University of South Carolina
School of Medicine

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NEWS & INFORMATION

2016 Dean’s Distinguished Service Award Recipients

The Dean’s Distinguished Service Awards are annual honors established by Executive Dean Les Hall, M.D. to recognize individuals who demonstrate excellence in service, leadership, advocacy, and professional accomplishment.

Awardees are chosen by a selection committee overseen by the Dean's leadership team.

View photos from the 2016 Alumni and Dean's Awards celebration dinner held on April 21, 2016.

Career Achievement Award

James R. Augustine, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus | Pharmacology, Physiology and Neuroscience

Dr. James Augustine is professor emeritus in the Department of Pharmacology, Physiology and Neuroscience. He was recruited as a full-time faculty member in the School of Medicine in 1976 to serve as course director for Medical Neuroanatomy. He has educated nearly every USC School of Medicine student since the first class was admitted in 1977.

He has authored numerous scholarly articles on the functional anatomy of the brain with a special interest in the insula in experimental primates and humans, and is the sole author of a book on the human brain entitled "Human Neuroanatomy" which is entering its second edition (2017). He has served on over 76 SOM and USC committees, is a former president of the USC Faculty Senate and a recipient of the 2009 USC Educational Foundation Outstanding Service Award. Dr. Augustine has also served as the inaugural USC faculty Ombudsman since 2006. The USC Board of Trustees recently awarded Dr. Augustine the title of Professor Emeritus. In 2012, he was named the Elizabeth Crosby Visiting Professor in the Department of Neurosurgery at the University of Michigan. In 2014 he was a USC School of Medicine Alumni Association Award recipient.

During his nearly 40-year career at the School of Medicine, Dr. Augustine has taught gross anatomy, microscopic anatomy, and medical neuroanatomy. He has been named the MI Teacher of the Year at the USC School of Medicine seven times, and was named a String of Pearls lecturer six times. He has also contributed significantly to the graduate teaching mission of the School of Medicine as course director for Fundamental Neuroscience I for the past 13 years.

The ultimate team player, Dr. Augustine has a universal reputation for integrity, wisdom and loyalty to the institution. Throughout his career he has consistently placed the best interests of his department, school and university above his own.