the lack of physical activity as important independent risk factors for functional decline and disability onset in persons with knee osteoarthritis. These observational studies have informed the group’s research creating and testing replicable and scalable healthy physical activity and dietary interventions for those with or at risk of knee osteoarthritis.

Dr. Chang’s clinical practice has been at the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab (formerly the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago), where he has led an interdisciplinary group of physicians, nurse practitioners, physical and occupational therapists, clinical psychologists, social workers, and other rehabilitation professionals expert in the care of persons with arthritis. He has edited a book on Arthritis Rehabilitation.

In addition to his participation in a variety of ACR annual meeting activities (abstract submission, abstract selection sub-committees, study group leadership), Dr. Chang was a member of the Executive Council of the ACR Rehabilitation Section from 1993-2001 and its Chair from 1995-1998. Dr. Chang is an active volunteer for the Arthritis Foundation, having served on the National Board of Directors since 2006, and as its Chair from 2016-2018. He is a recipient of the Arthritis Foundation’s Charles B. Harding Award for Distinguished Service.

Jonathan S. Coblyn MD

**Epstein-Rubenstein Distinguished Chair in
Rheumatology
Associate Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts**



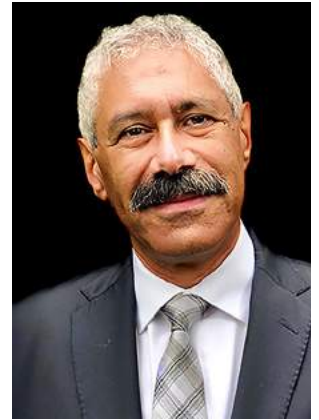
Dr. Jonathan Coblyn attended medical school at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. His first two years of post-graduate training were completed at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital. After a senior residency at Stanford University Hospital he returned to the Robert Breck Brigham for his rheumatology training. He was in the laboratory of K. Frank Austen with Dr Ronald Anderson as his clinical mentor. He has spent his entire career at the Brigham and Women's Hospital serving numerous roles, including Director of Primary Care, Director of Ambulatory Services, Vice Chair of Medicine, and for the past 20 years Clinical Director of Rheumatology. He has been the Interim Chief of Rheumatology, Immunology and Allergy at the Brigham and Women's Hospital for the past 15 months.

Dr Coblyn's clinical interests have been focused on the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, as well as defining many of the unique manifestations of the disease including the association of bronchiectasis in RA and multiple other descriptive papers. He was a principal investigator in the studies of methotrexate in the treatment of RA which led to its FDA approval. His clinical interests included participation in many studies defining the use of methotrexate in RA, as well as subsequent therapies including anti-TNF agents. More recently he has helped define the bone and articular manifestations of sarcoidosis.

Dr Coblyn has been a leader in local societies and has been awarded the Marion Ropes Award for excellence in arthritis care and leadership and the James H. Fairclough Jr. award for lifetime achievement in rheumatology. In addition, he has presented at the Clinical Review and Meet the Professor sessions at the American College of Rheumatology. He has also served 11 years on multiple ACR committees including the abstract selection committee, government affairs and quality of care among others.

Hani El-Gabalawy MD

**Professor of Medicine and Immunology
Endowed Rheumatology Research Chair
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada**



Dr Hani El-Gabalawy obtained his medical degree in 1977 from the University of Calgary. He completed his Internal Medicine and Rheumatology residency at McGill University. After five years of private practice, he joined the faculty at the University of Manitoba and established his academic rheumatology program, where he has held the Endowed Rheumatology Research Chair since 2003. Between 1997-2000, he was a visiting scientist at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Disease (NIAMS), Bethesda, where he undertook seminal studies in the pathogenesis and prognosis of early inflammatory arthritis.

His academic career has combined research, clinical practice, administration, and particularly providing mentorship to emerging clinician scientists in the field of rheumatology. Over the past thirty years, in collaboration with a committed and forward-thinking group of academic colleagues in Winnipeg, the number of rheumatologists in the Province of Manitoba increased progressively from only three in 1990 to almost twenty in 2019. This expansion of rheumatology services in the region has substantially improved the health of patients with arthritis and rheumatic diseases. The group has had a particular interest in improving the care of Indigenous North Americans, who are known to carry a disproportionate burden of rheumatoid arthritis, lupus, and other rheumatic diseases. His own research program has focused primarily on understanding the preclinical stages of rheumatoid arthritis in at-risk family members of Indigenous North American People, and how these preclinical stages evolve into clinically detectable disease. In concert with an international consortium of like-minded investigators, he is working towards finding innovative and cost-effective ways of preventing clinical disease onset.

