

# SCARD Visionary Leadership Award

Dieter R. Enzmann, MD

*Introduction by Alexander Norbash, MD*

Dieter R. Enzmann, MD, also known as “D.E.” to his friends and family, was born in the Bavarian town of Marktredwitz, Germany, the beloved son of a thoughtful engineer and a devoted mother. Dieter’s father instilled in Dieter an appreciation for pursuits of the mind and the value of creativity, and Dieter’s mother gave Dieter an appreciation for education, commitment, and discipline. These strong and consistent character traits would prove to serve Dieter well. At an early age, D.E. and his family emigrated to Wisconsin, seeking opportunities for a better future in the New World and settling down in Racine. Dieter excelled academically and was admitted to the University of Wisconsin, from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors.

A significant event in Dieter’s life proved to be his watching the Tournament of Roses Parade on television, which is held in Pasadena, California, as part of the celebrations and observations accompanying the Rose Bowl. As Wisconsin enjoyed a particularly thick blanket of snow on that particular New Year’s Day, Dieter noticed the numerous televised spectators lining the streets of Pasadena sporting smiles and shirtsleeves, and a lifelong love affair with California was born.

Dieter attended Stanford University School of Medicine, excelling as expected and earning Alpha Omega Alpha honors. He continued at Stanford as an intern and then radiology resident, realizing his passion for neuroradiology at an early stage, and establishing a foundation for serious commitment to an academic career. Dieter completed a neuroradiology fellowship at the University of California, San Francisco, forging numerous lifelong friendships and associations while doing so. Dieter returned to Stanford immediately after his fellowship to serve in the neuroradiology section for the next 19 years, earning a well-deserved reputation as a meticulous experimentalist, brilliant academician, and consummate neuroradiologist. Dieter quickly rose through the ranks to establish his position as a professor in the tenured line. Dieter not only led Stanford neuroradiology, but his actions and leadership more importantly established an enduring legacy of excellence in the section.

Dieter chose to spend his sabbatical leave at the Stanford Graduate School of Business at a time when very few academic

radiologists were receiving any formal training in strategy, operations management, or business. This exposure galvanized his interest in management science, in which he has proven to be a creative and celebrated writer and thinker as the creator of seminal concepts, while also stimulating his interest in applying management theory to actual health care delivery.

Dieter sought an elevated scope of influence for delivering health care and, in pursuit of this goal, next served as chair of radiology at Northwestern University from 1996 through 2000. Dieter was celebrated as a visionary and thoughtful leader, and he returned to California in 2001, where he has since then successfully led UCLA Radiology as the Leo G. Rigler Chair of Radiological Sciences. Under Dieter’s leadership, UCLA Radiology has become a juggernaut, benefitting from Dieter spending the better part of 2 decades recruiting and developing numerous leading scientists and radiologists while creating and deploying many innovative world-class programs.

Dieter was the president of the Society of Chairs of Academic Radiology Departments (SCARD) from 2008 to 2010, notably serving as the architect and executive sponsor for the SCARD scenario-planning exercise. This joint effort with the American College of Radiology transformed SCARD’s self-perception to that of a proactive and empowered entity possessing the responsibility and ability to forge the future of academic radiology.

Dieter is known for a spectrum of creative accomplishments, including such representative

original concepts as the experimental description and evolution of early and late focal cerebritis and its potential evolution to cerebral abscess; naming, describing, and applying the radiology value chain; and designing, describing, and deploying combined radiologic-pathologic-genomic reports. Each of these individual creations would be remarkable for a single person. To have one and the same radiologist demonstrate such a range of novel creativity over such a distinguished career justifies and affirms his exceptional leadership and creativity.

Professor Dieter Enzmann is emblematic of the inspirational potential that academic radiologists possess, and we celebrate and thank him for the transformative role he has played in our discipline and in our lives. We applaud Dieter R. Enzmann, MD, as he receives the 2018 SCARD Visionary Leadership Award.



*Dieter R. Enzmann, MD*