Mark L. Zeidel to Be Given Robert G. Narins Award for Contributions in Education

Mark L. Zeidel, MD, FASN, will receive the Robert G. Narins Award for his many contributions to medical education.

Dr. Zeidel is the Herrman L. Blumgart Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and chair of the department of medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) in Boston. He is known as a productive and highly original scientist, an innovative educator, and a leader in improving the quality of healthcare. He has made many seminal observations in the field of nephrology: defining the role of atrial peptides in renal salt excretion, characterizing the biophysical function of water channels and barrier membranes, and advancing urothelial cell biology.

His innovations in teaching physiology include an animated textbook; novel, nationally known courses at the Mount Desert Island Biology Laboratories; and an upcoming series of review articles in his field’s major clinical journal. He has pioneered the provision of reliable, cost-effective care, both at the University of Pittsburgh and BIDMC. His leadership led to BIDMC’s achievement of outstanding clinical outcomes, which have been recognized by the American Hospital Association, Society for Critical Care Medicine, and US Department of Health and Human Services. He also pushed the BIDMC medicine department to develop an innovative curriculum in quality improvement for its residents and fellows.

Dr. Zeidel has served on many regional and national committees and in leadership roles in national organizations. In these positions, he has helped define how residency education can be funded in academic medical centers, how mentorship can be improved for future clinical investigators, and how departments of medicine can lead in improving the quality of care.

Dr. Zeidel received his medical degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He served as an intern and resident in medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston, followed by a renal fellowship at the same institution. He came to BIDMC in July 2007 from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. His tenure at the University of Pittsburgh spanned 12 years, first serving as chief of the renal and electrolyte division, and then as the Jack D. Myers Professor and chair of the department of medicine. As chair of that department, he implemented a new curriculum to enhance the teaching of residents and fellows.

Robert G. Narins

Robert G. Narins, MD, was the first recipient of the award now bearing his name. He taught and mentored countless students, serving on the faculties of the University of Pennsylvania, UCLA, Harvard University, Temple University, and Henry Ford Hospital. Well recognized for his contributions in the fields of fluid-electrolyte and acid-base physiology, Dr. Narins has also led numerous education efforts at the national and international levels. Among these, he has chaired the American Board of Internal Medicine’s Nephrology Board and worked on the American College of Physicians’ Annual Program Committee. From 1994 to 2006, he developed and guided ASN’s educational programs, including working to expand educational programs during Renal Week (Kidney Week). In addition, he was instrumental in the development of the Nephrology Self-Assessment Program (NephSAP) and the Clinical Journal of the American Society of Nephrology; and in establishing the Fellow of the American Society of Nephrology program. Dr. Narins is also credited with working with organizations in Europe and Asia to help promote education and teaching in nephrology.