During his career, Dr El-Gabalawy has served as the Director of the University of Manitoba's Division of Rheumatology, and Scientific Director of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis, Canada's principal public funder of biomedical and health research. As an active ACR member, he served as an Associate Editor for Arthritis and Rheumatology, and as a member and chair of ACR abstract selection committees. He has been a member and chair of multiple national and international peer review panels, and on the editorial boards of several journals. He has received several honours and awards, including the Canadian Rheumatology Association Distinguished Investigator Award, Fellowship in the prestigious Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Award for service to the arthritis community.

Simon M. Helfgott, MD

**Director of Education & Fellowship Training
Division of Rheumatology and Inflammation
Brigham & Women's Hospital
Associate Professor of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Boston, Massachusetts**



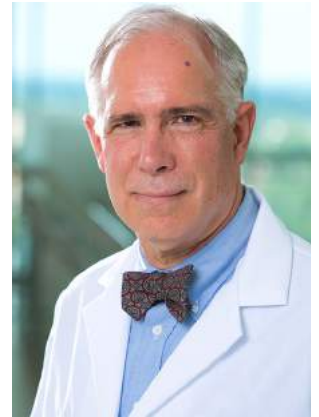
Dr. Simon Helfgott attended medical school at McGill University and completed his internal medicine residency at the Montreal General Hospital. Following a year of clinical rheumatology fellowship training at McGill, he completed his training as a research and clinical fellow in immunology and rheumatology at Brigham & Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. He joined their faculty in 1986 and has remained an active member ever since.

His interests include medical education and patient care. He is passionate about teaching and mentoring medical students, residents and fellows about the joys and intrigue of rheumatology. As the Rheumatology Program Director at BWH for the past fifteen years, he has implemented several novel teaching approaches including the integration of subspecialty clinic training into the fellowship program, providing fellows with the opportunity to see and study autoimmunity across a wide clinical spectrum. He served as a member of the Harvard Medical School Curriculum Redesign Committee that created a more vibrant approach to teaching rheumatology and musculoskeletal disorders and reignited interest in rheumatology among medical students. He has written extensively on various topics in rheumatology and recently co-edited the first textbook in neuro-rheumatology.

He has been actively involved in ACR, having served on several committees and co-chairing many sessions at the annual meetings. From 2012-2017 he served as Physician Editor of *The Rheumatologist*, where he garnered several APEX awards for his monthly Rheuminations column. Dr. Helfgott has been recognized for his efforts as recipient of the ACR Distinguished Fellowship Program Director Award in 2017 and the Dr. Marion Ropes Physician Achievement Award of the Massachusetts Arthritis Foundation in 2018.

James N. Jarvis, MD

Professor of Pediatrics
Member: Genetics, Genomics, & Bioinformatics Program
University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
Buffalo, New York



Dr. Jim Jarvis graduated from the University of Vermont College of Medicine and did his residency in pediatrics at St. Louis Children's Hospital. Following a two-year stint in the Public Health Service, he returned to St. Louis, where he completed his rheumatology fellowship at Barnes Hospital/Washington University School of Medicine under Dr. John Atkinson. He also served a year as chief resident at St. Louis Children's Hospital during that time. He is currently Professor of Pediatrics and a member of the steering committee of the Genetics, Genomics, & Bioinformatics Program at the University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences.

Dr. Jarvis has focused his career on understanding basic mechanisms contributing to juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA). His early work examined the role of innate immunity in JIA pathogenesis. More recent work has examined the basic mechanisms contributing to genetic risk for JIA and has highlighted the importance of the non-coding genome in contributing to disease risk. Current work is focused on identifying genetic variants that alter epigenetically mediated regulatory functions in JIA. His research has been funded by NIH, the Arthritis Foundation, the Rheumatology Research Foundation, and the Cure JM Foundation.

Dr. Jarvis, whose family is from the Akwesasne Territory of the Mohawk Nation, has also been involved in a broad range of activities related to Native American child health. He has served as Consultant Rheumatologist at the WW Hastings/Cherokee Nation Hospital in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, and has chaired the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Native American Child Health. He has been active in raising awareness of the prevalence and severity of rheumatic diseases in indigenous North American populations and the potential role of historical/ongoing trauma in creating disease risk and/or influencing disease phenotype. He has received an ACR Clinician Scholar-Educator Award for his work in promoting interest in the field of rheumatology among Native American undergraduate and medical students.

Sharad Lakhanpal, MD, MBBS

Clinician
Rheumatology Associates
Dallas, TX



Dr. Sharad Lakhanpal received his medical education at King George's Medical College, University of Lucknow, India, where he won several awards including gold medal for being the Best Sportsman Student of the Lucknow University. After migration to USA, he did his Internal Medicine residency at Memorial Hospital, University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, MA. He did his rheumatology training at the Mayo Clinic and Mayo Medical School in Rochester, MN, where he received the Philip Schowalter Hench Scholarship Award for excellence in rheumatology. He is also recipient of the American Rheumatism Association (now the ACR) Senior Rheumatology Scholar Award. He is Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, TX, and in private practice with Rheumatology Associates. He is also an investigator at Metroplex Clinical Research Center in Dallas, TX.

