

Harry W. McFadden, Jr., M.D.

Dr. Harry W. McFadden, Jr., received an A.B. degree from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln (1943) and his M.D. degree from the University of Nebraska Medical Center (1943), being elected Phi Beta Kappa in college and Alpha Omega Alpha in medical school. Following completion of a rotating internship and pathology residency at the University of Nebraska Hospital (1944-1945, 1947-1949), interrupted by two years in the armed services (1945-1947), he joined the faculty at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) in 1949 in the Department of Pathology and Bacteriology as an instructor, staying at UNMC his entire career. He was promoted to Assistant Professor (1952) when the department changed its name to Pathology and Microbiology and became the first (and only) Chair of the newly formed Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology in 1955, a position in which he served until his retirement in 1985. He was promoted to Professor in 1968. He had joint appointments in Microbiology and in Pathology, and was the Director of the Medical Microbiology Laboratories of the University Hospital.

Upon his retirement, the separated departments of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine and Medical Microbiology and Immunology were remerged as the combined Department of Pathology and Microbiology.

Dr. McFadden was an outstanding educator, and was beloved by medical students. He received the Teaching Award by the senior class in 1953, was named the Outstanding Educator and Friend by the senior class of 1955, and he received the Basic Science Award for teaching by the senior class in 1958, 1959, 1961, 1962, and 1967. In addition to his outstanding contributions to medical education and his leadership in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology, he was dedicated to UNMC and performed whatever tasks were asked of him, including serving as the Interim Dean for Graduate Studies (1972-1979, a very long time to serve in an interim role) and as Interim Chancellor, twice (February – June 1972 and September 1976 – July 1977).

He was also active at the local and national level, serving as President of the Nebraska Association of Pathologists and Speaker of the House of Delegates of the Nebraska Medical Association. He was elected to the Council on Microbiology of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists and served as its chairman for two years. Most notably, he served as a trustee of the American Board of Pathology (1970-1982), serving as its President in 1981. For his outstanding contributions to the University of Nebraska Medical Center, he was awarded the Jack Elliott Award in 1985, and was named one of the Nebraska Medical Center's legends in 2006.



Department of Pathology and Microbiology
College of Medicine
University of Nebraska Medical Center

“A true gentleman”



Harry W. McFadden, Jr., M.D. Lectureship

The Lectureship was established in 1985 by Drs. David Putilo and Samuel Cohen to honor his valuable and numerous contributions to pathology, microbiology, and the University of Nebraska Medical Center. The Lectureship was expanded by the Class of 1964 College of Medicine Alumni in 1989 on their 25th reunion as a tribute to his role as an outstanding educator, practitioner, and friend. He was revered by many.

The first presenter of the Lectureship, Dr. Tucker LeBein, had been one of Dr. McFadden's graduate students. The Lectureship has become one of the most notable occasions of the year at UNMC, and has included numerous outstanding lecturers, including three Nobel Prize Laureates as well as a Governor of the State of Nebraska (The Honorable Dave Heineman, 2005).

The lectures were always attended by both Dr. McFadden and his wife, Jo, until their deaths, and frequently also by their son, Dr. Harry E. McFadden and his family, and by their daughter, Mary Jean McFadden.

McFadden Lectures



2011 McFadden Lecture

Pictured left to right are Drs. Zhixin Zhang, Max Cooper, Harry McFadden, Jr., and Steven Hinrichs

1987

Tucker LeBein, Ph.D.
Department of Pathology
University of Minnesota
"Growth Control and Differentiation of Human B Cell Precursors"

1988

Flossie Wong-Stall, Ph.D.
Laboratory of Tumor Cell Biology
National Cancer Institute
"HIV Gene Regulation and Pathogenesis"

1989

Michael B. A. Oldstone, M.D.
Nobel Laureate
Department of Immunology
Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation
"How Viruses Cause Autoimmunity: The Mechanisms of Viral Mimicry"

1991

George Klein, M.D.
Head, Department of Tumor Biology
Karolinska Institute
Stockholm, Sweden
"Tumor Biology of Burkitt's Lymphoma"

1992

Robert A. Good, M.D., Ph.D., D.Sc.
Physician-in-Chief, All Children's Hospital
Professor Microbiology-Immunology
University of Florida
"Immunodeficiencies as Experiments of Nature: Continuing Value of a Perspective"

1993

David Baltimore, Ph.D.
Professor and Nobel Laureate
Rockefeller University
New York, NY
"NFkB Story"

1994

Robin A. Weiss, Ph.D., HonMRCP,
PRCPPath
Director of Research and Professor of
Viral Oncology
Chester Beatty Laboratories
Institute of Cancer Research, London,
England
"How Retroviruses Enter Cells"

1995-1997

No Lectures Presented

1998

Peter Charles Doherty, DVSc, Ph.D.
Professor and Nobel Laureate
Department of Pathology & Pediatrics
University of Tennessee
"Immunity in Acute and Persistent Virus Infections"

1999

Ralph van Furth, M.D., Ph.D. Emeritus
Professor of Internal Medicine and
Infectious Disease
University of Leiden
"The Marriage Between Macrophages and Cytokines"

2000

Cornelis (Cox) P. Terhorst, Ph.D.
Professor of Immunology
Harvard Medical School
Chief of Division of Immunology
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
"X-Linked Lymphoproliferative Disease: How a Small Gene Prevents a Progressive Immunodeficiency"

2001-2004

No Lectures Presented

2005

The Honorable Dave Heineman
Governor of Nebraska
"Building on the Nebraska Model for Bioterrorism Preparedness"

2006

Alexander Tomasz, Ph.D.
Plutarch Papamarkou Professor,
Head of the Laboratory of Microbiology
Rockefeller University
"Multiple Strategies of Vancomycin Resistance in Staphylococci"

2007

E. Peter Greenberg, Ph.D.
Professor, Department of Microbiology
University of Washington

"Sociomicrobiology: Communication and Coordination of Group Activities In Bacteria"

2008

Olaf Schneewind, M.D., Ph.D.
Louis Block Professor & Chairman
Department of Microbiology
The University of Chicago
"Protein Assembly in the Cell Wall Envelope of Gram-Positive Bacteria"

2009

No Lecture Presented

2010

Jay K. Kolls, M.D.
Chair, Department of Genetics Louisiana State University
"The Role of Th17 Cytokines in Mucosal Immunology"

2010

Kim D. Janda, Ph.D.
Chaired Professor
The Scripps Research Institute
"Interfacing Chemistry with Biology to Discover Molecules with Function"

2011

Max Cooper, M.D.
Professor
Pathology & Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar
Emory University School of Medicine
"Evolution of Adaptive Immunity"

2015

Susan Sharp, Ph.D., ABMM, FAAM
Director
Regional Microbiology and Molecular Infectious Diseases Laboratories Kaiser Permanente
"Genomics and Proteomics, is this the end of 'culture' in microbiology?"

2016

Joel Ernst, M.D.
Director
Division of Infectious Diseases and Immunology, NYU School of Medicine
"Immunity to a 3 million year old pathogen - tuberculosis in the 21st century"

2017

No Lecture Presented

2018

Aron E. Lukacher, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Chair, Department of Microbiology and Immunology
Penn Sate University
"Polyomavirus CNS Immunovirology"