



2014
Innovator's Award Recipient
Steve Charles, PhD.

Steve Charles, MD is one of the world's leading vitreoretinal surgeons and has developed many of the techniques and devices used by vitreoretinal surgeons worldwide. He has performed over 30,000 vitreoretinal surgeries, lectured in 50 countries and operated in 25, delivered 16 named lectures, and over 1000 speaking trips. He authored a leading textbook in the field which is now in the 5th edition and in 5 languages and authored over 150 articles in the medical literature and 47 book chapters. He is a Fellow in the American College of Surgeons and International College of Surgeons and a member of the Retina Society, Macular Society, American Society of Retinal Specialists, Club Jules Gonin, American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, American Academy of Ophthalmology, American-European College of Ophthalmic Surgery, Euro-Lam, and the Dowling Society. He is on the Board of Governors of the ARVO Foundation for Eye Research He is on the editorial board of Retina and a reviewer for Ophthalmology, Archives of Ophthalmology, American Journal of Ophthalmology, and British Journal of Ophthalmology, writes a column for Retina Physician and is an editor for eMedicine. He is a mechanical and electrical engineer and has 106 issued or pending patents. He is a consultant for Alcon Laboratories and the principal architect of the Alcon Accurus and Alcon Constellation Vision System. He is the Founder of MicroDexterity Systems, developing robots for dexterity enhancement for minimally invasive knee and hip replacement, spine surgery, and skull base neurosurgery. He is the President of Infinity Research, Inc; a medical device and avionics consulting company. He is a cofounder of CamPlex LLC, developing advanced visualization technology for surgery. He is on the board of Zeroto510 a medical device venture capital firm. He has received the Wacker Medal from the Club Jules Gonin, the first Founders Medal from the Vitreous Society, was inducted into the University of Miami School of Medicine Medical Alumni Association Hall of Fame, and was named by Ocular Surgery News as one of the top ten innovators in the past 25 years. He is consistently listed in Best Doctors in America and Becker's Top 34 Ophthalmologists in America. He is a Clinical Professor at the University of Tennessee and an Adjunct Professor at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons.

After four years in engineering school, he completed medical school at the University of Miami School of Medicine. He did research all four medical school years at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. After a medical internship at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami he completed a residency at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute followed by a two year Clinical Associate appointment at the National Eye Institute (NIH); focused on vitreoretinal surgery, angiogenesis research, and medical device engineering.

He is an Airline Transport Pilot, Multi-engine, Instrument rated pilot with Type ratings in Citation 500 ,560 and 650 jets and currently owns and flies a Citation VII.



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Innovator's Award Recipient
Robert H. Osher, PhD.

Robert H. Osher, M.D. is Professor of Ophthalmology at the College of Medicine of the University of Cincinnati and Medical Director Emeritus of the Cincinnati Eye Institute. His practice is limited to cataract and implant surgery by referral.

Dr. Osher served his residency at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and completed three fellowships in Miami and at the Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia. He has received the Heed Ophthalmic Fellowship Award, the Maumenee Award, the Sheets Award, the Rayner Award from England, the Canon Award from Japan, the Senior Academy Honor Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award from AAO, the Lim Award from China, the Gold Medal Award from Australia, the Mooney Award from Ireland, the Nordan Lifetime Achievement Award, the Kelman Award from Greece, the Excellence Award from Canada and a lectureship bearing his name in Argentina. The American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery has given Dr. Osher its two highest honors, the prestigious Binkhorst Medal and the Innovator's Award. He also has received the Kelman Award, the highest honor given to a cataract surgeon by the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Osher has achieved worldwide recognition in cataract surgery. He has designed many of the contemporary intraocular lenses and instruments used in cataract surgery, in addition to developing new techniques in this subspecialty. Dr. Osher's surgical videos have won more than 25 first-prize honors at the American, European, Asian and South American Cataract Societies including 3 Grand Prizes at ASCRS and ESCRS. His lectures have been presented to implant societies in more than 35 countries and he has co-authored several textbooks in his subspecialty. He serves as editor of the Video Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, the Video Textbook of Viscosurgery, and International Advances in Phacoemulsification and has published more than 250 videos and peer-reviewed articles. He has served on the executive committee of the Outpatient Surgery Society and as the international editor of the Brazilian journal FOCO. He is a Reviewer for the Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and serves on the editorial boards of six additional Journals.

Besides his interest in cataract surgery, Dr. Osher has been a proud coach of more than 70 youth baseball and basketball teams reaching the National Championships in each sport. He served as the ophthalmic consultant for the Cincinnati Reds during the 1990's. Dr. Osher has also published 17 children's stories raising money with the proceeds for charitable organizations.



2015
Innovator's Award Recipient
Donald C. Hood, PhD.

Dr. Hood is the James F. Bender Professor of Psychology and Professor of Ophthalmic Science (in Ophthalmology), and has been a member of the Columbia University faculty since 1969. He holds a B.A. from Harpur College of the State University of New York, M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees from Brown University, and an honorary degree from Smith College. From 1982 to 1987, Dr. Hood served as Vice President for the Arts and Sciences at Columbia University. He is an elected Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Society of Experimental Psychologists and the Optical Society of America. In 2014, he received an Alcon Research Institute Award.

Dr. Hood has served on the Board of Trustees of Smith College from 1989 to 1999 (Vice Chair from 1991-1999), and the Board of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) from 2004-2009. Currently, he is on the Board of Trustees of Brown University (Secretary), ARVO Foundation for Vision Research (Treasurer), and Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundations.

Dr. Hood also serves on the editorial boards of IOVS, Journal of Vision, Documenta Ophthalmologica, and Translational Vision Science & Technology. Dr. Hood's research deals with the behavior, physiology and anatomy of the human visual system. While some of his nearly 300 publications deal with issues of the basic neuroscience of vision, most of his work over the last 25 years has been in the domain of retinal and optic nerve disease. He has had continuous grant support from NIH/NEI for over 40 years.

At Columbia, Dr. Hood teaches undergraduate courses on brain and behavior, and an advanced course in visual science. He has been awarded the Mark van Doren Award for Outstanding Teaching in the College, the Great Teacher Award, and the Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching.



2015
Innovator's Award Recipient
Mark A. Latina, M.D.

Dr. Latina is an Associate Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at Tufts University Medical School and a Surgeon in Ophthalmology at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. He graduated from the University of Connecticut Medical School and completed his residency in ophthalmology at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. Following a clinical fellowship in glaucoma at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Dr. Latina served as a consultant in glaucoma at the Joslin Diabetes Center and performed ophthalmic laser research at the Wellman Laboratories of Photo-Medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital for ten years. He is currently on the hospital staff at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, Tufts Medical Center, Winchester Hospital, Hallmark Health, and the North Shore Cataract and Laser Center. He also has a private practice in Reading, Massachusetts.

Dr. Latina is an internationally renowned glaucoma specialist, and the inventor of Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty (SLT) for the treatment of open angle glaucoma. Dr. Latina has over 75 publications and chapters and holds ten patents in the field of ophthalmology, designed to improve glaucoma treatment. He is the recipient of a Heed Foundation Award, the American Academy of Ophthalmology Senior Achievement Award and a National Eye Institute Clinician-Scientist Award.