2011 Inaugural Donald C. Johnson Lecturer
Sudhansu K. Dey, PhD
Lova Riekert Chair & Professor of Pediatrics
Director, Division of Reproductive Sciences
Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center

2012 Donald C. Johnson Lecturer
JoAnne S. Richards, PhD
Distinguished Professor of Molecular
and Cellular Biology
Baylor College of Medicine

2013 Donald C. Johnson Lecturer
Günter P. Wagner, PhD
Alison Richard Professor of Ecology
and Evolutionary Biology
Yale University

2014 Donald C. Johnson Lecturer
Richard L. Stouffer, PhD
Senior Scientist and Head
Division of Reproductive & Developmental Sciences
Oregon National Primate Research Center
Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology
Oregon Health & Science University

“The Primate Ovary as a Model for
Understanding and Treating Infertility”

April 3, 2014, 8:30 am, Lied Auditorium

2015 Donald C. Johnson Lecturer
Teresa K. Woodruff, PhD
Director, Women’s Health Research Institute
Chief, Division of Obstetrics and Gynecology-Fertility Preservation
Thomas J. Watkins Memorial Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Northwestern University

To support the Donald C. Johnson Lecture in Reproduction, please contact
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The Donald C. Johnson Lecture in Reproduction is made possible with gifts from the estate of Eleanore J. Johnson and is sponsored by the Institute for Reproductive Health and Regenerative Medicine.
Donald C. Johnson, PhD
Endowed Research Professor of Human Reproduction
University of Kansas Medical Center
1963-2004

Known to many of his friends as “DC” or Don, Dr. Johnson was born January 30, 1927, in Black River Falls, Wisconsin, and spent most of his youth there. After graduation from high school in 1944, Dr. Johnson entered the U.S. Naval Reserve and served until 1952, with active duty in the Hospital Corps from 1944 to 1946 and 1951 to 1952. He was an astute biomedical scientist with a passion for trying to understand the physiology and biochemistry of the organs of the reproductive system of the body and their myriad interactions. It was this passion, broad scope of knowledge, and above all his total willingness to share his passion that brought so many of his research colleagues, students, and postdoctoral fellows to seek his thoughts and comments, which always resulted in stimulating conversation.

Dr. Johnson’s formal training began in Zoology at the University of Wisconsin; he graduated in 1949, after which he earned a Master’s degree in Zoology-Cytology in 1950. While a Research and Teaching Assistant for General Zoology and Embryology in the Department of Zoology at the University of Iowa, he received his Ph.D. degree in Zoology-Endocrinology in 1956 under the direction of Dr. Emil Witschi. For 7 years, he was a Research Assistant Professor in the Departments of Urology and Zoology at Iowa.

In 1963, Dr. Johnson was recruited to and spent the rest of his academic career in the Departments of Obstetrics & Gynecology and Molecular & Integrative Physiology at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC). He rose through the academic ranks to Professor by 1969, and was appointed in 1978 as an Endowed Research Professor of Human Reproduction. He remained an active scientist and teacher as Professor Emeritus even after “retirement” in 1996. In his many rich personal relationships, his day-to-day maintenance of his and Eleanore’s home and surroundings as well as in his professional life. Dr. Johnson died October 14, 2004.

Dr. Johnson was a very humble and modest man who shunned the spotlight, yet was widely recognized for his expertise and accomplishments by his peers and institutions. Throughout his career, he strove to understand the interconnectedness of the “stuff” of life, from the mundane to the esoteric. His legacy will live on in the thousands of lives he touched.

—Joseph Bast and Paul Terranova

Richard L. Stouffer, PhD
Sr. Scientist & Chief, Div. of Reproductive & Developmental Sciences
Oregon National Primate Research Center

Dr. Stouffer received his Ph.D. in Physiology from Duke University Medical School in 1975. After a staff fellowship in the Reproduction Research Branch, NICHD, NIH, he joined the faculty of the Department of Physiology, University of Arizona College of Medicine. In 1985, he moved to Oregon and is currently Senior Scientist and Chief, Division of Reproductive & Developmental Sciences, Oregon National Primate Research Center (ONPRC), with Professor in the Departments of Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Physiology & Pharmacology, School of Medicine, Oregon Health & Science University. He is Co-director of a NICHD-sponsored cooperative (U54) Contraceptive Development and Research Center (CDRC), and Director of a U54 Specialized Cooperative Center Program on Infertility and Reproductive Research (SCCPIR). Until recently, has was Principal Investigator of a R01 project within the NIH Roadmap’s Oncofertility Consortium. He has sustained a research project on the basic biology of the primate corpus luteum, funded by a NICHD R01 grant for over 30 years.

Dr. Stouffer’s research focuses on understanding the function and regulation of the primate ovary, including the developing follicle, the corpus luteum during its lifespan in the menstrual cycle and early pregnancy, and the ovarian surface epithelium. His laboratory group combines systems, cellular and molecular approaches to study the endocrine and local control of cyclic ovarian function. He has mentored over sixty visiting scientists, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, undergraduate students, plus high school teachers and students as summer interns. Dr. Stouffer served as associate editor of Molecular Human Reproduction and Biology of Reproduction and as President, Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR). He received the 2007 Research Award from SSR and the 2010 Distinguished Researcher Award from the American Society for Reproductive Medicine.