American College of Physicians

Alabama Laureate Award

June 6, 1997 Perdido Beach Resort Orange Beach, Alabama





Alabama Chapter Laureate Award American College of Physicians

The Laureate Award honors those Fellows or Masters of the American College of Physicians who have demonstrated by their example and conduct an abiding commitment to excellence in medical care, education, or research, and in service to their community, their chapter, and the American College of Physicians.

Recipients of this award shall bear the title Laureate of the Alabama Chapter.

Awards shall be made at the Annual Scientific Meeting. The awardee should accept the recognition in person, unless excused by the Governor. The awardee is to be nominated by a process that may originate from the Awards Committee or from any member of the chapter. The nomination must document the attributes and accomplishments of the nominee.

Awardees shall be senior physicians and Fellows or Masters of long-standing, with acknowledged excellence and peer approval in the field of internal medicine. In addition, awardees should have served their chapter with distinction. Exceptional circumstances may modify these requirements.

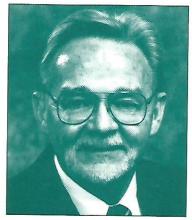
It is with distinct pleasure that the Alabama Chapter honors Fellows and Masters of the American College of Physicians. These physicians are long-standing and loyal supporters of the College, have rendered distinguished service to their chapter, and have upheld the high ideals and professional standards for which the American College of Physicians is known.

We salute and honor them on this occasion and we wish them well in the future.

John B. Bass Jr., MD, FACP ACP Governor, Alabama Chapter

In honor of their service to internal medicine, the 1997 Alabama Laureate Award is presented to:

J. Claude Bennett, MD, FACP John McDuffie McGehee, MD, FACP



J. CLAUDE BENNETT, MD, FACP

Dr. Bennett was born in Birmingham, Alabama on December 12, 1933. He is married to the former Nancy Miller and they have three children: Katharine (Katya) Bennett O'Leary of Birmingham, Miller Bennett Piggott of Birmingham, and Clark Bennett of Ft. Collins, Colorado.

Dr. Bennett received his undergraduate degree from Howard College (now Samford University) in Birmingham, Alabama in 1954. He received his M.D. from Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts in 1958. After serving fellowships at Massachusetts General Hospital, the National Institutes of Health, and California Institute of Technology, he came back to Birmingham and UAB in 1965. In 1992 he was awarded a D.Sc. (honoris causa) degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

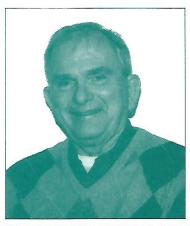
In 1965 he began his career as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at UAB. In 1966 he was named Assistant Director of the Division of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology and Associate Professor of the Department of Medicine. In 1970 he was named Associate Professor in the Department of Microbiology and Senior Scientist of the Cancer Research and Training Center. From 1972 to 1982 he was Professor and Chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Director of the Division of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology. From 1977 to 1982 he was Professor and Chairman of the

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Department of Microbiology and Director of the Division of Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology. From 1977 to 1984 he was Director of the Multipurpose Arthritis Center at UAB. In 1982 he was named Professor and Chairman of the Department of Medicine and in 1992 was honored with the William and Evalina Spencer Chair in Medical Science Leadership. From 1993 to 1996 he was President of the University of Alabama at Birmingham and continues to hold the position of Distinguished University Professor Emeritus. He joined BioCryst Pharmaceuticals, Inc. as President and Chief Operating Officer effective December 31, 1997.

Dr. Bennett has been the recipient of numerous prestigious award, including the Williams Award of the Association of Professors of Medicine and the John Phillips Memorial Award. He holds Mastership in the American College of Physicians and is a member of the Alabama Academy of Honor. He is currently the President of the Association of American Physicians. He is a former UAB Distinguished Faculty Lecturer. In October of 1996 he was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and is the recipient of numerous other awards.

Dr. Bennett is an active member of many professional and academic societies. He and Nancy are active supporters of a wide array of civic organizations, particularly in the arts and ecology.



