

13th World Congress on Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology, 31 August–4 September, Paris, France: presentations and awards



Pentti Jouppila



Ian Donald Gold Medal



Léandre Pourcelot

Presentation of the Ian Donald Gold Medal to Pentti Jouppila

Every year, the highest award of our Society, the Ian Donald Gold Medal, is given to one prominent researcher for his/her contribution to the field of obstetric and gynecological ultrasound. It is my privilege to announce that the gold medal voting committee decided to award the 2003 Ian Donald Gold Medal to Professor Pentti Jouppila.

Professor Jouppila, Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Oulu University in Finland, is one of the real pioneers of diagnostic ultrasound in our field. His first original paper was published in 1968 and was entitled 'Diagnosis of hydatid mole with one-dimensional ultrasound technique'. Since then, Pentti Jouppila has published over 330 original papers reporting studies in ultrasound applied to many areas of obstetrics and gynecology and in clinical perinatology.

Professor Jouppila's research was always on the frontline adopting new ultrasound techniques and introducing new ideas. One of his main interests throughout the years has been early pregnancy failure, in addition to fetometry and diagnosis of fetal anomalies. In the mid-seventies, he conducted studies on the growth of ovarian follicles and he has always retained his interest in the application of ultrasound in infertility treatment.

In the early eighties, after the advent of Doppler ultrasound in obstetrics, Pentti Jouppila focused on studies of fetal and placental hemodynamics. He and his colleagues published one of the very first papers on blood velocity changes in fetal anemia and also on detection of Doppler signals from the fetal adrenal artery. They were the first to report the absence of diastolic velocities in the descending aorta of hypoxic

fetuses, which they called 'diastolic block'. The Oulu group led by Professor Jouppila has systematically studied various pharmacological effects on the fetal and placental circulations. The studies have ranged from the effects of maternal smoking to that of various drugs used for obstetric analgesia and vasoactive drugs, especially those used for the treatment of hypertension in pregnancy.

Professor Jouppila's research is characterized by its innovative and systematic approach and high clinical relevance. He is very much appreciated as a teacher and tutor, has supervised many academic theses and takes care of young researchers in an excellent way. Pentti Jouppila has always been very supportive of our Society and he has served as a member of the Board of ISUOG. He is also an active member of the Editorial Board of the *White Journal*.

Pentti has many other interests in addition to his keen interest in ultrasound research. He loves the natural beauty of Finland, he is a devoted sportsman – runner and cross-country skier – and he has a great interest in music. Those of us who attended the opening ceremony of the 1st World Congress of ISUOG in London will always remember his performance on the harmonica.

I could go on listing Pentti Jouppila's merits but I would like to stress one personal characteristic in particular – his kindness. He is known to all of us as a very caring man and a good friend. It is a great honor for me, on behalf of ISUOG, to ask Pentti Jouppila to receive the 2003 Ian Donald Gold Medal as an acknowledgment of his pioneering work in the field of obstetric and gynecological ultrasound.

Karel Maršál
President, ISUOG

Presentation of the Ian Donald Medal for Technical Development to Léandre Pourcelot

The goal of ISUOG is to promote the development of the diagnostic and therapeutic use of ultrasound in the field of gynecology and obstetrics. Both before and since ISUOG was established in 1991, the development of such techniques has been expanding. Much of this development has been due to the Society's organization of annual world congresses aimed at spreading this knowledge around the world and creating a forum for the continued development of ultrasound in our field of medicine. But we must remember that behind the wonderful ultrasound machines that offer us – the clinicians – such great opportunities in diagnosis and therapy, are the great engineers who have had the skill and insight to develop this unique technology. Fortunately there are also those who have demonstrated the ability to communicate with clinicians for the continued refinement of their technology.

When ISUOG introduced its prestigious Ian Donald Gold Medal to honor outstanding clinicians, the Society also recognized the need to honor the innovative engineers behind this technology. Thus, the Ian Donald Gold Medal for technical merit was initiated.

This year it is a particular pleasure for ISUOG – now enjoying being in the heart of France – to offer this highest award to France's own Léandre Pourcelot.

