



Highest AGA Honor for Dr. David Peura

Emeritus Professor of Medicine David A. Peura, MD, Receives Highest Honor from the American Gastroenterological Association (AGA)



Emeritus Professor of Medicine David A. Peura, MD

On May 9, 2011, David A. Peura, MD, Emeritus Professor of Medicine at UVA, was presented the 2011 Julius Friedenwald Medal, the highest honor awarded by the American Gastroenterological Association's (AGA), on May 9, 2011, at an awards ceremony at the annual Digestive Disease Week in Chicago, Ill. The annual award recognizes a physician for lifelong contributions to the field of gastroenterology.

"The AGA recognition award recipients are individuals who have been nominated by their colleagues for achieving the highest level of esteem and confidence from their peers," said Ian L. Taylor, MD, PhD, AGAF, president of the AGA Institute. "The AGA is honored to have members who are the leaders of our field and who have made truly remarkable contributions to the AGA and society. These individuals are just a few of the distinguished and talented members who help make AGA such an accomplished organization."

Throughout his career, Dr. Peura has been actively involved in clinical investigation relating to acid peptic disorders, particularly peptic ulcer disease. Most recently, his research efforts have centered on *Helicobacter pylori* and its role in ulcer pathogenesis. He serves as a reviewer for most of the major medicine and gastroenterology subspecialty journals and has authored or co-authored more than 100 original articles, book chapters, and reviews on a wide range of digestive disease topics. Dr. Peura has demonstrated expertise and innovation in the area of medical education. While Chair of the ACG Board of Governors and American Gastroenterological Association (AGA) Clinical

Practice section, he assisted in the organizations' annual clinical and scientific education program development. As Chair of the AGA education committee and Digestive Health Initiative Ulcer Campaign, he coordinated the planning and implementation of a number of highly regarded physician and lay education programs. Dr. Peura continues to serve as an advisor and faculty for regional, national, and international teaching projects. He received the AGA's annual Distinguished Educator Award in 2002.

Over the years, Dr. Peura has held leadership positions in the major national gastroenterology organizations and received numerous commendations and awards for his subspecialty contributions, including being selected as a Master of the ACG in 2004 and Fellow of the AGA in 2006. Dr. Peura served as the 100th President of the AGA during 2005-2006. He is an internationally recognized clinician and educator, and a popular speaker in the area of upper gastrointestinal disease.

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