ExCEL Award Presented to Dr. Easty in Toronto

The first award in the ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation’s ExCEL program was presented to Dr. Anthony C. Easty at a well attended event at his home institution, Toronto General Hospital, on September 4th. Dr. Yadin David represented the Foundation at the presentation ceremony. The event brought together administrators, physicians, clinical engineers from surrounding hospitals, students, and special guests. Among those in attendance was Dr. Robert Bell, President and Chief Executive Officer of the University Health Network, who provided congratulatory remarks for Tony and specifically commented on the value of holding the event within the recipient’s institution, thus adding additional local recognition for both the recipient and the award, and thereby promoting the professional contributions of clinical engineering to the institution and the community. In addition to Dr. Bell, other administrative attendees included Dr. Joseph Cafazzo, Director, Medical Device Informatics and Human Factors, University Health Network and Lydia Lee, Chief Information Officer, The SIMS Partnership.

The local written announcement of the event noted that the award had been established by the ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation to define and recognize superior leadership at the institutional level. With respect to Dr. Easty the announcement said that he “has built a legacy of exemplary leadership in the field of clinical engineering” and that as a result of these efforts “UHN’s Medical Engineering Department is credited as one of the best worldwide”. In the spirit of the award itself it was also said that Dr. Easty is a revolutionary thinker who redefined UHN’s view of technology and its role in transforming healthcare, including his role in establishing the Healthcare Human Factors Group at the Centre for Global eHealth Innovation, the largest group of its kind based in a healthcare institution. Such forward thinking and action oriented activity is what the clinical engineering profession needs to reach its own goals of contributing significantly to the healthcare enterprise.

Dr. Easty shared the Foundation’s view of the importance of this award, and its local presentation, saying that “It really did work well. The whole concept of presenting the award in the workplace was a brainwave. It has generated a lot of interest in our profession here at my hospital.”

It will be important to the profession that the second ExCEL award be presented and received with equal recognition and enthusiasm. The next application deadline for the ExCEL award is December 31, 2008. Further information including the application materials can be found at http://www.accefoundation.org/leadership_award.asp.
Financial Support
The ExCEL Award program needs ongoing financial support from individuals and organizations that share its objectives and values. Financial contributions are tax deductable and may be made through the ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation (www.acce-htf.org). Please keep in mind that donations can also be made in recognition of or honor of another individual, making it an excellent vehicle for professional gifts and remembrances.

Dr. Anthony C. Easty (left) receiving the award from Dr. Yadin David, Immediate Past President and President Emeritus of the ACCE Healthcare Technology Foundation

Wayne Morse
President, AHTF

William Hyman
Secretary, AHTF