Dr. Lakhanpal's career has encompassed patient care, teaching and clinical research. He has helped grow Rheumatology Associates into one of the largest single specialty rheumatology group practices in the country. He teaches and mentors medical students, residents, rheumatology trainees and young colleagues. He has been actively involved in clinical research including drug trials and is well published. He has keen interest in the impact of politics on health care policies and helped galvanize ACR's advocacy efforts both at the federal and state levels. He has been instrumental in expanding international outreach of ACR and helped initiate the ACR-PANLAR and ACR-IRA (Indian Rheumatology Association) International Fellowship Exchange programs. He has fostered close relationships of ACR with IRA and Emirates Society of Rheumatology. He was the founding President of the Rheumatology Society of North Texas that led to the formation of State of Texas Association of Rheumatologists.

Dr. Lakhanpal has held several leadership positions. He was President of the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) 2016-17. Before that he served on the Executive Committees and the Boards of Directors of the ACR and the Rheumatology Research Foundation. He has also served as President of the American Association of Physicians of Indian origin (AAPI) which is the largest ethnic medical association in the United States representing the 90,000 physicians of Indian origin in this country. He was honored by the Greater Dallas Indian American Chamber of Commerce with its award for Outstanding Contributions in Medicine, Science and Technology. He is recipient of the Indian American Friendship Council Recognition of Excellence Award. He was named Alumnus of the Year for 2004 by his Alma Mater King George's Medical College, University of Lucknow, India where he was also honored with the Platinum Jubilee Gold Medal. He has been listed in The Best Doctors in America since 1996 and was named a Texas Super Doctor.

On a personal note, Dr. Lakhanpal has run a marathon in under 3 hours. He played basketball for his College and University. He enjoys travelling and has visited all seven wonders of the world. He is honored to have a personal letter of appreciation and blessings signed by St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Ronald Laxer, MD

**Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine
Division Of Rheumatology
University of Toronto
The Hospital for Sick Children
Toronto, Ontario, Canada**



Dr. Ronald Laxer completed his medical education at McGill University. After interning at the Jewish General Hospital in Montreal, he completed Pediatrics Residency at the Montreal Children's Hospital and a fellowship in Pediatric Rheumatology with Dr. Ross Petty at the British Columbia Children's Hospital and the University of British Columbia. He then joined the faculty of the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Toronto and The Hospital for Sick Children [SickKids] where he has been since 1984. He became a Full Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine in 1995.

He was the initial Head of the Division of Rheumatology, established at SickKids in 1990. Since that time the Division has become internationally recognized for its excellence in clinical care, education of trainees from around the world and multiple contributions to research in a variety of pediatric rheumatic diseases. Dr. Laxer has had interests in many areas and is currently focusing his efforts in autoinflammatory diseases. He is one of the co-editors of the first edition of the Textbook of Autoinflammation and has been part of gene discovery for a number of new autoinflammatory diseases.

Dr. Laxer has played an active role in the American College of Rheumatology. He was a member of the Pediatrics Section and chaired the Pediatrics Abstract Selection Committee. He is currently a member of the Committee on Education. He chaired the Clinical Section of the Annual Scientific Planning Committee and has been invited to speak on multiple occasions at ACR meetings including the Review Course, State of the Art Lecture, and a Clinicopathologic Conference. He was one of the founding members of the Canadian Pediatric Rheumatology Association, and currently chairs the Pediatrics Committee of the Canadian Rheumatology Association [CRA]. He has received multiple awards, including the Distinguished Clinical Scholar Award from the ACR in 2009, the James T. Cassidy Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2010, the Distinguished Rheumatologist Award from the CRA in 2016 and the Council Award from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario in 2001.

Linda Kay Myers, MD

**Professor
Pediatric Rheumatology
University of Tennessee Health Science Center
Memphis, Tennessee**



Dr. Linda Myers completed her medical education at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Memphis, Tennessee. Her pediatric residency was accomplished at Washington University, St. Louis Children's Hospital and was followed by rheumatology training at the University of Texas Southwestern, Dallas, Texas under the tutelage of Dr. Chester Fink and Dr. Peter Stastny. Dr. Myers returned to the University of Tennessee after she completed her training and she successfully moved through the ranks from Assistant Professor to Professor at UT.

