

**National Foundation for Infectious Diseases Honors
Former President William J. Clinton
and Dr. John G. Bartlett
at NFID Annual Awards Gala**

President Clinton receives Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award; Dr. John G. Bartlett to receives Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement

The **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases** (NFID) honored **John G. Bartlett, MD** and former **President William Jefferson Clinton**, at its annual awards dinner on Thursday, March 31, 2005 at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Arlington, Virginia.

NFID presented the *Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement* to Dr. Bartlett for his outstanding accomplishments as scientist, educator, writer and innovator in the infectious diseases arena. The Maxwell Finland Award is given to a scientist who has made outstanding contributions to the understanding of infectious diseases or public health.

Former President Bill Clinton was honored with *the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Award for Humanitarian Contributions to the Health of Humankind* for his leadership in addressing the global HIV/AIDS pandemic through the William J. Clinton Foundation.

(more)

John E. Bartlett, MD

2005 Recipient

The Maxwell Finland Award

Dr. Bartlett has devoted his career to defining the discipline of infectious diseases as we know it today. “Dr. Bartlett has been a leader in the field of infectious diseases for almost 40 years and is considered an outstanding scientist, educator, scientific writer, innovator and clinician by his peers,” stated Donald M. Poretz, MD, NFID president.

In 1978, as an infectious disease researcher, he identified *Clostridium difficile* as the major agent of antibiotic-associated colitis, and he has also contributed significantly to our understanding of community acquired pneumonia and anaerobic infections. “His work with HIV particularly the role of primary care physicians and the development of managed care programs, have helped revolutionize our approach to this disease,” said Dr. Poretz.

Dr. Bartlett received his medical degree, in 1973, from Upstate Medical Center School of Medicine in New York. He served a residency in Internal Medicine at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston and the University of Alabama in Birmingham. He later participated in fellowship programs at UCLA School of Medicine and Wadsworth Veteran’s Administration Hospital. Dr. Bartlett has published almost 200 peer reviewed articles and contributed to almost 300 chapters, reviews and letters in medical literature.

“I can not think of more dedicated physicians, researcher, and care provider who has dedicated his life to this field in the same way Maxwell Finland dedicated his life in the same discipline,” said Thomas C. Quinn, MD, senior investigator and head of the International HIV/STD Research Laboratory at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIAID and professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Hon. William Jefferson Clinton

2005 Recipient

The Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Award

for Humanitarian Contributions to the Health of Humankind

As candidate for President in 1991, William J. Clinton repeatedly called for all-out efforts to “*turn back the tide of AIDS.*” As President, he led the global fight against HIV/AIDS. Under President Clinton, the U.S tripled funding for international AIDS programs in just two years – to \$466 million in FY 2001 – for prevention, care and treatment, and health infrastructure. In addition, President Clinton signed an Executive Order in May 2000 to help make HIV/AIDS-related drugs and medical technologies more affordable and accessible in beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries.

Since leaving the White House, President Clinton has continued to expand efforts to combat HIV/AIDS and has focused on strengthening care and treatment programs to developing countries. The **William J. Clinton Foundation HIV/AIDS Initiative** (www.clintonfoundation.org) has been a major player in making low cost, high-quality AIDS medicines and diagnostic tests available in the developing world.

Today, 40 million people are infected with HIV worldwide and 25 million have died from AIDS. It is estimated that another 45 million will die by 2010 unless immediate and decisive action is taken. Many of the world's poorer countries have neither the funds nor the public health resources to carry out effective diagnostic, care, and treatment programs and provide the antiretroviral (ARV) therapies necessary for treating AIDS. The problem is so severe that it affects the economic and political stability of the countries involved. It is in response to this challenge that President Clinton has made the HIV/AIDS Initiative one of the most important programs of the William J. Clinton Foundation.

The Clinton Foundation has sent teams of expert volunteers to affected countries in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean to help national governments develop comprehensive HIV/AIDS care, treatment and prevention plans that can dramatically increase the numbers of people being treated for the disease. "The goal is to help build systems and infrastructure needed to provide treatment of the millions of people living with HIV/AIDS and who currently go untreated," said Helene Gayle, MD, MPH Director, HIV, TB and Reproductive Health of the Global Health Program, at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Former President Jimmy Carter, who nominated former President Clinton for the 2005 Humanitarian Award, said: "The Clinton Foundation assists health leaders in these countries in implementing modern business procedures and protocols for the management of drug storage, tracking and distribution, and information sharing. In addition, with the collaboration and cooperation of a variety of government and non-governmental organization, the Clinton Foundation is facilitating a process to share data, experiences and resources. Equally impressive has been Bill Clinton's commitment to personally negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for the provision of low-cost AIDS drugs to those most in need but least able to afford them. Through his efforts triple-drug therapy will be available for about 38 cents a per day. His leadership will yield enormous benefits."

President Clinton has negotiated with five pharmaceutical companies — one in South Africa and four in India — to provide high-quality, low-cost AIDS drugs to developing countries. The Clinton Foundation has also made agreements with five medical equipment manufacturers to provide diagnostic tests at significantly reduced prices.

Past Recipients

Past recipients of ***the Maxwell Finland Award*** are distinguished researcher and academician George H. McCracken, Jr., MD, renowned pediatric infectious diseases physician; George W. Comstock, MD, DrPh, distinguished medical researcher; Jerome O. Klein, MD, distinguished scientist, clinician, and academician; Robert Austrian, MD, renowned researcher and academician; R. Gordon Douglas, MD, distinguished medical researcher and corporate leader; Stanley Falkow, PhD, pioneer in the field of microbial pathogenesis; Maurice R. Hilleman, PhD, renowned vaccine researcher; Joshua Lederberg, PhD, Nobel Prize winner and genetics research pioneer; the Honorable Paul G. Rogers, former congressman from Florida; the Honorable Dale Bumpers, former senator from Arkansas, and Mrs. Betty F. Bumpers, co-founder, “Every Child by Two”; Elizabeth Hanford Dole, former president, American Red Cross; Arthur Ashe, Jr., champion tennis player and humanitarian; Michael E. DeBakey, MD, chancellor, Baylor College of Medicine and renowned surgeon; Mrs. Albert Lasker, former president, Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation; P. Roy Vagelos, MD, former chief executive officer, Merck & Co., Inc; Anthony S. Fauci, MD, director, NIAID, NIH; and C. Everett Koop, MD, ScD, former United States surgeon general.

The first ***Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Award for Humanitarian Contributions to the Health of Humankind*** was presented in 1997 to President and Mrs. Carter. After that, President and Mrs. Carter agreed to NFID’s request to name the Award in their honor. In 1998, NFID presented this award to General Colin L. Powell. In 1999 the recipient was US Surgeon General and Assistant Secretary for Health, David Satcher, MD, PhD. In 2000, the honoree was philanthropist R. E. “Ted” Turner. In 2001 the award was presented to Senator John D. Rockefeller, IV. The 2002 award was presented to Bill and Melinda Gates. In 2003 the award was presented to former Illinois Congressman John Edward Porter and the 2004 the award was presented to prominent businessman and philanthropist, Henri Landwirth.