



The George Arvidson Award for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic Regulation

**84th Annual Congress
Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards
May 1, 2010 ■ Baltimore, Maryland**

Presented by Dr. Daniel Saint-Germain, FCLB President

The George Arvidson Award for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic Regulation was created by the Federation in 1992.

This award is the Federation's highest individual honor.

Named for FCLB Past President Dr. George Arvidson of Minnesota, it recognizes integrity, service, sacrifice, vision, and commitment in the arena of chiropractic licensure.

The selection of the recipient is made thoughtfully and with joy as we continue to keep alive the dreams of George Arvidson, the gentle man with the great heart, the radiant smile, and the deep love for chiropractic and regulation.



*Award winner Dr. Ron Tripp, Jr., and
FCLB President Dr. Daniel Saint-Germain*

Each year, a right choice clearly emerges to uphold the honor represented by this prestigious award.

Our 1993 award began the tradition with journalist Don Petersen. Other honorees have included Drs. Rex Wright of Kansas, Brent Owens of Florida, and co-winners, Paul Tullio of Illinois and Frank Hideg of Kentucky. In 1997 the award went to Dr. Daniel Saint-Germain, and from there to Dr. Peter Ferguson. In 1999 the Arvidson award went around the world to Australia – to Dr. Ed Devereaux. The new millennium in 2000 recognized Dr. Ken Padgett, followed by Mr. Horace Elliott. The FCLB then recognized Drs. Joe Brimhall, Larry Spicer, Louis Sportelli, and Richard Vincent. In 2006, the award went to Ms. Donna Liewer, FCLB Executive Director, 2007 honored Dr. Wayne Wolfson, and last year recognized Dr. Richard Cole. Last year, I presumed to take over the award presentation so that we might acknowledge the contributions of both Dr. Vernon Temple and Dr. Bud Smith.

Now, as President of the FCLB, I have the honor of recognizing this year's highly-deserving recipient.

Our work in public protection takes balance. As regulators, we have to know when to be strong - standing firm on our ethics. As healers we must know how to be gentle - be aware that a small nudge in the right direction can be far more effective than massive force in the wrong one.

Our work also takes persistence. It often feels as if we're fighting the same battles over and over again. Standing for patient rights and protection takes stubborn determination.

Lastly, our work requires compassion. Sorting the predatory from the merely misguided is not a task for an inflexible mind.



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Dr. Ron Tripp of Oklahoma

This year's honoree has all of these qualities: **balance, persistence, and compassion.**

When it comes to balance, he is a multi-faceted leader whose work involves juggling numerous commitments. His family, his board, his patients, and his associates all rely on him - and he never lets us down. He has made a study of fighting with gentleness - turning this apparent paradox into a way of life.

Persistent: just the word conjures his image. When he is in the right and he knows it, there is no end to his stubborn willingness to fight. I've sat in meetings with him and watched in amazement as, out of sheer determination, he's made the impossible happen simply because "we have to."

And compassion: this man has a heart as big as his biceps. He'd give you the shirt off his back, then go hustle up a new wardrobe to match.

Under his leadership, his board won landmark cases in public protection, not only removing unethical doctors from practice, but assigning restitution to victims. They increased accessibility and community outreach - seizing opportunities for board members to connect with current and future leadership and providing scholarships to future licensees.

His list of accomplishments is staggering. A celebrity in his own right - he even has a page in Wikipedia - he still manages to stay humble among those of us who couldn't take him in a fair fight.

For his incredible ability to balance unshakable ethics with flexible problem-solving,
for his persistence in the face of adversity, his adherence to a strong set of values,
and for his compassion and generous heart,

The Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards'

**2010 George Arvidson Award
for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic Regulation**

is presented to -

Dr. Ron Tripp of Oklahoma

