Carmine M. Valente Distinguished Service Award
The Carmine M. Valente Distinguished Service Award was established in 2016, with its first presentation occurring at the 2017 AIUM Annual Convention in Orlando, Florida. Dr Valente served as Chief Executive Officer from 1997–2016 and significantly contributed to the AIUM and the ultrasound community as a whole by furthering the multi-disciplinary nature and collaborative efforts of the organization during his tenure. This annual presentation honors an AIUM member whose longstanding contributions in the furtherance of the AIUM mission warrant special merit, as chosen by the AIUM staff and President.

Oliver Daniel Kripfgans, PhD, FAIUM
Although Oliver D. Kripfgans, PhD, FAIUM, has only been a member of the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine (AIUM) for 10 years, he has made tremendous contributions to the AIUM and the field of ultrasound in medicine in that time.

One of his many contributions includes working on the “AIUM Official Statement: Guidelines for Cleaning and Preparing External- and Internal-Use Ultrasound Transducers and Equipment Between Patients as well as Safe Handling and Use of Ultrasound Coupling Gel” (J Ultrasound Med 2023; doi: 10.1002/jum.16167). He also provided input for AIUM Routine Quality Assurance of Clinical Ultrasound Equipment version 2.0. In addition, Dr Kripfgans is a speaker on a couple of webinars, “Disinfecting Ultrasound Transducers Used in Percutaneous Procedures: What Practitioners Need to Know About the Intersocietal Position Statement” and “COVID-19: Transducer Cleaning and Personal Protective Equipment” as well as the On-Demand Lecture, “Quantitative Imaging Biomarkers Alliance - Progress Report on Shear Wave Speed, Volume Flow, and Contrast-Enhanced Ultrasound."

Dr Kripfgans has also contributed a blog post with Jonathan M. Rubin, MD, PhD, on the Scan, “To Treat or Not to Treat – That is the Question!”. Of course, that is in addition to the many times he has been an author of Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine (JUM) articles.

Additionally, he has been the chair of the AIUM’s Transducer Cleaning Guideline Task Force, Technical Standards Committee, the Technical Aspects of Contrast Agents Subcommittee, the Performance Criteria and Measurements for Doppler Ultrasound Devices Subcommittee, and the AIUM/QIBA Volume Blood Flow Task Force. Dr Kripfgans was also co-chair of the Quantitative Imaging Biomarker Alliance Progress Report on Shear Wave Speed, Volume Flow, and Contrast Enhanced Ultrasound.

Furthermore, Dr Kripfgans served as Chair of the Basic Science and Instrumentation Community, as a member of the Board of Governors, was a Basic Science and Instrumentation Abstract Review Chair, and was on the Community of Practice, Web Education, and Clinical
Standards Committees. And, throughout it all, he has been an active contributor to Connect, the AIUM’s online community platform.

Of course, Dr Kripfgans doesn’t just contribute to the AIUM, in addition, he is a Research Associate Professor in the University of Michigan Health System, and his interests include clinical implementation and physical aspects of clinical ultrasound, quantification of blood flow in major vessels, as well as ultrasonic imaging of use in dentistry. He has helped developed a high-frequency miniature ultrasound probe for cross-sectional imaging of oral mucosa and gingiva as well as hard tissue surfaces (ie, tooth, root, bone, and implants), quantify soft- and hard-tissue dimensions, as well as inflammation and healing processes.

Dr Kripfgans is an editor of Dental Ultrasound in Periodontology and Implantology: Examination, Diagnosis and Treatment Outcome Evaluation, is on the editorial board of Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology, and is an ad hoc Associate Editor of medical physics for the American Association of Physicists in Medicine. He is also a member of Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft Akustik (DAGA; the German Working Group on Acoustics); Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft (DPG; the German Physical Society); the Acoustical Society of America (ASA); and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Ultrasound Ferroelectrics and Frequency Control.

As a result of all of his hard work, Dr Kripfgans is no stranger to awards, particularly for those that recognize his research in ultrasound. Twice, he has been awarded for his work in preliminary investigations of 3D ultrasound volume flow in cardiac output, and he managed to tie with himself (as a part of 2 teams of researchers) for a Dental School Research Day Award. In recognition of his excellence as a mentor to students, Dr Kripfgans also received the Research Mentor Award from the College of Engineering Graduate Student Advisory Committee and the office of the Associate Dean for Graduate Education.

He can now add another award to his accomplishments: the AIUM is proud to present Oliver D. Kripfgans, PhD, FAIUM, with the 2023 Carmine M. Valente Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the AIUM and to the field of ultrasound.