For more than 30 years Dr. Myers has served as a Pediatric Rheumatologist and was the first Board Certified Pediatric Rheumatologist in the state of Tennessee. She developed and ran the Pediatric Rheumatology Clinical Service at the Lebonheur Children's Hospital in Memphis for more than 30 years. At least half of that time, she was the only Pediatric Rheumatologist in Memphis. She successfully established that subspecialty so that patients in the state of Tennessee now have access to Pediatric Rheumatologists. She ensured that this specialty was available for medical students and residents and fellows at UT to acquire this critical set of knowledge. Despite a heavy clinical load, she was also the Director of the Pediatric Rheumatology Training Program for fellows at the University of Tennessee and she trained Pediatric Rheumatologists and Research Scientists who have established illustrious careers in academic institutions both in the USA and abroad. Her successful trainees included university faculty members, Japanese research scientists, and numerous medical students and residents. Dr. Myers also successfully established a research program at the University of Tennessee. Her studies involve autoimmunity and she has used the collagen-induced animal model of arthritis to dissect in detail the pathophysiology of autoimmune arthritis. Her laboratory has made significant contributions regarding the immunopathogenesis of arthritis and the structural determinants involved in immune recognition and signaling pathways of T cells. These studies led to more than 95 peer reviewed publications and continuous funding from the NIH for more than 30 years.

As an active member of the ACR, she served on the Council of the Pediatric Section for three years and was a reviewer for ACR research grants. She served on the program committee for the annual scientific meeting for many years and has chaired the Pediatric Section of the program Committee. More recently she served as a Pediatric Visiting Professor for the ACR. In summary, Dr. Myers has made many invaluable contributions to the ACR and to the community of rheumatologists around the world.

J. Lee Nelson, MD

**Professor of Medicine
Rheumatology
University of Washington
Full Member
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, Washington**



Dr. J. Lee Nelson chose medical research as a result of undergraduate studies in Philosophy at Stanford University and travels to Asia that impressed on her the limitations and suffering that result when the musculoskeletal system is compromised. After receiving her MD from the University of California, Davis she completed Rheumatology Fellowship at the University of Washington and joined the Rheumatology faculty.

Dr. Nelson began her research investigating the pregnancy-induced amelioration of rheumatoid arthritis. She brought attention to pregnancy as an important immunologic event, since the child's paternally-inherited HLA alleles are usually disparate from the mother, yet rejection does not occur. She found that fetal-maternal HLA disparity for HLA class II alleles correlated with rheumatoid arthritis improvement during pregnancy, work later extended to direct identification of fetal-specific DNA in maternal blood.

Bi-directional maternal-fetal exchange during pregnancy creates a long-term legacy for the mother and child. Microchimerism is harboring a small number of cells (or DNA) that originated in a genetically different individual. In 1996 Dr. Nelson proposed the hypothesis that microchimerism and the maternal-fetal HLA-relationship play a role in some autoimmune diseases. In 1998 Dr. Nelson reported the first study linking an autoimmune disease, systemic sclerosis, with microchimerism of fetal origin that persists in women decades after pregnancy.

Dr. Nelson's research group described microchimerism as a natural type of "mini-gene transfer". They found women with rheumatoid who lacked a rheumatoid arthritis susceptibility HLA allele often had microchimerism with a susceptibility HLA allele. The research group recently described a mechanism by which microchimerism can contribute to disease pathogenesis similar to molecular mimicry invoked for infectious agents. Additionally the work resolved an apparent paradox: some HLA alleles are rheumatoid arthritis protective but mothers who gave birth prior to onset of children with protective HLA alleles had increased rheumatoid arthritis risk. This work demonstrated that an HLA allele can have opposite effects when it is present as Mendelian inheritance versus when it is acquired through microchimerism.

Dr. Nelson's research group is located at Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center where hematopoietic cell [bone marrow] transplantation was pioneered. She was a founding member of the first team to explore autologous hematopoietic cell transplantation to treat severe autoimmune diseases such as diffuse systemic sclerosis. Her research group is interdisciplinary and continues to advance understanding of both benefits and risks of microchimerism in human biology including in infectious disease and cancer. Dr. Nelson was elected to the Association of American Physicians [2001] and as a National Arthritis Foundation 50th Anniversary Research Hero [2002]. She has lectured for American College of Rheumatology Study Groups and Review Courses, nationally and internationally, and served on grant review committees for the Arthritis Foundation and National Institutes of Health.

Chester V. Oddis, MD

**Professor of Medicine
Director, Myositis Center
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA**



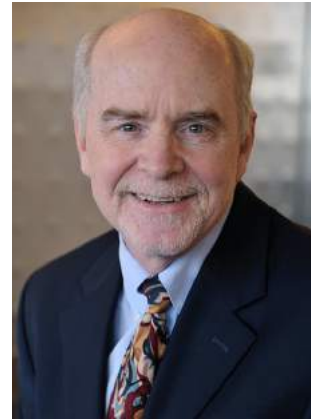
Dr. Chester [Chet] V. Oddis attained his medical degree from the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine where he also completed his internal medicine training including serving as Chief Medical Resident. His rheumatology and clinical immunology fellowship was completed at the University of Pittsburgh under the mentorship of Dr. Thomas Medsger. He is currently Professor of Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and is Director of the Myositis Center.

