Annual Report of Distinguished Physiologists Committee

The Distinguished Physiologists Committee started the year with only four members, but it was increased to ten members after the 2014 Experimental Biology meeting. One of the primary duties of each Committee member is to “develop and maintain liaison with emeritus members and members about to retire”. This liaison is accomplished by submitting, on behalf of the Society, a personal 70th, 80th, 90th, or 100th birthday greeting. Each greeting includes an invitation for the senior recipient to inform APS about his or her current activities, interests and whereabouts, and requests “words of wisdom” for younger colleagues. The historical and philosophical commentaries evoked by this invitation provide the material subsequently published in “Senior Physiologist’s News” in each issue of The Physiologist. By the end of 2013, the Senior Physiologist Committee members sent birthday wishes to 97 members reaching age 70, 53 members reaching age 80, 40 members reaching age 90, and to one member reaching the age of 100! Eight response letters were received and published in The Physiologist.

Another responsibility of the Senior Physiologists Committee is to review applications and recommend to Council the annual awardees of the $500 G. Edgar Folk, Jr., Senior Physiologists Award. This award is designed to support the scientific activities of a senior member. Unfortunately in 2013, no applications were received for the award. In 2014 we received one application from Dr. Kenneth Dormer of Liberty University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

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Chair, Senior Physiologists Committee