Who was Gabor Kaley, Ph.D.?

Gabor Kaley Ph.D., was Professor and Chair of Physiology at New York Medical College for nearly 40 years. Dr. Kaley was born in Budapest Hungary in 1926. After surviving internment in a Yugoslavian slave labor camp during World War II, he completed three years of medical school before immigrating to the United States. Dr. Kaley received a B.S. in biology from Columbia University in 1950, but was then drafted into the US Army to fight in the Korean War. Following his service with the Army, Dr. Kaley went on to earn an M.S. in physiology and a Ph.D. in experimental pathology at New York University School of Medicine.

His thesis work was performed in the laboratory of Dr. Benjamin Zweifach, considered the father of the study of microcirculation. This experience ultimately lead Dr. Kaley to a career in microcirculatory research, and he is widely recognized as one of the most distinguished physiologists in the United States. Dr. Kaley joined the faculty at New York Medical College in 1964 following time as an instructor and assistant professor of pathology at NYU School of Medicine (1962-1964). Dr. Kaley published more than 200 articles, including one cited by Current Contents as a seminal article that lead to the discovery of the biological role of prostaglandins and the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. He made invaluable scientific contributions to the fields of vascular regulation and microcirculation, including but not limited to, enhancing our understanding of the role of prostaglandins in vascular regulation, mechanisms of pressure and flow (shear stress) in the control of the microcirculation, and the role of nitric oxide in the physiologic and pathologic control of the circulation.

Dr. Kaley received numerous awards through his career including: the Eugene M. Landis Award from the Microcirculatory Society (1994), the George E. Brown Memorial Lectureship from the Council on Circulation of the American Heart Association (1998), the APS Carl J. Wiggers Award (2000), and he was named an Eminent Physiologist by the APS in recognition of his outstanding achievements in research, education and service that have significantly advanced the discipline and profession of physiology (2006). The Gabor Kaley Professional Opportunity Award honor his longstanding service to the discipline of physiology and reflect Gabor Kaley’s commitment to the training of young scientists.