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**Alabama Chapter**

*Laureate Award*



“No  
person  
was ever  
*honoured*  
for what  
he *received*.  
Honour  
has been the  
*reward*  
for what he  
*gave.*”

—Calvin Coolidge

## Alabama Chapter Laureate Award

The Laureate Award honors those Fellows or Masters of the College 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.

The recipients of this award shall bear the title, Laureate of the Alabama Chapter.

These awards shall be presented at the annual scientific meeting. The awardees should accept the recognition in person, unless excused by the Governor. The awardees are 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.

The 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, the awardees should have served the Chapter with distinction. Exceptional circumstances may modify these requirements.

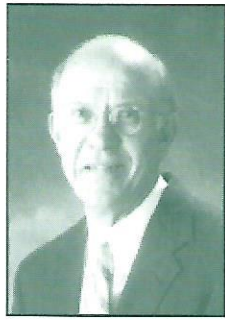
It is with distinct pleasure that this year, the Alabama Chapter presents the Laureate Award to William E. Dismukes, MD, MACP, and Pink L. Folmar, Jr., MD, FACP. They are long-standing and loyal supporters of the College, have rendered distinguished service to the Chapter, and have upheld the high ideals and professional standards for which the College is known.

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

**James Bonner, MD, FACP**  
Governor, Alabama Chapter



**William E. Dismukes, MD, MACP**



William E. Dismukes, MD, is a native of Montgomery, attended Sidney Lanier High School, and received his bachelor's degree after one year at Vanderbilt University and two years at University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. He was awarded his medical degree from the Medical College of Alabama, Birmingham, in 1964; received the Dean's Medal as the #1 graduating student; and was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha, the medical honorary society. After two years as an intern and resident at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Dr. Dismukes was an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, and Chief, Hepatitis Unit. He then returned to the Brigham in Boston to complete his residency and do a two-year fellowship in infectious diseases at the Massachusetts General Hospital.

After completion of his training in 1971, Dr. Dismukes returned home to Alabama and joined Glenn Cobbs, MD, in the Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, University of Alabama School of Medicine at Birmingham (UAB). This month, he will complete 32 years on faculty at UAB, where he has worn many hats and earned many honors. Currently, Dr. Dismukes is Professor of Medicine and Microbiology, Vice-Chairman, Department of Medicine (DOM), and Director, Division of Infectious Diseases. Throughout his career, he has been highly committed to medical education and served as Director, Clerkships in Medicine, 1972–81, and Director, DOM Internal Medicine Residency Training Program, 1981–2002. Under his leadership, the residency program grew in national stature and numbers of residents to its current level of about 125 residents per year, and added both a Primary Care Track and a Medicine-Pediatrics Track. As an educator, Dr. Dismukes has been recognized by medical students and residents on numerous occasions and has been

awarded the following: Best Clinical Professor on five separate occasions, awarded by UASOM students; Best Clinical Teacher in DOM Faculty on eight occasions, 1971–90, awarded by housestaff; and one of Top Ten Teachers, DOM, awarded by housestaff, annually 1995–2002. He has also been an invited lecturer at over 60 U.S. medical schools.

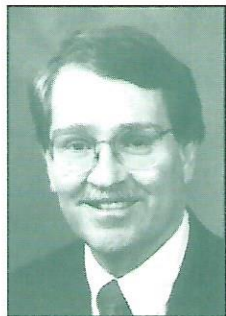
Owing to the leadership of Dr. Cobbs (1967–90) and Dr. Dismukes (1990–2003), the UAB Division of Infectious Diseases has become one of the largest and most highly regarded such divisions in the country, featuring the following: 18 full-time faculty members, 125 staff, a variety of well-established research and clinical programs, federal research funds from the NIH and CDC totaling over \$18 million annually, and a highly competitive fellowship training program. Since 1978, Dr. Dismukes has served as Principal Investigator for the NIAID-sponsored Mycoses Study Group, via which numerous large multi-center clinical trials have established state-of-the-art prophylaxis and treatment strategies for most systemic fungal diseases. For his sustained accomplishments in fungal chemotherapy, Dr. Dismukes was the recipient of the American Society for Microbiology's prestigious Aventis Pharmaceutical Lectureship and Award in 2001.

