



Association of American Cancer Institutes

For more information contact:
Chris Zurawsky
Association of American Cancer Institutes
(412) 802-6775
chris@aaci-cancer.org
www.aaci-cancer.org

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AACI to Honor Drs. Alan Rabson and Margaret Spitz

The Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) will present the AACI Distinguished Scientist Award to Margaret R. Spitz, MD, MPH, and the AACI Special Recognition Award to Alan S. Rabson, MD, on October 15, during the 2012 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting, in Chicago.

Dr. Spitz's award recognizes her extraordinary scientific accomplishments and her contributions to the cancer center and cancer research communities. She has performed innovative molecular and genetic epidemiology research, including a focus on inter-individual variation in susceptibility to tobacco carcinogenesis.

Dr. Spitz was professor and founding chair of the Department of Epidemiology during a 27-year career at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. She joined the NCI-designated Dan L. Duncan Cancer Center at Baylor College of Medicine in 2009 to provide strategic direction for its population sciences program.

Following the award presentation and luncheon on October 15, Dr. Spitz will present a special keynote talk on integrative epidemiology. Previous AACI Distinguished Scientist Awardees are Lee Hartwell, Mary Claire King, Janet Rowley, Stuart Schreiber, Bert Vogelstein, Robert Weinberg and Irving Weissman.

Dr. Rabson's award marks his more than five decades as a pathologist, cancer researcher, administrator and clinical advisor, as well as his numerous discoveries in virology and authorship of more than 100 scientific journal articles. His son, Arnold Rabson, MD, will accept the award on his father's behalf.

Dr. Rabson joined the National Institutes of Health in 1955 and became a staff member in the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Laboratory of Pathology the following year. In 1975, he was named Director of NCI's Division of Cancer Biology, Diagnosis, and Centers, where he served until his appointment as Deputy Director of the National Cancer Institute in 1995.

AACI and the Cancer Center Administrators Forum (CCAF) jointly formulated the program for the 2012 AACI/CCAF Annual Meeting. The meeting will be held October 14-16 at The Westin Chicago River North, Chicago. More information on the meeting, including the program and electronic registration, is available at AACI's website, www.aaci-cancer.org.

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Representing 95 of the nation's premier academic and free-standing cancer research centers, the Association of American Cancer Institutes is dedicated to promoting leading research institutions' efforts to eradicate cancer through a comprehensive and multidisciplinary program of cancer research, treatment, patient care, prevention, education and community outreach.