Dr. Oddis has devoted his career to the investigation and treatment of inflammatory myopathy with an emphasis on epidemiology, clinical features, autoantibody associations, pathogenesis, and treatment. He has supervised and managed a clinically- and serologically-defined, longitudinal myositis registry of nearly 2,000 patients, developing a web-based Myositis Data Management System, which enables investigators to link disease activity and damage measures with clinical, laboratory and serologic data over time. Dr. Oddis was the Principal Investigator on the RIM [Rituximab in Myositis] Trial, the first multicenter clinical trial in myositis funded by the National Institutes of Health and the largest clinical trial ever completed in adult and pediatric myositis. He authored the Consensus Guidelines for the Conduct of Clinical Trials in Myositis with several colleagues. Dr. Oddis continues to coordinate myositis clinical trials with his faculty collaborators at the University of Pittsburgh including the investigation of autoimmune interstitial lung disease. Over the years, he has served on a number of multidisciplinary panels that have formulated guidelines in the assessment and management of both myositis and ILD.

Dr. Oddis was the Director of the Fellowship Training Program at the University of Pittsburgh from 2001-2011. He received the Clinician Scholar Educator Award from the Rheumatology Research Foundation in 2001. He has been very active in the ACR serving on the Committee on Education and the Educational Products Committee as well as the Committee on Rheumatology Training and Workforce Issues. He chaired the ACR/ARP Annual Meeting Planning Committee from 2012-2014 and then served on the Committee on Corporate Relations through 2017. He is currently an Associate Editor for *Arthritis and Rheumatology* and continues to lecture extensively nationally and internationally on the assessment and management of myositis.

John J. O'Shea, MD

**Chief, Molecular Immunology and Inflammation Branch
Director, Intramural Research Program
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and
Skin Diseases
Bethesda, MD**



John J. O'Shea, M.D., was born in the Bronx, graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelor of Science degree from St. Lawrence University, and received a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Cincinnati. He then served as an intern and resident in Internal Medicine at the State University of New York Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY. He came to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 1981 to study vasculitis at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, followed by additional postdoctoral work in in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. He started his own group in the National Cancer Institute in 1989, and then moved to the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) in 1994 as Chief of the Lymphocyte Cell Biology Section of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Branch. He was appointed Chief of the Molecular Immunology and Inflammation Branch in 2002, and Director of the NIAMS Intramural Research Program in 2005.

Dr. O'Shea's area of scientific interest is cytokine signal transduction, dissecting the role of Jaks and Stats family transcription in immunoregulation, and has over 300 publications to date. Dr. O'Shea and his colleagues cloned the tyrosine kinase, Jak3, and demonstrated its role in pathogenesis of severe combined immunodeficiency. Dr. O'Shea was awarded two US Patents related to Janus Family Kinases and identification of immune modulators. Dr. O'Shea and colleagues at the NIH identified the role of Stat3 in regulating T cell cytokine production in Job's syndrome. More recently, Dr. O'Shea's laboratory has employed deep sequencing to understand the epigenetic regulation of T cell differentiation and the role of STATs in these processes.

Dr. O'Shea is one of the co-founders of the NIH/Oxford/Cambridge program in Biomedical Science and is a member of NIH-UPENN Immunology Program. He has received many awards, including: Lee C. Howley Prize in Arthritis Research; Daniel Drake Medal; Ross Prize in Molecular Medicine; and the Milstein Award from the International Cytokine and Interferon Society. He was elected to the American Association of Physicians, the American Society for Clinical Investigation, and the Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Medicine. He is also an ISI Web of Knowledge "Highly Cited Researcher". Dr. O'Shea has served on the editorial boards of multiple journals, including: *Immunity*, *Journal of Experimental Medicine*, *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, and *Journal of Immunology*

Michelle Petri, MD, MPH

**Professor of Medicine
Division of Rheumatology
Director, Lupus Center
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland**



