Steve Charles, M.D.

As one of the world’s leading vitreoretinal surgeons, Dr. Steve Charles, HEI clinical professor of Ophthalmology, has developed many of the techniques and devices used by all vitreoretinal surgeons. He is a doctor without borders, having lectured in 41 countries and operated in 25, as well as delivering 14 named lectures and over a thousand speaking trips. Throughout his career, he has performed over 26,000 vitreoretinal surgeries.

He authored Vitreoretinal Microsurgery, a leading textbook in the field, which is now in its fifth edition and in five languages, and he has written over 140 medical articles and 44 book chapters. He is on the editorial board of Retina and a reviewer for Ophthalmology, Archives of Ophthalmology, American Journal of Ophthalmology British Journal of Ophthalmology, and other peer reviewed journals.

In addition to his medical career, Dr. Charles is also a mechanical and electrical engineer, holding 103 issued patents or patents pending. He is a consultant for Alcon Laboratories and the principal architect of the Alcon Accurus and the Alcon Constellation Vision System. Dr. Charles also founded MicroDexterity Systems, developing robots for dexterity enhancement in minimally invasive knee and hip replacement, spine surgery, and skull base neurosurgery.

Dr. Charles has received many honors and awards throughout his career, including the Wacker Medal from the Club Jules Gonin, the first Founders Medal from the Vitreous Society, and induction into the University of Miami School of Medicine Medical Alumni Association Hall of Fame. Ocular Surgery News named him as one of the top ten innovators in the past 25 years, and Becker's ASC Review named him as one of their “34 Best Ophthalmologists in America.”

AGENDA

6 PM RECEPTION
7 PM PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies:
Spencer P. Thornton, MD

INVOCATION
Ralph S. Hamilton, MD

SIR HAROLD RIDLEY, OPHTHALMIC INNOVATOR
Jerre M. Freeman, MD

INTRODUCTION OF DR. STEVE CHARLES
& DESCRIPTION OF THE RIDLEY MEDAL
Barrett G. Haik, MD, FACS

THE 11TH SIR HAROLD RIDLEY
DISTINGUISHED VISITING PROFESSOR
“Surgical Revolution Leads to Evolution”
Steve Charles, MD
Founding Director,
Charles Retina Institute
Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology,
Hamilton Eye Institute
UT Health Science Center
Memphis, Tennessee

CONCLUDING REMARKS

webcast available at http://www.eye.uthsc.edu/ridley
Conceived by Dr. Jerre Freeman, the Ridley Medal was designed by Lisa Tackeberry of Denker Awards Company, the oldest awards company in Memphis. Denker worked closely with Dr. Freeman to translate his concept into a design for Medalcraft Mint of Green Bay, Wisconsin, who cast the medal. Medalcraft’s artists and craftsmen create commemoratives for both private and government organizations.

The sculptor responsible for the Ridley Medal also created the Inaugural Medal for President George W. Bush and the medallion celebrating NATO’s 50th anniversary. Denker and Medalcraft have also collaborated on commemoratives for the 150th Anniversary of Rhodes College.

The Ridley Medal is solid nickel silver, three inches in diameter. The antique finish, which enhances the portrait of Sir Harold on the face, was achieved by hand polishing. “Creativity, innovation, perseverance and productivity,” the attributes of the Ridley Professor, are listed on the reverse.

It is with great pride that we present this medal to Dr. Charles in recognition of his achievements and congratulate him in joining the ten previous Ridley Professors.