John Peters Award to Honor
Josephine P. Briggs

The John P. Peters Award will be tendered to Josephine P. Briggs, MD, with the presentation of the John P. Peters Award.

An accomplished researcher and physician, Dr. Briggs is director of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The John P. Peters Award is given for outstanding contributions to improving the lives of patients and to furthering the understanding of the kidney in health and disease, and Dr. Briggs’ research has added greatly to this understanding. In her current position, her focus on translational research is designed to bring a fuller understanding of the usefulness and safety of complementary and integrative health practices. She oversees an institute with a budget of $120 million that funds research at 260 institutions.

Dr. Briggs’ research interests include the renin-angiotensin system, diabetic nephropathy, circadian regulation of blood pressure, and the effect of antioxidants in kidney disease. She has published more than 175 research articles, book chapters, and scholarly papers.

She has served on the editorial boards of several journals—including the Journal of Laboratory and Clinical Medicine, Seminars in Nephrology, and Hypertension—and was deputy editor of the Journal of Clinical Investigation.

After working as a research scientist for seven years at the Physiology Institute at the University of Munich in Germany, Dr. Briggs joined the faculty of the University of Michigan in 1985. She held several academic positions, including associate chair for research in the department of internal medicine and professorships in nephrology, internal medicine, and physiology.

Dr. Briggs joined the NIH in 1997 as director of the division of kidney, urology, and hematology, but under her chairmanship, it has expanded beyond nephrology to include other chronic conditions.

Dr. Briggs received the Vollhard Prize of the German Nephrological Society, Alexander von Humboldt Scientific Exchange Award, and NIH Director’s awards. She is an elected member of the American Association of Physicians and the American Society of Clinical Investigation and a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Briggs received her MD from Harvard Medical School and completed her residency in internal medicine and nephrology at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City.

ASN to Bestow Belding Scribner Award on Allan J. Collins

The Belding H. Scribner Award will be tendered to Allan J. Collins, MD, for his career-long contributions to the practice of nephrology.

Dr. Collins is professor of medicine at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine and Hennepin County Medical Center and director of the Chronic Disease Research Group of the Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation. Established in 1995, the Belding H. Scribner Award is presented to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the care of patients with renal disorders or have substantially influenced the clinical practice of nephrology. Dr. Collins has made significant contributions in patient care, research, and service to professional organizations.

His clinical experience and research have focused on acute and chronic care of end stage renal disease patients and clinical studies of dialysis techniques and outcomes. He has also done extensive work with high-efficiency dialysis, the technical elements of dialysis, billing systems, and computer systems and operations.

The Chronic Disease Research Group was founded as Nephrology Analytical Services, but under Dr. Collins’ leadership it has expanded beyond kidney disease to include other chronic conditions.

From 1983 to 1995, Dr. Collins managed the Metropolitan Dialysis Division and the clinical database of the Regional Kidney Disease Program at Hennepin County Medical Center, coordinating all areas of patient care, data collection, quality assurance, death reviews, computer systems, and analyses.

Dr. Collins has served the National Kidney Foundation in many capacities, including as president for three years. He has also been on the foundation’s scientific advisory board and its kidney dialysis outcomes quality initiative. He served on the Commission for the Global Advancement of Nephrology Committee of the International Society of Nephrology.