

AMC
Schwarzman
Animal Medical Center
SINCE 1910

July 10, 2022

Dr. Fedrica Morandi
ACVR President
University of Tennessee
2407 River Dr
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996

Dear Dr. Morandi and ACVR Executive Committee,

The Bernstein Lifetime Achievement Award is the ultimate recognition of an ACVR member's career in "...service, teaching, and research...". The recipient's achievements are often not limited to the ACVR, but often impact the entire veterinary profession. In my eyes, no other veterinary radiologist is more deserving of this award than Dr. William "Bill" Hornof.

If we only focused on the first 25 years of his distinguished career, Dr. Hornof would still be a contender for this award. During these earlier academic years, he mentored residents, taught students, and contributed to the literature with over 100 publications in veterinary imaging and informatics. Students and colleagues at UC Davis were all deeply influenced by Bill's knowledge, enthusiasm, and dedication to veterinary diagnostic imaging (just ask any one of them... they are happy to tell stories!).

But the part of Dr. Hornof's career that I would like to highlight, and what influenced me personally, began AFTER his retirement from academia. In 2004, I was a senior imaging resident at The Ohio State University. My resident-mates and I had all heard of Dr. Hornof from his research and personal stories from our mentors (in fact, two of my mentors were residents under Bill). My first impression was, "What a great voice!". His baritone commands attention, but the content of his speech is what stays with me today. He was working with a digital radiography company (Eklin) to help veterinary hospitals make the transition from film to digital. Bill stood out from all the other members of his team in that he didn't just speak computer-talk; he was a Bonafide veterinarian, discussing cases in between installations, and even correcting residents like myself who benefited from the support.

Bill's first years in the private sector focused on getting many universities and large private practices to transition to digital radiography. Today, that would seem like a simple task... but in the early to mid-2000s, it was extremely difficult. It required a whole new language; it required veterinarians to CHANGE! Bill is personally responsible for teaching many of us about DICOM, PACS, and Modality Worklist, words that are commonplace today. Bill confidently maneuvered through different personalities and doubters, reassuring us all that the new technology would improve our efficiency and quality.

At Ohio State and the following year at the Animal Medical Center, I watched our imaging departments completely transform with the help of Dr. Hornof. Bill not only spent time overseeing this transition to digital but also made time for KCC with residents. His love of teaching and enthusiasm for our great profession were out on display when Bill entered any radiology department. In fact, there are plenty of radiologists of a certain age who experienced Bill's KCC teaching style even though he wasn't working as a locum radiologist. Isn't that truly amazing? Over the next 15 years, Bill freely gave of his time. He

The Elmer and Mamdouha Bobst Hospital | Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Institute for Postgraduate Education
Caspary Research Institute | The Cancer Institute | Chris and Bruce Crawford Feline Health Institute
Emilia Saint-Amand Krimendahl Institute for Trauma Care | Ann and Charles Johnson One Health Institute
Usdan Institute for Animal Health Education

510 East 62nd Street, New York, NY 10065 | (212) 838-8100 | amcnyc.org

AMC
Schwarzman
Animal Medical Center
SINCE 1910

personally experienced all the highs and lows of various residency programs, sharing his knowledge and wisdom with anyone willing to listen.

Bill's talent for teaching is not just limited to residents and radiologists. With the help of his friend and past resident, Dr. Eric Hergesell, Bill took his show on the road and lectured throughout the world. Listening to the two of them entertain and teach to a captive audience is truly a sight to see.

In his last term as ACVR president, Bill changed the ACVR's perceptions of residency supervision. An important initiative spearheaded by Bill helped many private practice residencies (like my own) get off the ground. Bill stressed the idea of full-time equivalents (FTE) for residency requirements, rather than the "number of radiologists". He knew there were many radiologists in the private sector that wanted to start residencies. He also knew from his travels with Eklin that many private practice radiologists had essentially a 100% clinical appointment, an important distinction relative to more traditional academic residencies where staff are divided into research, student teaching, and other obligations. AMC's residency is indebted to Dr. Hornof for his leadership and vision.

I doubt there will be much debate regarding Dr. Hornof's merits for receiving the Bernstein Lifetime Achievement award, so this letter was easy to write! My first-hand experience with this great man did not come from being his resident; nor from being his co-worker. It simply came from watching him freely share his gifts. This nomination letter is my thank you to him.

Sincerely,



Anthony J. Fischetti, DVM, MS, DACVR
Department Head, Diagnostic Imaging
Schwarzman Animal Medical Center, NYC
anthony.fischetti@amcny.org