

Contacts:

Judy Cerne, President & CEO

Laura Fredrick, Senior Account Manager

McKinney Advertising & Public Relations

Phone: 216/621-5133 / Fax: 216/621-1181

E-mail: jcerne@mckinneyad.com, lfredrick@mckinneyad.com

Pamela P. Boggs, MBA, Director of Education and Development

The North American Menopause Society (NAMS)

Phone: 440/442-7658 / Fax: 440/442-2660

Rare Academic Degree Awarded to Cleveland Physician

Wulf H. Utian, MB, BCh, PhD, Honored by University of Cape Town, South Africa

CLEVELAND, Ohio (December 6, 2007) – Wulf H. Utian, MB, BCh, PhD, internationally renowned Cleveland physician, is to be awarded the degree of Doctor of Science in Medicine from the University of Cape Town in Cape Town, South Africa, on December 10, 2007. This is only the 10th time this degree has been awarded in over 100 years of the University's history.

The degree is the most senior doctorate in the Faculty of Health Sciences and is awarded for substantial original and scholarly contributions in one or more medical fields. It is awarded rarely and only to persons of exceptional academic merit. It is awarded on the basis of original published work, which must be of international standing and regarded as seminal to medical progress.

Dr. Utian's seminal contribution to women's health for which he is to be honored relates to menopause. He is acknowledged worldwide as the first medical investigator to attempt to subject menopause to rigorous scientific scrutiny. The consistent purpose of his studies conducted over 40 years was to establish a scientific foundation for menopause, and to provide the factual substantiation for contemporary clinical management.

Initial data were gathered between 1967 and 1976 at a Menopause Clinic especially established for research purposes at the Groote Schuur Hospital and University of Cape Town. This was to become recognized as the first such unit of its type worldwide.

-MORE-

Subsequent studies were performed through the University Hospitals of Cleveland and Case Western Reserve University, and his clinical research center in Cleveland, Rapid Medical Research.

The ultimate purpose of this research was to determine the nature of menopause and its optimal clinical management in order to enhance the overall and health-related quality of life for women through and beyond menopause. The outcome is that key contributions have been made in virtually all areas relating to menopause.

Another major pioneering contribution to medical science and women's healthcare achieved by Dr. Utian was to recognize the need to establish national and international scientific organizations, peer-reviewed medical journals, and mechanisms both for researchers to share and interact in the search for scientific progress, and for clinicians to be apprised of current standards and recommendations for evidence-based medical practice. He was one of the three original founders of the International Menopause Society, and the Founder of The North American Menopause Society (NAMS).

Wulf H. Utian, MB, BCh, PhD, has been a pioneer in other women's health issues and an innovator in several aspects of advanced reproductive technology. One of the early innovators of infertility microsurgery in the United States, he also developed one of the world's first successful in vitro fertilization (IVF) centers. He performed the world's first surrogate IVF procedure in 1984. During his career, Dr. Utian has written over 200 papers related to women's health, and has authored five books on menopause. He is the Editor of *Menopause*, NAMS official scientific journal, and *Menopause Management*, a NAMS-endorsed publication for healthcare providers.

A dedicated advocate for women's health, Dr. Utian has achieved national and international recognition for his work and is interviewed regularly by the world's leading media. He is the recipient of numerous national and international honors and awards, most recently the first man to be honored by the National Speaking of Women's Health Organization and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation for his contributions to women's health.

-MORE-

Dr. Utian is the Executive Director and Honorary Founding President of The North American Menopause Society (NAMS); the Arthur H. Bill Professor Emeritus of Reproductive Biology, Case Western Reserve School of Medicine; Consultant in Gynecology and Women's Health, Cleveland Clinic; Visiting Professor, University of Cape Town (2007-2010); and Chairman of the Advisory Board of Rapid Medical Research, where he is an active research investigator. Previously, he was Director of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mt. Sinai Medical Center of Cleveland, and then at University Hospitals of Cleveland and Chairman of Reproductive Biology at Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Utian is considered to be one of the most significant authorities on menopause and women's health issues.

Dr. Utian will be available on a limited basis for personal interviews. Contact Judy Cerne, McKinney Advertising & Public Relations, at 216/621-5133 or jcerne@mckinneyad.com to schedule an interview.

The Mission of NAMS, a nonprofit scientific organization, located in Mayfield Heights, Ohio, is to promote the health and quality of life of women through an understanding of menopause. The Society's membership of over 2,000 professionals representing a variety of disciplines—including clinical and basic science experts from medicine, nursing, pharmacy, anthropology, sociology, psychology, and complementary/alternative medicine—makes NAMS uniquely qualified to serve as the definitive resource for health professionals and the public for accurate, unbiased information about menopause (www.menopause.org).

###