

**Presentation of Certificates**  
*Reed V. Tuckson, M.D.*

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DR. TUCKSON: We introduced three new members at the beginning of the meeting. Unfortunately, that of course means that as of this meeting this is the last meeting for three of our colleagues as official members of the committee.

We have really benefited from Debra, Agnes and Emily's involvement over the course of this committee. I want to thank each of them individually for their contributions and let me start with Debra, who is an exceedingly hard working member of this committee. As chair of the Patents and Access Task Force she really did skillfully steer us through the review and evaluation of the National Academy of Science report and has also been a member of almost every other task force that we have ever had. She has been on Coverage and Reimbursements, Large Population Studies, Genetic Discrimination and has made important contributions to each of them.

If this were not enough, she serves as our SACGHS liaison to the CDC's EGAPP workgroup. During the committee meetings I think you've noticed that she is not shy about expressing her opinions and raising cogent questions and we have benefited from each and every one of those comments.

In recognition of all of your work these past three years, we'd like to present Debra with this certificate and a letter from Secretary Leavitt.

(Applause.)

DR. LEONARD: I won't make a big speech but it really has truly been an honor to be on this committee. I watched SACGT from the seats and just tried my best to restrain myself from trying to participate. So to actually have a seat at the table and to be able to participate has been wonderful.

I charge you all with being really committed to this committee because you're doing great things and you guys have to carry on the work that some of us have started and are currently working on but just keep going. You're doing great things.

(Applause.)

DR. TUCKSON: The one thing, of course, that is probably the most enduring specific legacy that she leaves is a permanent ban on the word, the phrase, "home brew." She ain't home and she ain't brewing nothing.

(Laughter.)

Thank you for that.

Secondly, Agnes Masny, who has served also as an extraordinarily valuable member to this committee for the past three years. She capably led our efforts on our number one agenda item and that's, of course, genetic discrimination. In that role she ably chaired the public consultation that we held in the fall of 2004 and guided the development of three letters to the Secretary calling for the passage of federal genetic discrimination legislation. She led us through the creation of the legal analysis, the DVD highlighting the testimony of the October 2004 hearing,

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and a compilation, the telephone book as it is now famously referred to, of written public comments. She approached this role with a combination of sensitivity and gentle tenacity.

Agnes, please accept this certificate as a token of our appreciation for your three years of service to the committee and you have been just a delight, delight to work with.

(Applause.)

MS. MASNY: Well, thank you very much. I also have to echo Debra's comments. I have very similar sentiments about the committee's work and the honor that it has been to be here but I also would like to thank the leadership that we've had both from Reed Tuckson as well as Dr. McCabe, who was the chair of the committee when I first came on the committee, and of course, without saying what everybody knows already, to thank the staff, Sarah Carr and her staff, for the excellent support that we've all had, without whom none of this would be able to get done.

Thank you.

DR. TUCKSON: Thank you so much.

(Applause.)

And feel very, very good about what you've achieved through your leadership on this.

Emily Winn-Deen, an integral member of our committee since its inception, chair of the Pharmacogenomics Task Force. She has guided the development of the draft report and the recommendations, which as we saw yesterday is no small task and you really were able to put together for us such a thoughtful menu of things to consider and we really appreciate it. You have ensured that we were properly informed about the issues, needs and ongoing activities in this area and that our fact finding efforts were comprehensive.

In addition to serving as chair of the Pharmacogenomics Task Force, you also made valuable contributions to our Coverage and Reimbursement, Genetic Discrimination and Patents Task Force. You have been very, very busy.

Please accept this certificate, Emily, and our gratitude for your hard work these past years, and I am most appreciative for everything you've done for us.

(Applause.)

DR. WINN-DEEN: So I, like Debra, sat in the side chairs during SACGT and actually got to occasionally participate by invitation and I hope that potentially I'll get the same invitation to come and represent the in vitro diagnostics community. I think what this committee is doing is tremendously important. Everybody works hard and contributes a different facet to what's going on here and I commend you to really continue the process that we've started and make sure that all of these good things are seen through to fruition.

Thank you very much for the honor of being on the committee.

(Applause.)