



Prince Mahidol Award Foundation
Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital and Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Hold a Press Conference to Announce
the Prince Mahidol Award 2012

Today (22th November 2012) at 14.00 hrs., Clinical Professor Udom Kachintorn, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, in the capacity of Vice President of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, Mr. Manasvi Srisodapol, Director-General of the Department of Information, in the capacity of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Public Relations of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, and Professor Vicharn Panich, Chairman of the International Award Committee of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, held a press conference to announce the 21st Prince Mahidol Award for the year 2012 at the Prince Mahidol Museum, 2nd Floor, Syamindra Building, Siriraj Hospital.

The Prince Mahidol Award Foundation of which H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn is the President, has decided to confer this year's Prince Mahidol Award in the field of medicine to **Sir Michael David Rawlins** of United Kingdom. In the field of public health, the Prince Mahidol Award is conferred to **Dr. Uche Veronica Amazigo** of Federal Republic of Nigeria.

There are a total of 75 nominations from 34 countries. The Scientific Advisory Committee carefully screened all candidates from the year 2012, 2011, and 2010 and then submitted a short list of the candidates to the International Award Committee who scrutinized and made a recommendation to the Board of Trustees. H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn presided over the meeting of the Board of Trustees on 9th November 2012 in which the final decision on the Prince Mahidol Award 2012 was made.

In the past 20 years, 62 individuals, groups of individuals, and institutions have received the Prince Mahidol Award. Among them, two subsequently received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, namely Professor Dr. Barry James Marshall and Professor Dr. Harald zur Hausen. Two Thai had received the Prince Mahidol Award in 1996, they were Professor Prasong Tuchinda and Professor Suchitra Nimmannitya and two more in 2009: Dr. Wiwat Rojanapithayakorn and Mr. Mechai Viravaidya.

The Prince Mahidol Award Foundation under the Royal Patronage was established in commemoration of the centenary of the birth of His Royal Highness Prince Mahidol of Songkla, on January 1, 1992. The Foundation is under the Royal Patronage, with Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn as president. The Foundation annually confers two Prince Mahidol Awards upon individual(s) or institution(s), which have demonstrated outstanding and exemplary contributions to the advancement of the world's medical and public health services. Each Award consists of a medal, a certificate and a sum of US \$100,000.

The Presentation Ceremony of the Prince Mahidol Award 2012 at the Chakri Throne hall will be held at the end of January 2013. Prior to the Ceremony, Siriraj Hospital, as a founder of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, will invite the 2012 Prince Mahidol Award Laureates to give lectures based on their achievement.

The Prince Mahidol Award 2012

In the field of Medicine:



Sir Michael David Rawlins

Founding Chairman, National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE)

Honorary Professor, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London

President, Royal Society of Medicine, United Kingdom

Sir Michael David Rawlins is both a pioneer and a practitioner of using scientific evidence and verifiable medical information to evaluate the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of medicines, medical instruments, and treatment. He has also established guidelines and approaches in treating patients to ensure optimal benefits and cost efficient budgeting. In 1999, Sir Rawlins founded the National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) to carry out work in this field as well as to evaluate systematically the positive and negative effects of past, present and future treatments including their health, economic, social and ethical effects. Medical guidelines and methods of treating different diseases stemming from his work has enabled policymakers to allocate resources and budgets to cure and prevent diseases in an appropriate, transparent and accountable manner.

Sir Rawlins' contributions to the field of medicine gave rise to the treatment of patients with standard and proper technology, excellent quality, and cost effectiveness throughout the United Kingdom. His work has been disseminated, and used as a model for wide application in many countries, including Thailand, thus benefiting the health of countless millions worldwide.

Sir Michael David Rawlins obtained his medical degree from St. Thomas' Hospital, University of London, in the United Kingdom.

The Prince Mahidol Award 2012

In the field of Public Health :



Dr.Uche Veronica Amazigo

Former Director, African Programme for Onchocerciasis Control (APOC), World Health Organization (WHO),
Federal Republic of Nigeria

Dr. Uche Veronica Amazigo is a prominent figure who enabled over 500,000 communities in 19 countries in Africa to participate in the provision of health services. During her tenure as Director of the African Programme for Onchocerciasis Control from 2005 to 2011, Dr. Amazigo developed the approach of community-directed treatment to distribute medicines to cure Onchocerciasis in affected communities by volunteers in a timely manner. The community directed approach resulted in the successful control of the disease, in an economically cost-effective manner, helping to strengthen healthcare systems in the local communities, thus significantly reducing the occurrence of the disease.

It is forecasted that by 2015, over 90 million people annually will have regular access to treatment for Onchocerciasis which will prevent more than 40,000 people per year from the disease. This success resulted from linking research with management system, and emphasizing the role of local communities.

In addition, the participating communities can be mobilized to provide necessary health services and disease control. It is estimated that such approach enabled over 11 million people in Africa to benefit from Malaria control and more than 37 million people to benefit from health services development.

Dr. Amazigo received a Ph.D. in Biology and Medical Parasitology from the University of Vienna in Austria, a Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Parasitology from the Bernhard-Nocht Institute of Tropical Medicine in Hamburg, Germany, and a Fellowship in International Health from the Harvard School of Public Health, U.S.A.

**Programme of
the Announcement Ceremony of the Prince Mahidol Award 2012
22 December 2012, at 14.00 hrs.
At the Prince Mahidol Memorial Room, 2nd Floor, Siammintr Building,
Faculty of Medicine, Siriraj Hospital**

- 13.30 hrs. - Distinguished guests and media arrive at the Prince Mahidol Memorial Room, 2nd Floor, Siammintr Building, Siriraj Hospital
- Snacks and Beverages.
- 14.00 hrs. - Clinical Professor Supat Vanichakarn, Secretary-General of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation under the Royal Patronage hosts the Press Conference.
- Clinical Professor Professor Udom Kachintorn, Dean of Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital, Mahidol University, in the capacity of Vice President of the Board of Trustees of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, introduces the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation .
- Mr. Manasvi Srisodapol, Director-General of the Department of Information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Public Relations of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, announces the Prince Mahidol Laureates for 2012
- Professor Vicharn Panich, Chairman of the International Award Committee of the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, explains the decision to confer the Prince Mahidol Award for 2012.
- Ambassadors or representatives from the embassies of the countries of which the 2012 Prince Mahidol Award Laureates are citizens deliver short remarks to the distinguished guests and media.
- H.E. Mark Kent
 Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom
- H.E. Ambassador Chukwudi Newington Okafor
 Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Clinical Professor Supat Vanichakarn
Secretary – General
Prince Mahidol Award Foundation

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