



**The George Arvidson Award
for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic Regulation
83rd Annual Congress
Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards
May 1, 2009 ■ Hollywood, California**

Presented by Dr. Daniel Saint-Germain, FCLB Vice President

*Opening remarks by Dr. Oliver R. Smith,
FCLB President:*

The George Arvidson Award for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic Regulation was created by the Federation in 1992.

This award is the Federation's highest individual honor.

Named for FCLB Past President Dr. George Arvidson of Minnesota, it recognizes integrity, service, sacrifice, vision, and commitment in the arena of chiropractic licensure.

The selection of the recipient is made thoughtfully and with joy as we continue to keep alive the dreams of George Arvidson, the gentle man with the great heart, the radiant smile, and the deep love for chiropractic and regulation.



*Dr. Oliver R. Smith, Jr., Dr. Daniel Saint-Germain,
and Dr. Vernon R. Temple (l to r)*

Each year, a right choice clearly emerges to uphold the honor represented by this prestigious award.

Our 1993 award began the tradition with journalist Don Petersen. Other honorees have included Drs. Rex Wright of Kansas, Brent Owens of Florida, and co-winners, Paul Tullio of Illinois and Frank Hideg of Kentucky. In 1997 the award went to Dr. Daniel Saint-Germain, and from there to Dr. Peter Ferguson.

In 1999 the Arvidson award went around the world to Australia – to Dr. Ed Devereaux. The new millennium in 2000 recognized Dr. Ken Padgett, followed by Mr. Horace Elliott. The FCLB then recognized Drs. Joe Brimhall, Larry Spicer, Louis Sportelli, and Richard Vincent. In 2006, the award went to Ms. Donna Liewer, FCLB Executive Director, 2007 honored Dr. Wayne Wolfson, and last year recognized Dr. Richard Cole.

In a surprise move, Dr. Daniel Saint-Germain, FCLB Vice President, took the microphone and continued the presentation.

Well, there is a little change of plans. The Arvidson Award this year is very important, and I have had the honor of being part of it. As an award winner in the past I gained the rights to be part of the revision of the award recipient.

So, with the permission of the president, I would like to help present the award for 2009. Actually, I will present it myself even if he does not give me permission.



**The 2009 George Arvidson Award
for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic Regulation**

Drs. Vernon R. Temple & Oliver R. "Bud" Smith, Jr.

Now that I have your attention, I would like Dr Smith to leave the podium and have a chair. I would like to tell you about the choice this year.

Sometimes the Arvidson Award recognizes service, and sometimes leadership. This year, it honors both qualities.

Leadership takes courage. It means you have to take chances, risk everything for what you believe is right.

Good leaders can tell a good story, to poke fun at themselves or to inspire their team. They are teachers. They know when to laugh; they know when to be serious. They also worry — more than they ever share — with anyone, even their best friends. This is because they care so much about what will happen in the future, and not so much about what is happening today.

They know that yesterday is gone, today is already half over, but tomorrow — ah, tomorrow — is everything. If we can just imagine it, we can create it.

Being in practice for over two decades helps to build leaders who put the patients first. They can listen from both the mind — and the heart. They can inspire the whole team to work together. This is leadership.

Maybe it doesn't hurt to also want to go fast. Maybe it's on a bicycle, maybe it's in a plane, or maybe in a race truck. In any case, I think there are a lot of old tires out there without any tread.

Hurry, hurry, faster — we have to get to the future. And we have to get there together. No one should be left behind.

It is also important to have integrity. This means to keep promises, and to know when to be stubborn. We still don't know who can be more stubborn: a cowboy from Texas or a carpenter from Vermont.

But the other half of integrity is flexibility. As long as what is really important does not change, strong leaders know when to bend, when to take another road — because all good roads lead to a good future.

The Arvidson Award this year goes to two men who have deep roots in the Federation. The total of their combined years of service to licensing boards is impressive. Both led their state boards as presidents, but both also saw a world of need — and opportunity — much bigger than their state boundaries.

They saw that they could make a difference, both through testing and through regulation. They came to help.

Their list of achievements is long for both FCLB and NBCE, but the Arvidson Award is not about tasks that can be written on a resume. It is about being a person of character, vision, leadership, and service. It is about teaching us how to be better leaders by being excellent leaders themselves.



**The 2009 George Arvidson Award
for Meritorious Service to Chiropractic Regulation**

Drs. Vernon R. Temple & Oliver R. "Bud" Smith, Jr.

And this year, it is also about using every leadership skill to help strengthen this Federation. Their good work has not just been about creating an historic financial Agreement that was carefully designed to protect both the FCLB and NBCE. It was about making sure that the relationship between two important organizations will grow ever stronger, ever more reliable, and ever more trustworthy, to be there for you, the licensing boards.

It was not an easy job. I will tell you that they yelled a little bit and worried a lot. And I swore that I will never reveal what was said at those hot moments. They brought the best of themselves as leaders to the table. And they brought the best of all of us to the table, too.

They have given every one of us, the people who make up this Federation, a strong future, characterized by hope.

They have drawn a road map for the next generation to follow. With this map, we cannot ever be lost. With this map, we find our way home but we also find our way to go out — into the world — to make a difference for the patients.

For ensuring that the FCLB will be here to serve the regulators of both this generation and the next generation, the 2009 George Arvidson Award Meritorious Service to Chiropractic Regulation goes to my good friends. One is known to run with scissors and one just wants to bring us home:

Dr. Vernon Temple and Dr. Oliver "Bud" Smith, Jr.