JOHN MCDUFFIE MCGEHEE, MD, FACP

John McGehee was born in 1928 in Mobile, Alabama. In 1945 he graduated from Murphy High School with honors and with an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy for 1946. During one year at the Citadel he decided against a career in naval aviation and transferred to Vanderbilt. He attended Jefferson Medical College from 1948 to 1952 and was selected for AOA and The Dean's Committee.

While awaiting the draft he entered an excellent one-year residency at Burlington County Hospital. His experience was weighted heavily toward cardiology by Dr. Thomas McMillan, a master of the College, and a pioneer electrocardiographer.

With the military draft pending he was accepted by Dr. Cyrus C. Sturgis as a resident at the University of Michigan in July 1954. He went there intending to become a cardiologist. Three months later he was drafted, ironically, as a Navy medical officer attached for one year to a Marine Air Group in Korea and for one year at El Toro, California.

On returning to Ann Arbor (1956-1958) Dr. McGehee encountered the halycon days of weekly "E&M" rounds with Dr. Stefan Fajans as modern clinical endocrinology moved from years of "hair growing and freak showing" into years of expansion as a practical and often exciting part of bedside care. Meanwhile, the cardiologists seemed to have moved away from the bedside back to the laboratories with catheters, oscilloscopes, echocardiograms, and pump oxygenators. Therefore, when his resi-

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dency ended in July 1958, Dr. McGehee obtained a year's fellowship in endocrinology with Drs. Jerome Conn and Stephan Fajans.

Dr. McGehee began solo practice in Mobile in July 1959. At a time when an internist was a "heart doctor," he came to seek a practice in endocrinology, the first in Mobile. He became the eighth board certified internist in the city. At the Mobile General Hospital he established an endocrine clinic for indigent patients and also worked with Dr. Sam Eichold in his large diabetic clinic. Both of these clinics would become part of the College of Medicine at the University of South Alabama in 1973. Dr. McGehee directed the search committee for a chairman which selected Dr. Robert A. Kreisberg as the first chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. McGehee served as acting chairman until Dr. Kreisberg arrived.

Dr. McGehee served on the first Board of Trustee of the Medical Society of Mobile County. Also, he was on the Medical Society Board of Censors and the Mobile County Board of Health, 1973-1978, and was chairman of both boards from 1976 through 1978. When the County Health officer retired, Dr. McGehee became his acting replacement for a year.

He served on numerous committees of the local hospitals. He was president of the staff at the Mobile General Hospital in 1969 and the Mobile Infirmary in 1985. He was librarian for the County Medical Society for three years, and he had that library donated to become the nucleus for the library now at the University Hospital.

When Dr. Irving Koffler proposed the purchase of Mobile's first DC defibrillator in 1965, Dr. McGehee chaired the committee that established in 1966 the first Coronary Care unit in Alabama. A training film which they developed was used in Alabama and in four other states to train new CCU staff for four years.

Since 1987 Dr. McGehee's office has been at Providence Hospital where he is senior partner at Providence Endocrinology and Metabolism in a five- man group. This group established and now maintains the first Diabetes Center in Alabama that is approved by the Diabetes Association. In 1974, Dr. McGehee was gratified to have the first patient with Cushing's disease treated successfully by transphenoidal surgery in Mobile. He had the first pheochromocytoma removed after successful preparation with phenoxybenzamine. With Dr. Steve Davis and the help of the pathologists, fine needle aspiration biopsy of the thyroid became a standard procedure in Mobile after 1982.

The group is currently developing outpatient programs for management of lipid disorders and osteoporosis.

Dr. McGehee's wife Dorothy C. McGehee has an EdD from Auburn University and has taught at St. Paul's Episcopal School since 1972. He has two sons, one daughter, and five step-daughters. Of the eight children three are teachers, one a physiologist, one a dietitian, one a CPA, one a realtor, and one a hospital administrator.

His hobbies include involvement with his eleven grandchildren, sailing, rowing, reading, and forestry.

His father was in general practice in Mobile until his death in 1945. One brother practiced psychiatry and psychotherapy in New York City and his other brother is retiring as Chairman of the Department of Family Practice at Jefferson Medical College.