

William J. Fry Memorial Lecture Award

The William J. Fry Memorial Lecture Award was established by Joseph H. Holmes, MD, in 1969 and presented for the first time at the AIUM Annual Convention in Winnipeg that year. William J. Fry was a physicist with a strong interest in ultrasound in medicine, whose innovative research efforts advanced the field of medical ultrasound. One of Professor Fry's most notable contributions was the successful design of an ultrasonic system used to pinpoint lesions in the brain without damaging adjacent tissues. This ultrasonic system was later used to treat various brain pathologies and, in particular, Parkinson disease. His impassioned interest in ultrasound led him to become president of the AIUM from 1966 until his death in 1968. The following year, the William J. Fry Memorial Lecture Award was established in his honor. It recognizes a current or retired AIUM member who has significantly contributed in his or her particular field to the scientific progress of medical ultrasound.



Stephanie R. Wilson, MD

If you say “liver,” many people will respond “onions.” But if you say “liver imaging,” the medical community emphatically and quickly responds “Stephanie R. Wilson, MD!” Currently clinical professor in the Department of Radiology and Department of Medicine, Division of Gastroenterology, at the University of Calgary, this Canadian physician earned her medical degree with distinction from the University of Alberta, ultimately moving to Ontario to complete her radiology residency at Toronto General Hospital. Ontario became Dr Wilson’s primary home for 34 years, where she became a professor at the University of Toronto, as well as head of the Division of Ultrasound and then head of the Section of Ultrasound at Toronto General Hospital.

It was in Toronto where Dr Wilson began her focus on imaging, gastroenterology, and diagnosis of tumors of the liver—a focus for which she has become world renowned. A principal investigator or co–principal investigator for more than a dozen major grants concentrating primarily on liver tumors and ultrasound contrast agents, her research has resulted in more than 125 articles in peer-reviewed journals and 35 books and book chapters. The 2-volume reference book *Diagnostic Ultrasound*, for which she has been an author and coeditor, is now in its fourth edition and has served as a worldwide reference book for ultrasound professionals for decades. In addition, she has proffered more than 110 papers at meetings throughout Canada, the United States, Australia, and Europe and has presented 430 invited lectures across the globe.

It's not surprising that this exceptional educator has received multiple honors, including the Wightman-Berris Academy Award for Individual Teaching Excellence, the Jean A. Vezina Award for Excellence and Innovation in Radiology from the Société Canadienne-Française de Radiologie, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound, the Colin R. Woolf Award for Excellence in Continuing Education Teaching, and the Joseph H. Holmes Pioneer Award from the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine. However, what probably makes most teachers turn green with envy is the fact that she received annual Best Teacher awards from 1991–2006, as voted by the resident/fellow student faculty in the Body Imaging Section of the Department of Medical Imaging at the University of Toronto, an achievement very few professors could rival.

Active in 8 national, American, and international imaging organizations, Dr Wilson was the first female president of the Canadian Association of Radiologists (CAR), which awarded her the CAR Gold Medal for Contributions to Radiology in Canada, and she is currently copresident of the International Contrast Ultrasound Society (ICUS). She has generously shared her time and expertise on multiple committees, task forces, and boards of directors, all for the purpose of promoting her passion for imaging.

Once again living in Alberta, the province of her birth, Dr Wilson has cross appointments at the Foothills Medical Centre in the Departments of Gastroenterology and Diagnostic Imaging. She has put Calgary on the world map by using ultrasound to monitor the progress of inflammatory bowel disease. Dr Wilson's commitment to patient care, to medical education, to advanced research, and to safe imaging will continue to resonate for decades to come. It is fitting that this year the William J. Fry Lecture Award, first presented at a meeting in Canada, is now being presented to this exceptional ultrasound professional from America's northern neighbor.