Michelle Petri, M.D. is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of Rheumatology and Director of the Lupus Center at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. She earned her medical degree from Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts, and completed her internship and residency in Internal medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Petri completed her Postdoctoral Fellowship in Allergy, Immunology, and Rheumatology at the University of California, San Francisco. She subsequently earned her master's in Public Health and Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Dr. Petri's research focuses on several aspects of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE), including atherosclerosis, antiphospholipid antibody syndrome (APS), lupus nephritis, and pregnancy. The Hopkins Lupus Cohort, started by Dr. Petri in 1987, is a longitudinal study of the incidence and pathogenesis of thrombotic events and coronary artery disease in SLE. Its serum and plasma bank is a useful resource for other SLE-related research. The Hopkins Lupus Pregnancy Center, of which Dr. Petri is a Co-Director, has a database of over 400 pregnant patients, providing information on lupus activity, antiphospholipid tests, and pregnancy outcomes. As part of the Systemic Lupus International Collaborating Clinics, Hopkins participates in studies of atherosclerosis, malignancy, and neuropsychiatric lupus. Dr. Petri has served as study chair or principal investigator for several of these studies on the SLE patient population. Recent research has focused on the genetics of SLE and the role of gene signatures in monitoring disease activity. Dr. Petri has mentored and trained numerous fellows in clinical research who have gone on to successful academic careers, as well as training residents and fellows in the diagnosis, treatment and care of lupus patients.

Dr. Petri has authored over 500 papers and chapters on lupus, antiphospholipid syndrome, and SLE. She has served on the editorial board of *Arthritis and Rheumatology* and multiple other journals. She served on the Medical Advisory Board of the Lupus Foundation of America, is a member of the American College of Rheumatology, and was Chair of the Lupus Now Education Program. Dr. Petri lectures often on lupus care, including for ACR sponsored programs such as the State of the Art Symposium.

Carlos Pineda, MD, PhD

Senior Medical Sciences Researcher
Instituto Nacional de Rehabilitación Luis Guillermo
Ibarra Ibarra
Mexico City, Mexico



Dr. Carlos Pineda received his medical degree from the Mexican School of Medicine at La Salle University, Mexico City. He attended his medical residency in internal medicine and rheumatology at Instituto Nacional de Cardiología Ignacio Chávez and the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine. Was followed by Musculoskeletal Radiology training at VA Medical Center, San Diego, CA and Musculoskeletal and Articular Ultrasonography at Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, Michigan. He obtained his PhD in Health and Medical Sciences at Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico City.

Dr. Pineda is a prolific author with over 240 publications of which 90 are on the use of ultrasonography in rheumatology. He has been a constant advocate and contributor of imaging of rheumatic diseases, with wide experience and research interest in the field of musculoskeletal ultrasound, and paleopathology of rheumatic diseases. As a pioneer in the field of musculoskeletal ultrasound applied to rheumatic diseases in the Americas, he has taught specialty courses in 13 Latin American and Caribbean countries and the United States, collaborating in the training of rheumatologists, sports physicians, orthopedists, anesthesiologists, PM&R specialists, emergency physicians, radiologists, and first contact physicians.

He has served as president of the Pan-American League of Associations for Rheumatology (PANLAR), chair of the International League of Associations for Rheumatology (ILAR), president of the Mexican College of Rheumatology, and coordinator of the PANLAR Ultrasound Study Group. He is currently a senior medical sciences researcher at Instituto Nacional de Rehabilitación Luis Guillermo Ibarra Ibarra, and full professor in the Department of Rheumatology at Mexican School of Medicine, Universidad La Salle, Mexico City. He also is Editor-In-Chief of *Clinical Rheumatology* (ILAR Journal).

Rosalind Ramsey-Goldman, MD, DrPH

**Professor of Medicine, Rheumatology
Solovy/Arthritis Research Society Research Professor
Director, Northwestern Lupus Program
Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine
Chicago, Illinois**



Dr. Rosalind Ramsey-Goldman completed her medical education at Case Western Reserve University Medical School. She then received her MPH and DrPH in Epidemiology at the University of Pittsburgh, Graduate School of Public Health. Dr. Ramsey-Goldman completed her Fellowship training with the Rheumatology & Clinical Immunology at the University of Pittsburgh, and further continued her graduate studies in epidemiology as an individual postdoctoral NRSA (NIH) trainee. Currently, Dr. Ramsey-Goldman serves as the Director of the Lupus Program at Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, Illinois, and has held been the Solovy Arthritis Research Society Professor for over 13 years.

Dr. Ramsey-Goldman has inspired many trainees throughout her 30 years of service that is highlighted by her ground-breaking research and devotion to lupus patients. She is a world-leader in patient-oriented clinical research having been funded by NIH, foundations, philanthropy, and industry culminating in over 280 publications (H-index >48). Her research program examines risk factors to reduce comorbidities that are associated with lupus including osteoporosis, malignancy, and cardiovascular disease. One of the major strengths of Dr. Ramsey-Goldman is her ability to collaborate with researchers throughout the globe. These novel collaborations have led to breakthroughs in genetic risk factors for disease severity/susceptibility, a greater understanding of the pathogenesis of disease, and development of new disease classification criteria for flare assessments nephritis guidelines, and patient outcomes, such as fatigue.

