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Dr. Silver: Dedication to Education and Teaching

Born and raised in New York City, a diehard NY Yankee and Michigan Wolverine fan, Terry Silver, M.D., professor emeritus of radiology, knew in high school he wanted to become a physician. Although, he says, “I had assumed that I would attend college in NY, my advisor recommended Michigan, primarily because of its high percentage of pre-med students.” Thus, in 1962, Dr. Silver boarded a jet plane and headed west for undergrad. The University of Michigan’s strong academic programs and sports tradition appealed to him, and he became a loyal Wolverine. His first contact with the U-M Medical School occurred as an undergraduate. “I worked one summer in the biochemistry department, the other in the pharmacology department,” he recalls.

After graduating with a B.S. with distinction in 1966, Dr. Silver returned to New York City for both medical school and internship at State University of New York (SUNY)-Downstate. “I was initially exposed to radiology between my junior and senior years in medical school, working with a very dynamic mentor, Jack Rabinowitz, M.D., chair of radiology at Brooklyn Hospital,” Dr. Silver recalls. “However, I was thrilled to return to Ann Arbor for my radiology residency.”

Dr. Silver joined the radiology faculty as an instructor in 1974, upon completion of his residency. His growing expertise in the newly emerging field of diagnostic ultrasound made him a pioneer of the modality. Although ultrasound is a widely used imaging technique nowadays, it was a relatively new subspecialty when Dr. Silver began his academic career. By 1981, at age 37, Dr. Silver had achieved full professorship.

During the late 70s, Dr. Silver helped develop the technique of neonatal cranial ultrasound, which became the standard procedure for detecting intracranial hemorrhage in premature infants. Realizing that there was a growing need for ultrasound education, Dr. Silver founded and annually directed a very popular postgraduate course, “A Practical Seminar in Diagnostic Ultrasound,” at the U-M Medical School from 1977 to 2000. Dr. Silver says he is appreciative of the breadth of opportunities he had at U-M. He served as ultrasound division director (1976-87), the Department of Radiology’s first associate chair (1984-92), and director of Postgraduate Medical Education Programs (1992-2002). He was also instrumental in recruiting several top-notch faculty to the department, including Drs. Gary Glazer, Paul Carson, Melvyn Korobkin and Robert Bree.

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Beyond his U-M career, Dr. Silver was one of the original 30 members of the Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound (SRU) and served for 10 years as an oral board examiner for the American Board of Radiology (ABR). He received ABR’s Distinguished Achievement Award in 2000. Dr. Silver was awarded fellowship status in the American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine, the American College of Radiology, the Society of Uroradiology, and the SRU.

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Reflecting on his productive career, Dr. Silver is grateful to the University of Michigan for making it possible for him to enjoy a successful radiology career and life, and a wonderful relationship with the university spanning over six decades.
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The Terry M. Silver Collegiate Professorship in Radiology

Department of Radiology University of Michigan Health System Office of Development 1000 Oakbrook Drive, Suite 100 Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734.763.1404
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A Deep Commitment to Excellence in Teaching and Mentorship

The Terry M. Silver Collegiate Professorship in Radiology seeks to do two very important things. One is to honor Dr. Silver’s contributions to medicine, to the Department of Radiology, and to his many residents, fellows, and colleagues. The other is to ensure that the excellence Dr. Silver exemplifies continues to thrive in the department.

In his 38 year career at the University of Michigan, Dr. Silver was a dedicated educator, mentor and clinician. His leadership in clinical ultrasound and teaching will leave a lasting legacy through those he trained. Realizing the growing need for education in ultrasound, Dr. Silver developed courses that taught sonographers, medical students, radiology residents and fellows. His excellence in teaching has advanced the field through those he’s trained both at Michigan and around the world.

It is this kind of vitality and excellence that makes the University of Michigan one of the most esteemed in the nation, able to attract and retain talent of the highest caliber. It is also what the community served by U-M’s Health System has come to expect and from which it benefits.

Please consider contributing to the Terry M. Silver Collegiate Professorship in Radiology. The generosity of alumni, faculty, colleagues, family, friends, and the community the university serves helps to ensure that the excellence exemplified by Dr. Silver continues to distinguish the university and the Department of Radiology.

To learn how you can contribute, please contact Laura Boudette at lauraabo@med.umich.edu or at 734.763.1404.
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