

FAIMER®



Contact: Julie Drendall
+1-215-823-2151
jdrendall@faimer.org

Contact: Karolinska Institutet
press office
+46 (0)8 524 860 77
pressinfo@ki.se

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2014

John Norcini Is Awarded the Karolinska Institutet Prize for Research in Medical Education

PHILADELPHIA, UNITED STATES; STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN — John Norcini, Ph.D., President and CEO of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER®), has been selected to receive the 2014 Karolinska Institutet Prize for Research in Medical Education for his important contributions to research in medical education, especially his pioneering research on knowledge decay, specialty certification, and the development of new methods of assessment.

Dr. Norcini will receive the award and a prize amount of €50,000 at a ceremony in Stockholm, Sweden, on October 17.

This international prize is awarded for outstanding research in medical education. The purpose of the prize is to recognize and stimulate high-quality research in the field and to promote long-term improvements of educational practices in medical training. "Medical" includes all education and training for any health science profession. The prize is made possible through financial support from the Gunnar Höglund and Anna-Stina Malmberg Foundation. It is currently awarded every second year.

“Professor Norcini’s research output is consistently of the highest originality and quality, and his empirical work has improved the practice of medical education around the globe.

(more)

His work has had a widespread, positive impact on the research and practice of medical education and has resulted in many subsequent studies by other researchers. He is one of the key contributors to the entire field of research in medical education,” says Professor Sari Ponzer, Chair of the Prize Committee.

Dr. Norcini has since the 1980s focused on the relationship between the assessments used in medical education and the outcomes of clinical care. He has been instrumental in developing new methods of assessment, such as the mini-clinical evaluation exercise (mini-CEX), and is also regarded as a world expert on methods of standard setting.

“Assessment is vital throughout a person’s career, especially as they get further from their formal education. It’s essential to find ways of supporting doctors as they try to keep up with changes in medicine, which is the role of formative assessment, and of reassuring patients and society that doctors have been successful in this endeavor, which is the role of summative assessment. Regardless of whether it is formative or summative, when assessment is done poorly, it has serious consequences for students, practicing doctors, and patients,” says Dr. Norcini.

“I’d like to see the emphasis shift towards formative assessment. Most assessment today, at all levels of education from primary school through university, is summative, and there is an important role for this type of assessment. However, by largely ignoring formative assessment, we are missing a critical opportunity to support and create learning. We still need considerable research to begin to understand how to do this well, but it holds the promise of increasing the efficiency of education and the quality of care available to patients.”

Commenting on his Prize win, Dr. Norcini says, “I’m deeply honored and more than a touch surprised to receive this prestigious prize. It’s a wonderful reflection of the people I’ve worked with over the years and the prize is a tribute to them. The prize money will contribute to the support of our FAIMER fellows around the world.”

As part of his visit to Sweden, Dr. Norcini will hold lectures at Lund University on October 16 and Karolinska Institutet on October 17.

For more information about the Prize and the Prize recipient, visit: www.ki.se/kiprime.

(more)

For further information, contact:

Professor Sari Ponzer

Chair of the Prize Committee

Karolinska Institutet Prize for Research in Medical Education

Tel: +46 (0)8 616 23 46 or +46 (0)73 973 26 89

Email: sari.ponzer@ki.se

Associate Professor Italo Masiello

Scientific Secretary of the Prize Committee

Karolinska Institutet Prize for Research in Medical Education

Tel: +46 (0)76 052 80 27

Email: italo.masiello@ki.se

About FAIMER

FAIMER is a leader in improving world health. By creating educational opportunities, conducting research, and providing data resources, it serves international communities of educators, researchers, regulators, and policy makers—each a potential change agent for better health care. Through worldwide activities, FAIMER combines its own expertise with that of local experts to create meaningful and sustained improvements in the systems that produce health care providers and deliver health care.

FAIMER is a non-profit foundation of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG[®]) with headquarters in Philadelphia in the United States.

For more information, visit the FAIMER website at www.faimer.org.

About Karolinska Institutet

Karolinska Institutet is one of the world's leading medical universities. Its mission is to contribute to the improvement of human health through research and education. Karolinska Institutet accounts for over 40 percent of the medical academic research conducted in Sweden, and offers the country's broadest range of education in medicine and health sciences. Since 1901 the Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet has selected the Nobel laureates in Physiology or Medicine. For more information, visit the Karolinska Institutet website at www.ki.se.

###