Dr. Ramsey Goldman's is a founding leader of the Roadmap for Education and Access to Care for Chicago Hispanic LUPUS (REACH LUPUS) which is part of The Lupus Initiative (TLI). She is the Principal Investigator (PI) on the "Addressing Lupus Health Disparities Adapting Culturally-Competent Community-Based Education Models Through Local and National Collaborative Partnerships" funded by DHHS/OMH. She was also a consortium PI for "Roadmap for Education and Access to Health Care for Chicago Hispanic Lupus" project to eliminate health disparities in lupus and was the previous Chair of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus International Collaborating Clinics (SLICC). More recently, she was awarded a U01 from NIAMS to develop a lupus intervention trial for fatigue.

She has been honored by being the recipient of the Lawren H Daltroy Award for excellence in health communications for Lupus, the Albert Nelson, Marquis Lifetime Achievement award and the Evelyn V Hess award by the Lupus Foundation of America for her achievements in lupus research.

Dr. Ramsey- Goldman has held multiple leadership positions for the American College of Rheumatology (ACR). She was co-editor for *Arthritis & Rheumatology*, co-chair of the clinical lupus abstract selection committee, chair of the Profession Meetings Subcommittee, chair of the Committee on Education, member of the Committee on Nominations and Appointments, and served on the Board of Directors. She served as a member of the Scientific Advisory Council for the Rheumatology Research Foundation. She also serves the lupus community as a grant reviewer and as a reviewer for major journals.

John Reveille, MD

**Director
Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunogenetics
University of Texas
Houston, TX**



Dr. John Reveille went to medical school at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, did his Internal Medicine Residency at the University of Miami School of Medicine, and his Rheumatology Fellowship back at Johns Hopkins. After serving as a faculty member in the Division of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham [1983-1986], he has been a faculty member at the University of Texas McGovern Medical School at Houston since 1987, serving as Director of the Division of Rheumatology and Clinical Immunogenetics since 2002 until September 2019.

Much of his career has been devoted to the study of genetics and outcome in the rheumatic diseases, especially ankylosing spondylitis (where he was the PI for the North American Spondylitis Consortium [NASC] study [1999-2004] and has overseen the Prospective Study of Outcomes in AS [PSOAS] study in conjunction with Drs. Michael Weisman, Michael Ward, Lianne Gensler and Matthew Brown since 2002. He led the NIH Program Project Grant “Genetics and Ankylosing Spondylitis [AS] Pathogenesis”) 2006-2017, initially we focusing on affected sib pairs, but moved to genomewide association studies [GWAS], resulting, in collaboration with Dr. Matthew A. Brown, on the identification of more than 130 genes now known to be involved in disease susceptibility. Together with Dr. Michael Weisman and the investigators at the Centers for Disease Control, he has documented the Epidemiology of Spondyloarthritis and Chronic Back Pain in the U.S.

Other career accomplishments of Dr. Reveille have included determining the contribution of major histocompatibility alleles [MHC] to autoantibody subsets of rheumatic disease, defining the factors affecting prognosis in systemic lupus erythematosus, especially the role of ethnicity, and describing the spectrum of rheumatic diseases occurring in the setting of HIV infection.

Dr. Reveille also was president of the Pan American League of Affiliated Rheumatology Societies [PANLAR] 2012-2014 and founded the Spondyloarthritis Research and Treatment Network [SPARTAN] in 2003, of which he was cochairman 2003-2004 and Chairman 2012-2014.

William Rigby, MD

**Professor of Medicine
Professor of Microbiology and Immunology
Vice Chairman Academic Affairs
Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center
Lebanon, NH**



Dr. William Rigby received his BA and MD degrees from Columbia College and Harvard Medical School. Following an internship and residency at the New England Deaconess Hospital and the Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital, he completed his rheumatology fellowship training and joined the faculty of Dartmouth Medical School in 1987. Over the next 10 years, he became a Professor of Medicine, and Microbiology and Immunology, Chief of the Section of Connective Tissue Diseases and served as Rheumatology Fellowship Program Director. In 2008, he became the Vice-Chairman of Academic Affairs in the Department of Medicine where he has helped talented faculty through the promotion process. Moreover, he maintained an active role as a teacher, receiving the annual Department of Medicine Teaching Award in 2016. In these various roles, he has mentored over 100 students, residents, fellows and faculty

His career has spanned basic and clinical research, first working on the immunomodulatory role of 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D3 which led into the area of post-transcriptional regulation. This second chapter involved the study of cytokine and CD154 mRNA turnover and translation and led to the identification of a number of RNA binding proteins and their functional characterization. In the last two decades, his work has centered on clinical and translational studies that were designed to better inform treatment efficacy and safety in Rheumatoid Arthritis and Psoriatic Arthritis. These studies led to the discovery of novel biologic activities (trogocytosis) of anti-CD20 antibodies. Most recently, he has worked on how infections break tolerance to Bactericidal Permeability-Increasing Protein in Cystic Fibrosis and Bronchiectasis and the functional importance of this autoimmunity.

