International Leadership Award

The International Leadership Award is given to a Fellow or Master of the ACG in recognition of outstanding and substantial contributions to gastroenterology, to the College and to the international gastroenterology community. Substantial contributions internationally may include, but are not limited to, the training of individuals from other countries who have gone on to become leaders in gastroenterology in their community, leadership in international organizations that has resulted in improvement in the care of patients, and participation in humanitarian efforts. Nominations are solicited and reviewed by the Awards Committee with input from the International Affairs Committee and the Board of Governors. The recipient must be approved by the ACG Board of Trustees. The award will be given when appropriate at the ACG Annual Meeting and may not necessarily be given annually.

2019 Recipient
Manoop S. Bhutani, MD, FACG

Manoop S. Bhutani, MD, FACG, is the Walter H. Wriston Distinguished Professor and Director of Endoscopic Research and Development at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. His major research interests pertain to gastrointestinal endoscopy and endoscopic ultrasound including interventional endosonography, utility of endoscopic ultrasound for gastrointestinal cancers, role of endoscopic ultrasound in evaluation of pancreatic tumors and pancreatic masses, endoscopic ultrasound for cancer staging, experimental studies using endoscopic ultrasound and endoscopy for image guided targeted drug delivery and development of new imaging modalities for gastrointestinal tract and cancers.

Dr. Bhutani is regarded as a leading expert nationally and internationally in the field of gastrointestinal endoscopy, and specifically in the field of endoscopic ultrasonography. He has delivered keynote speeches and state-of-the-art lectures in various national and international meetings. He has served as an expert invited speaker and/or a faculty teacher at live endoscopic workshops around the world including the countries of Brazil, Spain, China, Turkey, Ecuador, Korea, Japan, France, Germany, Romania, Israel, Egypt, and India.

Dr. Bhutani has more than 300 publications, with 200 of them as original peer reviewed articles, with others as editorial, invited reviews and other articles. He also has 200 abstracts and scientific presentations at various national and international scientific meetings to his credit. He has served or is serving as principal investigator or a collaborator in more than 30 human, laboratory, or animal research protocols at MD Anderson. He is a member of many editorial boards of various journals and Associate Editor of the journal, *Endoscopic Ultrasound*. In 2008, he received the Eminent Scientist of
International Leadership Award, continued

the Year Award in Endoscopy. He has received a Doctor of Medicine honoris causa from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Craiova, Romania, for his contributions to the field of endoscopic ultrasonography.

Dr. Bhutani is a long-standing member of the American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) International Relations Committee and served as Chair from 2007-2010. The Committee reached new heights under his leadership, establishing a new ACG Governor position for the country of Pakistan, formalizing and streamlining the process for international organizations to request joint courses and faculty sponsorship, and establishing a formal collaboration between the Japanese Gastroenterological Association and the ACG. He also served as the course director for ACG at the first combined course on Gastroenterology between ACG, WGO, and Theodor Bilharz Research Institute, in Cairo, Egypt in 2008. After completing his term in 2010, Dr. Bhutani continued to be a champion for ACG around the world, serving as a liaison between the ACG and other countries such as Indonesia and India, and assisting in collaborations within the national societies of these countries.

Dr. Bhutani is one of the early pioneers in the field of endoscopic ultrasound. He published the world’s first book on interventional endoscopic ultrasound and has published two more books on EUS including an atlas of normal EUS anatomy, and a textbook and atlas of EUS pathology. These books are considered essential reading for fellows/faculty around the globe who are learning this subspecialty of gastroenterology. Dr. Bhutani has generously accepted numerous visiting fellows and faculty from around the world, to spend time in his unit with him, learning EUS, performing research, and being mentored by him. Many of these individuals have gone on to become leaders in their own right in their respective countries of Brazil, Spain, Turkey, and Japan, to name a few, but also on the international scene as well.

Past International Leadership Award Recipients

2018  Francis K. L. Chan, MD, FACG
2017  Mark D. Topazian, MD, FACG
2015  Guilherme G. Macedo, MD, PhD, FACG
2014  Henry Cohen, MD, FACG
2013  Toshifumi Hibi, MD, PhD, FACG
2012  Flavio Steinwurz, MD, FACG
2011  Eamonn M. M. Quigley, MD, FACG