

THE LAUREATE

THE ACADEMY HONORS THE FOUNDER OF MODERN CORNEAL SCIENCE

Claes H. Dohlman, MD, Named 2007 Laureate



LAUREATE OF THE
AMERICAN ACADEMY
OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

The Academy takes special pride in honoring Claes H. Dohlman, MD, as recipient of the 2007 Laureate Recognition Award.

Dr. Dohlman was born in Uppsala, Sweden. He received his medical degree in 1950 and then entered ophthalmology

training in Lund under Professor Sven Larsson. The years 1952 to 1954 were spent in fellowship training in the United States. Thus, for 18 months he worked under Dr. Jonas Friedenwald, at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins Hospital, primarily on proteoglycan histochemistry.

Eight months were spent at the Retina Foundation in Boston, supervised by Drs. Endre Balazs and Charles Schepens. More ophthalmology training followed back in Sweden. During the following years at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, he finished his doctorate in biochemistry



Dr. Dohlman's innovations in keratoplasty and keratoprosthesis have made him internationally recognized as the founder of modern corneal science.



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Berlin, June 1st - 6th, 2008



Deadline for abstract submission: January 7th, 2008

- Early registration deadline:
February 15th, 2008
- Registration last deadline:
May 12th, 2008
- Registration and abstract submission
forms available on line soon!

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on the metabolism of the sulfated proteoglycans in the cornea. His preceptors were Professors Lennart Roden, Harry Brostrom, Sven Gardell, and Torvard Laurent.

In 1958, he was invited to work at Boston's Retina Foundation (now Schepens Eye Research Institute), as well as at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (MEEI) and Harvard Medical School. This was preceded by three months of training in corneal surgery in Lyon, France, under Professor Louis Paufigue. After his arrival in Boston, Dr. Dohlman started the cornea service at the MEEI. He also started a laboratory for corneal physiology at the Retina Foundation. These activities grew substantially over the years to become a large referral service for complicated cornea patients, as well as a program for two-year fellowship training and corresponding research. At this time, his own research changed from biochemistry to corneal physiology. Also, a number of clinical studies on keratoplasty, corneal edema, herpetic infections and trauma were published, mostly together with fellows.

In 1968, Dr. Dohlman was appointed assistant professor of ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School; in 1969, associate professor; and in 1974, full professor. That same year he became chairman of Harvard's department of ophthalmology, chief of ophthalmology at the MEEI, and director of the Howe Laboratory of Ophthalmology at Harvard.

In 1989, he retired from his administrative positions but continued full-time work with cornea patients, as well as with teaching and research. His interests gradually became more focused on keratoprosthesis surgery. He and his collaborators have been developing keratoprosthesis designs, surgical techniques, postoperative treatments and repair procedures.