

2003 AAMR Health Promotion and Prevention Committee

Call for Nominations for the

**ROBERT GUTHRIE AWARD FOR ADVANCES IN BIOCHEMICAL AND
MOLECULAR GENETICS**

AAMR's Health Promotion and Prevention Committee is pleased to announce the call for nominations for the 2003 Robert Guthrie Award for Advances in Biochemical and Molecular Genetics. This award is sponsored by the Irwin Siegel Insurance Agency.

Background for the Initiation of the Robert Guthrie Award

Dr. Robert Guthrie was the developer of several newborn screening tests for inborn errors of metabolism, using the novel specimen of dried whole blood on filter paper. Among the most well-known of these tests is the test for phenylketonuria (PKU). Since the early 1960's, when the PKU test was initiated, more than 300 million children around the world have been tested for PKU. Approximately 30,000 cases of mental retardation due to PKU have been prevented because of this testing, followed by early treatment. More recently, the dried blood specimen has been adapted for use in molecular studies of disease, thus demonstrating one of the continuing contributions of Dr. Guthrie's early work.

Qualifications for the Robert Guthrie Award

The successful candidate should be an established scientist who has made significant contributions to the prevention of genetic disorders through the use of biochemical or molecular genetic technologies or a combination of both. The contribution may be through the management of a successful screening program for genetic disease, through the development of new diagnostic tests for genetic disease, or through the identification of a successful treatment for a genetic disease.

Guidelines

1. Membership in AAMR is not a prerequisite for nomination.
2. A candidate may not nominate him or herself.
3. All decisions of the Health Promotion and Prevention Committee will prevail. However, a Review Committee, composed of individuals qualified to evaluate the merits of the nominees, will be organized with representation of the Health Promotion and Prevention Committee and the Medicine Division.
4. Activities of recipients must have a national or international impact or have contributed greatly to knowledge about the biochemical or molecular genetic causes of mental retardation.
5. No elected AAMR person or staff at the state/provincial, regional or national level is eligible for an award during his or her term of office.

Award Ceremony

The recipient of the Robert Guthrie Award will be honored at the annual AAMR awards luncheon (or dinner), as well as at the annual luncheon of the Medicine Division. The recipient will receive \$5,000 from the Irwin Siegel Insurance Agency in recognition of his or her achievements.

Submission Requirements

All nominations must include the following documentation in order to be considered by the Health Promotion and Prevention Committee:

1. A narrative, not to exceed 500 words, in support of the nomination, addressing the following areas:
 - a. Significance of the contributions;
 - b. Quality and thoroughness of the contributions;
 - c. Years (duration) of significant effort;
 - d. Geographic range of contributions, i.e., national, international; and
 - e. Contributions within or beyond requirements of professional position.
2. One-page vita for nominee, including nominee's name, home and office addresses, phone numbers, agency affiliation, position/title, and educational background.
3. Nominee's bibliography.
4. Name, address, phone number(s), agency affiliation and position/title of person Submitting nominee.
5. Name, agency affiliation, address and phone number of three (3) individuals familiar with the nominee's achievements (who do not work directly with the nominee).

Send all documentation no later than March 15, 2003.

**NOMINATION FORM
2002 ROBERT GUTHRIE AWARD**

All nominations must be received by March 15, 2003.

All nominations become the property of AAMR and will not be returned. Be sure to send this form with your nomination and documentation. Please complete one form for each nominee (you may photocopy this form).

Contact (Name and Title):

Address:

City/State/Zip:

I am nominating _____ for the Robert Guthrie Award.

Nominee's Name and Title:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

My signature below authorizes AAMR to use my Nomination and all information contained.

Please sign here

Attach this page to your documentation and send to:

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