

Peter H. Arger, MD, Excellence in Medical Student Education Award

The Peter H. Arger, MD, Excellence in Medical Student Education Award was established in 2013, with its first presentation occurring at the 2014 AIUM Annual Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dr Arger has contributed much to the AIUM and to the growth of diagnostic ultrasound, but his true passion has been ultrasound education. This annual presentation honors an individual whose outstanding contributions to the development of medical ultrasound education warrant special merit.



John S. Pellerito, MD, FACR, FAIUM, FSRU

It is well known that the uses for medical ultrasound have grown exponentially over the past decades, but because the practice of sonography is so intensely user dependent, high-quality education is crucial for its appropriate execution. Subsequently, those who are engaged in ultrasound education must be stellar, which easily explains the selection of John S. Pellerito, MD, FACR, FAIUM, FSRU, as this year's recipient of the Peter H. Arger, MD, Excellence in Medical Student Education Award. There are lots of descriptors for the work in which Dr Pellerito is engaged—radiologist, professor, director, vice chairman—but the term “educator” should be in flashing neon-yellow uppercase letters.

A native New Yorker who earned his degrees at New York University (NYU) and Albany Medical College, Dr Pellerito has never strayed too far from his roots. He has held academic appointments at the schools of medicine of Yale University, Cornell University, NYU, Albert Einstein College, and Hofstra Northwell. Currently vice chair of clinical affairs for the Department of Radiology, Northwell Health System, Dr Pellerito is also director of the Peripheral Vascular Laboratory and of the Body Imaging Fellowship Program at North Shore University Hospital, as well as medical director of Molloy College's Cardiovascular Technology Program. He is essentially the point person for all things ultrasound at Northwell, including referral of difficult cases, ongoing clinical research, leadership on the clinical services, and, of course, teaching.

An active member of multiple imaging associations, his energies for these societies have often focused on education, whether that's serving on program committees for the Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound (SRU), the American College of Radiology (ACR), the Radiological Society of North America, and the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) or assisting in the development of standards and practice guidelines, chairing commissions on education, serving on task forces addressing ultrasound in medical education, appropriate use criteria, and American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) exam development, or coordinating ultrasound lecture series. He also serves on the boards of the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) Vascular Testing [formerly the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Vascular Laboratories (ICAVL)], the AIUM, and the Society of Ultrasound in Medical Education (SUSME).

A fellow of the AIUM, the ACR, and the SRU, Dr Pellerito's teaching skills become apparent when one views the 39 single-spaced pages on his curriculum vitae that denote his invited presentations and courses, which stretch from the United States to Europe to South America and to Asia. The best educators are also engaged in research and publishing, and Dr Pellerito certainly delivers. He is a reviewer for multiple journals and has served as assistant editor for *Ultrasound Quarterly* and as a member of the advisory editorial board of the *Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine*. In addition to his textbook, *Vascular Ultrasonography*, considered a primary reference in the field, he has penned dozens of peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and educational DVDs. A recipient of multiple awards, most recently the Faculty Research Award from Northwell Health System, Dr Pellerito continues his many research interests in vascular and in obstetric and gynecologic applications.

Many medical institutions are only beginning to discuss the possible inclusion of ultrasound education into medical student training, but 6 years ago, Dr Pellerito—along with Dean Lawrence Smith, MD, MACP, CMO, David Battinelli, MD, and William Rennie, MD—introduced a longitudinal 4-year program to bring hands-on ultrasound training to medical students at Hofstra-Northwell School of Medicine, and the program has distinguished itself as one of the leading national ultrasound programs in medical education. Dr Pellerito has consistently demonstrated his commitment to the importance and inherent value of educating medical students about diagnostic ultrasound, and he's been at the forefront of putting his beliefs into action. The future patients of medical students nurtured, taught, and mentored by the faculty

of Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine will have Dr John Pellerito to thank for the exceptional quality of care they receive.