In addition to Dr. Dismukes' activities as a clinician-educator and investigator, he has been highly active in the ACP: a Fellow of the College since 1972; Master of the College since 1996; Governor of the Alabama Chapter of the ACP–ASIM over the past 4 years, 1999–2003; member of the Executive Committee, ACP–ASIM Board of Governors, 2001–03; and member, Board of Trustees, ACP Foundation. He considers his most important achievement to be the highly successful merger of the Alabama ACP and Alabama ASIM chapters in 1999 to form the Alabama ACP–ASIM Chapter (now called Alabama Chapter of the ACP, as of April 5, 2003).

Dr. Dismukes has been married to Pidgie, his wife, for 37 years; they have three children—Amy, Jay, and Scott—and two grandchildren. For his outstanding achievements as a medical educator and his many contributions to the College, the AL ACP Chapter is pleased to honor him with the Laureate Award.



**Pink L. Folmar,  
Jr., MD, FACP**



Pink Folmar, MD, was reared in Montgomery and received his bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt University. He attended the University of Alabama School of Medicine at Birmingham (UAB), graduating in 1972. His internship and residency in internal medicine were completed at the University of Alabama Hospital and Clinics, 1972–75, and he then served as Chief Medical Resident under Dr. Thomas James, 1975–76. He has practiced internal medicine at the Simon-Williamson Clinic in Birmingham for the past 27 years.

Dr. Folmar has been deeply committed to organized medicine, particularly internal medicine, throughout his career. He served on the Alabama Chapter ACP Executive Committee, 1986–91, and was Editor of the Alabama ACP–American Society of Internal Medicine joint newsletter, 1989–94. Along with Dr. John Burnum, he started the *View from the Foxhole*, which received the ASIM National Honor as the best state component newsletter in 1990. Dr. Folmar was elected to Fellowship in the ACP in 1991; represented the Alabama ACP Chapter on the UAB Dean's Advisory Committee for Primary Care, 1995–2001; and was also the first Chairman of the Alabama ACP Health and Public Policy Committee, 1989–91. During the same period, he was involved with the Alabama ASIM, serving on the Executive Committee, 1985–94; on the ASIM–Blue Cross Liaison Committee, 1985–90; and as Chapter President, 1987–88. Dr. Folmar was a member of the ASIM National Committee on Institutional and Organizational Relationships, 1988–89, and represented ASIM as one of two internists on the Health Care Financing Administration Practice Expense Validation Panel on surgery and GI medicine in 1997.

Dr. Folmar was elected to the Medical Association of the State of Alabama (MASA) Board of Censors in 1991 and served until mid 2001 and was MASA President, 1999–2000. He considers his greatest accomplishment during his term to be convincing the Governor to increase Medicaid primary care rates to equal Medicare reimbursements in order for Alabama physicians and dentists to accept and retain Medicaid patients in their practices. During this decade, he also served on the State Committee of Public Health and the Board of Medical Examiners. Dr. Folmar was Chairman, State of Alabama Medical Award Committee, 1991–2001; his committee not only awarded merit scholarships to UAB and USA medical students but also funded medical education expenses for 26 other students, committing them to practice in rural Alabama communities upon completion of their residencies. Other important positions held by Dr. Folmar include Jefferson County Medical Society Board of Censors, 1990–94; Chairman, Jefferson County Board of Health, 1999–2000; Chairman, Board of Birmingham Society of Internists, 1990–present; and President, 1989–90.

As a practicing general internist, Dr. Folmar was President of the 35 physician multi-specialty Simon-Williamson Clinic, 1986–89, and a member of the teaching faculty, Baptist Princeton Hospital, 1976–88, and received the Outstanding Teaching Award, Department of Medicine, in 1981. He currently is a member of the Baptist Regional Board of Trust.

Dr. Folmar and his wife, Miriam (Mim), have three children—Beth, Daniel, and Rebecca—and enjoy raising tropical plants, including bromeliads, and collecting pattern glass, particularly Heisey. For his outstanding and sustained service and leadership for organized medicine in Alabama, especially through the ASIM, ACP, and MASA, Dr. Folmar is most deserving of the Alabama Chapter ACP Laureate Award.