ASA Award for Excellence in Research

THIS YEAR the American Society of Anesthesiologists has established an Award for Excellence in Research. Requirements for receiving the award limit consideration to those individuals whose accomplishments, "Constitute a definite, mature, and sustained significant contribution to the extension and advancement of research in anesthesiology." The awardee, though not required to be a member of ASA, an anesthesiologist or a physician, must be actively engaged in research related to anesthesiology.

Because this award is made by our Society and because this Journal represents our Society's effort to disseminate advances in scientific knowledge as well as patient care, we consider it appropriate to acknowledge the awardee by reviewing his or her accomplishments. The inaugural designee of the ASA Award for Excellence in Research is John W. Severinghaus, M.D., Professor of Anesthesia at the University of California, San Francisco. In this issue of the Journal, Dr. Severinghaus' contributions to the practice of anesthesia in particular and to medicine in general are highlighted by Dr. Thomas F. Hornbein, himself a research collaborator of Dr. Severinghaus.

The Editoral Board of *Anesthesiology* congratulates the Board of Directors of ASA for their decision to establish this award. In doing so, ASA underscores the statement in their bylaws that, "It shall be the purpose of this Society . . . to raise the standards of the specialty by fostering and encouraging education, research, and scientific progress in the specialty. . . ." We salute John Severinghaus, 1986 recipient of the ASA Award for Excellence in Research and look forward to acknowledging future years' recipients of this same honor.

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