

UNMC RECOGNIZES DISTINGUISHED SCIENTISTS FOR 2006

Stephen Rennard, M.D., is among 24 investigators named UNMC Distinguished Scientists for 2006. The scientists – all recognized leaders in their field – represent the colleges of dentistry, nursing, medicine and pharmacy, as well as the Eppley Institute.

The Distinguished Scientists were recognized at a reception March 12.

“These award winners are some of the real heroes of the UNMC research program,” said Thomas Rosenquist, Ph.D., vice chancellor for research at UNMC. “Their selection was based upon objective, rigorous criteria, and the competition was very strong. I am proud of the true excellence of all of the UNMC research professionals.”

The award, sponsored by UNMC Chancellor Harold M. Maurer, M.D., recognizes UNMC researchers who have been among the most productive scientists in the country over the past five years.

“This award is an innovative method to reward research excellence,” Dr. Rosenquist said. “This award will increase the positive image of biomedical research at UNMC and help with recruitment and retention.”

A panel composed of all UNMC deans and directors, as well as the office of the vice chancellor for research, selected the award recipients. Criteria for the award included the researcher’s history of leading an outstanding research program, publishing research results in journals of the highest quality, and showing the ability to attract and retain extramural funding. Administrators and department chairs were excluded from the competition.

“I was delighted that these awards were established.

It’s a great way to reward successful researchers,” said Lynell Klassen, M.D., chairman of internal medicine.

The Distinguished Scientists received a merit-based salary supplement of \$10,000. As scientist laureate, Dr. Rennard received a \$20,000 supplement.

The 2006 Distinguished Scientists are:

○ College of Dentistry

Jeffrey Payne, D.D.S.
Margaret Wheelock, Ph.D.

○ College of Medicine

Surinder Batra, Ph.D.
Carol Casey, Ph.D.
Wing C. (John) Chan, M.D.
Steven Hinrichs, M.D.
Pascale Lane, M.D. (Munroe-Meyer Institute)
Ming-Fong Lin, Ph.D.
William Mayhan, Ph.D.
Keith Mueller, Ph.D.
Stephen Rennard, M.D., UNMC Scientist Laureate 2006
J. Graham Sharp, Ph.D.
Rakesh Singh, Ph.D.
Shelley Smith, Ph.D., (Munroe-Meyer Institute)
Geoffrey Thiele, Ph.D.
Wallace Thoresen, Ph.D.

○ College of Nursing

Ann Berger, Ph.D.
Susan Noble Walker, Ed.D.

○ College of Pharmacy

Alexander Kabanov, Ph.D.
Uday Kompella, Ph.D.

○ Eppley Institute

Michael A. (Tony) Hollingsworth, Ph.D.
Robert Lewis, Ph.D.
Joyce Solheim, Ph.D.
Kay-Uwe Wagner, Ph.D.