



AUR Gold Medalist Tribute

Robert A. Novelline, MD, FACR

Introduction by Theresa C. McLoud, MD

The AUR awards its highest honor, the Gold Medal, in recognition of unusually distinguished service and contributions to the organization, to academic radiology, and to our specialty. This year, Robert A. Novelline, MD, FACR, receives the Gold Medal of the AUR.

Dr Novelline's professional career has been devoted to the subspecialty of emergency radiology and to radiologic education. Dr Novelline is currently professor of radiology at Harvard Medical School and former director of the division of emergency radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in science from McGill University and his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine, Dr Novelline completed a radiology residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. He subsequently completed a fellowship in both vascular and interventional radiology and radiology education, also at Massachusetts General Hospital. Many of Dr Novelline's early investigations and publications dealt with pioneering work in therapeutic intravascular infusion therapy, therapeutic embolization, and angioplasty.

In 1982, Dr Novelline was appointed director of the newly formed division of emergency radiology at Massachusetts General Hospital. The division is responsible for the diagnostic imaging of the hospital's busy level 1 trauma center. Dr Novelline modernized emergency radiology at our institution with the introduction of computed tomography (CT) and ultrasonography for trauma and non-traumatic emergency conditions. He installed one of the first CT scanners in the emergency imaging division and pioneered investigations of the CT diagnosis of trauma and acute non-traumatic emergencies. He developed helical and multidetector CT protocols and techniques for imaging emergency patients that have been widely adopted nationally and internationally. His division has reported on new CT techniques for diagnosing appendicitis, diverticulitis, and urinary tract stones that have been broadly adopted. Dr Novelline is widely considered one of the founders of the subspecialty of emergency radiology, and he began one of the first fellowship programs in this area. He is a founding member of the American Society of Emergency Radiology (ASER), and he served as its second president. He is a recipient of the ASER Gold Medal.

Radiology education, particularly the education of medical students, has always been one of Dr Novelline's passions. He directed both the Harvard Medical School core and advanced

radiology clerkships at Massachusetts General Hospital between 1975 and 2012. He developed medical student curricula in radiology that have been adopted in many medical schools. He was the founder and first president of the Alliance of Medical Students Educators in Radiology (AMSER). Dr Novelline has been the author of the fourth through sixth editions of *Squire's Fundamentals of Radiology*, currently the world's best-selling radiologic textbook used by medical students throughout the world. The textbook has been translated into several languages.



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Dr Novelline has published more than 150 original reports and reviews and has authored or coauthored 11 textbooks. As visiting professor, he has lectured nationally and internationally on emergency radiology and radiologic education. He also edited a core curriculum in emergency radiology for both radiology residents and medical students, which has been adopted by ASER.

Dr Novelline has held leadership positions in numerous radiologic societies, including his service as chairman of the refresher course committee of RSNA and as co-chairman of the RSNA/ACR Web site for public information about radiology, *RadiologyInfo.org*. In 2007, Dr Novelline received the RSNA Outstanding Educator Award.

In addition to serving as AUR President in 2011–2012, he was chairman of numerous committees, including the executive committee and education committee. He was also a member and then chairman of the ad hoc committee of residency program directors. This committee preceded the establishment of the Association of Program Directors in Radiology (APDR). As chairman of this committee, he prepared annual meeting programs for radiology resident program directors between 1987 and 1991. In 2004, Dr Novelline was honored as a recipient of the APDR Achievement Award. In 2012, he received the AMSER Excellence in Education Award.

I have had the privilege of working with Bob Novelline since I came to Massachusetts General Hospital in 1976. We have both shared a commitment to radiology education. I have been constantly impressed by his intelligence, dedication, integrity, and commitment to our specialty. Dr Novelline has made many contributions to the world of radiology and is highly respected for his sentinel contributions to radiologic education and the subspecialty of emergency radiology.