Over the years, Dr. Rigby has gladly performed multiple roles for the American College of Rheumatology [ACR] and Rheumatology Research Foundation [RRF]. He has served on the Board of both organizations as well as chaired search committees that selected Editors of *Arthritis and Rheumatology* and *Arthritis Care and Research*. He has chaired study sections for the RRF and has served on their Fiscal Year Outreach Initiative Program. He has additionally served on the ACR Winter Rheumatology Symposium Organizing Committee as well as various ACR Committees, including those on Finance, Education, Continuing Medical Education and Annual Professional Meetings Committee.

Lee S. Simon, MD, FACP

Principal
SDG LLC
Boston, MA



Dr Simon attended Loyola College, Baltimore, MD and graduated in 1976 from the University of Maryland Medical School, Magna Cum Laude and was awarded the Balder Scholarship for Academic Achievement. He trained as an Osler Intern and Junior Assistant Resident in Internal Medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD. In 1978 he began training in Rheumatology in the Arthritis Unit Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston MA, with Stephen Krane, MD. He continued at the MGH working both clinically and at the “wet bench” supported through NIH funding while pursuing collagen related research until 1993.

Initially, Dr Simon pursued bench research studying collagen turnover in humans. In so doing, he helped to develop a radioimmunoassay followed by an ELISA assay to measure the carboxy terminal of type I procollagen allowing in vivo approximation of new type I collagen synthesis. This work led to studies correlating the urinary excretion of this peptide with changes in bone histomorphometry. This work was recognized as one of 25 seminal published works in the “Journal of Bone and Mineral Research” of the American Society of Bone and Mineral Research’s 25th Anniversary celebration in 2003 and republished at that time.

Additionally, Dr Simon became increasingly involved in clinical research; as a clinical trialist he participated in the development of new anti-inflammatory therapies serving as a principal investigator and first author of papers describing the effects of new nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs including the new [at that time] selective cyclo-oxygenase II inhibitors such as rofecoxib and celecoxib. In 1981, he was appointed to the New England Deaconess Hospital (NEDH) to help develop an academic Department of Medicine affiliated with Harvard Medical School. He led both Graduate Medical Education within the NEDH as well as served as Chair of the Rehabilitation Services. Subsequently with the merger of the Beth Israel Hospital and the NEDH, he became an Associate Chief of Medicine and continued as Chair of Graduate Medical Education of the new Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC). He was an Associate Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School. He subsequently served as a voluntary faculty member at HMS and the BIDMC from 2004-2009 at which time he left to pursue a full-time consulting practice in drug development and regulatory strategies. He is presently a Principal in SDG LLC, a consulting firm helping companies to create successful drug development programs through good designs and using insightful regulatory strategy.

Dr. Simon has served many volunteer roles with the American College of Rheumatology. He was awarded the 2003 Distinguished Service Award of the ACR and has been awarded the 2003 Scientific Leadership Award of the Lupus Research Institute. He is on the Executive Committee of OMERACT. He has been on the editorial board of multiple journals and has authored more than 110 original publications, review articles and chapters, and has served as a co-editor of four books.

Fredrica E. Smith, MD

**Retired Clinician
Orono, ME**



Dr. Fredrica Smith was in private practice of rheumatology in Los Alamos from July 1975 through December 2012. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College [A.B. in physics] and Duke University School of Medicine. Her internship and internal medicine residency were at UNM Hospitals, where Dr. Ralph C. Williams, Jr. was chair of the Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Williams inspired her interest in Rheumatology and led her to a rheumatology fellowship at the University of Virginia. In 1975, the blue sky of New Mexico drew Dr. Smith and her husband back to Los Alamos for the next 37 years. Dr. Williams worked with Dr. Smith for 10 years after he retired from University of Florida and her nurse practitioner Christina Nelson retired after a 25-year working relationship.

Dr. Smith has been active in many medically-related committees and medical organizations at the local, state, and national level. She served on many committees for ACR and has participated in the ACR's Advocates for Arthritis Congressional Hill Visits for 18 years. In 2012, she was honored with the Paulding Phelps award. Also, in 2003, was honored with the New Mexico ACP laureate award.

Dr. Smith enjoys activities outside medicine, including teaching water aerobics, swimming every day, playing string bass in local orchestras [have done for over 50 years], participating in various local government and private organization boards in Los Alamos, and continuing volunteer work since retiring with her husband in Maine.