Léandre Pourcelot was born in 1940. He was educated at the University of Lyon and later became Professor of Biophysics and Head of the Department of Nuclear Medicine and Ultrasound at the University Hospital of Tours.

Léandre Pourcelot has been a prominent researcher. He has coordinated numerous research projects and has been involved in numerous scientific societies at national and international levels. He is a pioneer in the best sense of the word. His doctoral thesis from 1963 demonstrated the possibility to use Doppler technology for the study of blood flow. As we all know, this technique has been further developed and is today a basic method for the monitoring of pregnancy and in the practice of fetal medicine.

In 1969, Pourcelot made his first recordings of flow velocities. Four years later – in 1973 – he proposed a resistance index as a way to describe the circulation and resistance. Around the world, this index is now known as the Pourcelot index.

Also in 1969, he was involved in the development of the first real-time imaging system based on electronic scanning, using a large linear array transducer of about 100 elements.

In 1976, he demonstrated for the first time real-time imaging of flowing blood, and the year after a prototype of a linear array with an electronically steerable pulsed Doppler beam was developed.

Pourcelot's vast and deep knowledge of physiology has allowed him to participate in numerous projects modeling the human fetal–maternal circulation.

His interests in physiology also resulted in his position as a principal investigator in space medicine. His investigations took place not only aboard the Soviet Mir stations, but also on the American space shuttle. This activity demonstrated that his diplomatic skills are also at

a high level, considering the fact that this took place in the tough environment of the 80s!

Léandre Pourcelot – it is a great pleasure and honor for me, on behalf of ISUOG, to offer you the Ian Donald Medal for your outstanding pioneering work in a branch of ultrasound which has become so important in the field of gynecology and obstetrics.

Sturla Eik-Nes
Past President, ISUOG

Free communication awards and acknowledgments

Full abstracts to these titles may be found in *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2003; 22 (Supplement 1).

Oral Communications

First Prize

Correlation between fetal growth and maternal total peripheral resistance. (OC081) DOI: 10.1002/uog.294

G. P. Novelli*, B. Vasapollo, F. Altomare, G. Di Ruzza, G. Larciprete, A. Galante, D. Arduini and H. Valensise. *Semeiology and Clinical Methodology, Tor Vergata University, Rome, Italy*

Highly Commended

Assessment of intrauterine brain maturation using Diffusion Weighted Imaging. (OC009) DOI: 10.1002/uog.868

D. Prayer*, P. C. Brugger and C. Mittermayer. *University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria*

Contrast-enhanced sonography in the discrimination of benign and malignant adnexal masses. (OC120) DOI: 10.1002/uog.334

H. Marret*, S. Sauget, F. Tranquart, B. Giraudeau, G. Body and J. Lansac. *Hôpital Bretonneau Service de Gynécologie, Tours, France*

Perinatal outcome in monochorionic pregnancies complicated by moderate mid-trimester twin-twin transfusion syndrome. (OC244) DOI: 10.1002/uog.442

A. Huber*, W. Diehl, L. Zikulnig, E. Baez, B. J. Hackelöer and K. Hecher. *Department for Prenatal Diagnosis and Therapy, AK Barmbek, Hamburg, Germany*

Posters

First Prize

Nomogram of fetal hard palate length, width, and area throughout gestation. (P182) DOI: 10.1002/uog.647

D. M. Sherer, M. Sokolovski*, P. Santoso, M. Dalloul and O. Abulafia. *State University of New York (SUNY), USA*

Highly Commended

The nasal bone in fetuses with trisomy 21: sonographic versus pathomorphological findings. (P037) DOI: 10.1002/uog.497

W. Henrich*, S. Minderer, K. P. H. Gloning and H. Stöger. *Charité, Campus Virchow Clinic, Berlin, Germany*

Mild renal pyelectasis in the second trimester; determination of cut-off levels for postnatal referral. (P084) DOI: 10.1002/uog.546

T. E. Cohen-Overbeek*, P. Boom, N. T. C. Ursem, K. P. Wolfenbuttel, W. C. J. Hop and J. W. Wladimiroff. *Erasmus MC-University Medical Center Rotterdam, The Netherlands*