



AMCA Toronto Lecture Series 2014

Friday, February 28, 2014 at 8 pm

Mladen Vranic: 93 Years After Discovery of Insulin -Whom Should We Celebrate

Prof. Mladen Vranic



PERSONAL

Citizenship:

Canadian and Croatian

Married – Linda Margaret Swallow

Children – Iva, Claire, Anne

APPOINTMENTS

2010	Professor Emeritus of Physiology and Medicine, University of Toronto
1991-1995	Chair, Department of Physiology
1987	Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Medicine, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm

DEGREES

M.D.	University of Zagreb, 1955
D.Sc.	University of Zagreb, 1962 (Physiology)
F.R.C.P.(C)	Fellow, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (Medical Scientist), 1986
F.R.S.C.	Fellow, Royal Society of Canada (Canadian Academy of Arts and Science), 1997
M.D. (Hon.)	Karolinska Institute Medical Faculty - Stockholm, 1992
DS.c (Hon.)	University of Toronto (2011), University of Saskatchewan (2011), University of Zagreb (2011), University of McMaster (2013)

HIGHEST CIVILIAN CANADIAN HONOURS

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal (2012); Officer of the Order of Canada (2010); Order of Ontario (2010)

ACADEMIES

2009	Fellow Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
2010	Honorary President International Academy of Sportology (Japan)
1997	Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (FRSC): The Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada

SELECTED HONOURS

Symposium to Honour Mladen Vranic for a Lifetime of Scientific Achievements and Mentoring, Toronto, Canada (2010); Laureate of the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame (2009); Canadian Diabetes Association Inaugural Life-Time Achievement Award for leadership in diabetes research and contribution to the Canadian diabetes community (2007); Albert Renold Award of the American Diabetes Association for a distinguished career in the training of diabetes research scientists and facilitation of research (*the only Canadian to receive this award*) (2005); Solomon A. Berson Distinguished Lectureship of American Physiological Society - Endocrinology and Metabolism Section, FASEB, Atlanta (*the first Canadian to receive this award*) (1995); Mizuno Inaugural Lectureship and Award, Fourth International Symposium on Exercise and Diabetes - Osaka University, Japan (1992); Banting Medal and Lectureship for Distinguished Scientific Achievement (American Diabetes Association) (*the only Canadian working in Canada in the last 50 years to receive this award*) (1991); Inaugural Banting and Best Memorial Lecture and the Canadian Diabetes Association Award (1985); Canada Council Killam Scholar (1988, 1989).

Abstract

“One of the most dramatic discoveries in the history of medicine occurred in our department of Physiology in 1921. Millions of lives were saved.”

Prof. Vranic will explain why this miracle happened at the University of Toronto and not elsewhere, despite the fact that some 50 laboratories around the world were also trying to discover this important hormone. Over the last 90 years, there were frequent discussions about whether the Nobel prizes should have been awarded to others in this field. The most interesting story is that of Paulesco, a Romanian, and the dramatic events which followed when the Romanians tried to get credit for the discovery of insulin. Mladen is privileged to have been the last post-doctoral fellow of Professor Charles H. Best, who was the most well-known Canadian when Mladen immigrated to Canada. He has been fortunate to have been Chairman of the department where this discovery took place so many years ago. The discovery of insulin was dramatic, which made the relationship complicated between the discoverers. Mladen will end his lecture by showing the effect of the discovery on the whole University of Toronto and a large number of crucial discoveries in biology due to insulin. Prof. Vranic chaired the celebration of the 75th and 90th anniversary of the discovery of insulin and he plans to be around for the 100th anniversary which will take place in 7 years.

Admission

Members \$ 10
Non-members \$ 20



Faculty Club of U of T, 41 Willcocks St., Toronto

Registration at

lectureseries@amcatoronto.com