

HOMER SMITH AWARD

The New York Heart Association established the Homer W. Smith Award in 1963 to honor the man whose monumental effect on the science of nephrology shaped its development from the 1930s to the present. Homer Smith's research career began during World War I when he became a coworker with E.K. Marshall in a chemical warfare unit. After the war, Marshall arranged for him to become a student of William H. Howell at Johns Hopkins where he obtained a D.Sc. in 1921. Later, a fellowship from the National Research Council allowed him to work with Walter B. Cannon at Harvard (1923–1925). He was appointed Professor of Physiology and Director of the Physiological Laboratories at the New York University College of Medicine in 1928 and held those posts until his retirement in 1961. A lifelong interest in the comparative physiology of the kidney and body fluids led him to Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory (MDIBL) in Salisbury Cove, ME, in the summer of 1928. He remained closely associated with that laboratory until his death in 1962 and was president of that institution from 1951 to 1960. His laboratory at New York University was the locale for his investigations of mammalian and human physiology; the summers at MDIBL were devoted to comparative physiology. The one complemented and reinforced the other, and his contributions to nephrology have been so fruitful because of the broad scope of his understanding of the biology of the internal environment. These studies led him to an interest in evolution and thence to religion and philosophy. Smith's research contributions to nephrology were no greater than his contributions as a teacher and writer. His students and his texts on the physiology of the kidney profoundly influenced the development of renal physiology and nephrology in the last half-century.

The Homer Smith award was established by the New York Heart Association to recognize the scientists who have made original and significant contributions to our understanding of renal physiology or pathophysiology. Since 1970, the award has been presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Nephrology (except for 1971, when it was presented during the International Congress of Nephrology in Mexico City). In 1983, an agreement was reached between the American Society of Nephrology and the New York Heart Association to jointly sponsor of the award. On November 17, 1992, the Homer Smith Award was presented at the 25th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Nephrology in Baltimore, MD, to Jared J. Grantham, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS.

Lawrence P. Sullivan
Deputy Editor

Former Homer Smith Awardees

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|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1964 Robert F. Pitts | 1979 Francois Morel |
| 1965 Robert W. Berliner | 1980 Isidore S. Edelman |
| 1966 Hans H. Ussing | 1981 Alexander Leaf |
| 1967 Heinrich Wirz | 1982 Floyd C. Rector, Jr. |
| 1968 Jean R. Oliver | 1983 Eberhard Fromter |
| 1969 James A. Shannon | 1984 Barry M. Brenner |
| 1970 Carl W. Gottschalk | 1985 Philip R. Steinmetz |
| 1971 Gerhard Giebisch | 1986 Emile Boulpaep |
| 1972 Hugh E. de Wardener | 1987 Joseph S. Handler |
| 1973 Jack Orloff | 1988 Marilyn G. Farquhar |
| 1974 No award announced | 1989 Rolf Kinne |
| 1975 Karl J. Ullrich | 1990 Klaus Thurau |
| 1976 Frank J. Dixon | 1991 Heini H. Murer |
| 1977 Maurice B. Burg | 1992 Jared J. Grantham |
| 1978 Erich E. Windhager | |