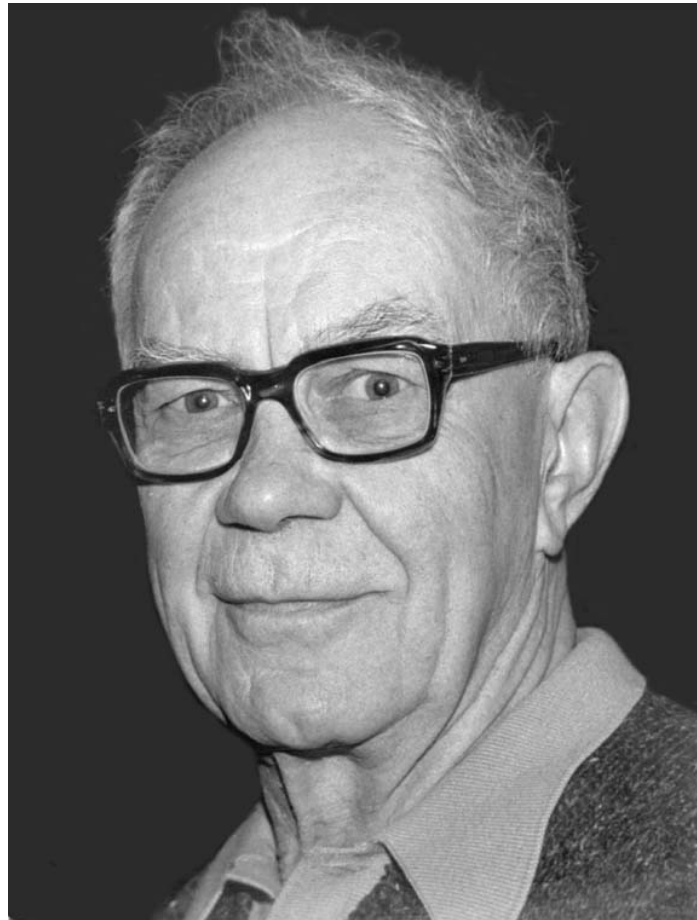


The Dominic D. Dziewiatkowski Award



Given in Recognition of Excellence in Student Research

Dominic D. Dziewiatkowski:

It was a nostalgic stroll across the Diag, with the Burton Tower carillon sending forth a Michigan song that tipped the scale in Dr. Dominic Donald Dziewiatkowski's decision to return to his alma mater in 1967 to become professor of dentistry, chairman of the Department of Oral Biology, director of the newly created Dental Research Institute, and professor of biological chemistry in the Medical School. Seventeen years later, on July 1, 1984, Dr. "Jay" (as he is affectionately known) began retirement furlough from the University of Michigan after an outstanding career in teaching, research, and administration.

At the time of his decision-making stroll, Dr. Jay was associate professor at The Rockefeller University in New York where he was carrying out extensive research studies on the metabolism of bone and cartilage and on the physiology of connective tissue. In addition, he organized and taught an intensive course in biochemistry for graduate fellows at Rockefeller, a course that became central to their studies. Prior to his 20-year tenure at Rockefeller, he had taught biochemistry for three years at the Vanderbilt University of Medicine and for two years at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health and had initiated major research on the metabolism of S-sulfate.

Born in Chicago in 1915, Dr. Jay Grew up on a farm in southwest Michigan where under tutelage of his father he developed a life-long interest in nature and a curiosity for "how things work." His intellectual interests led him to Western State Teachers College in Kalamazoo (now Western Michigan University) to earn the A.B. degree in chemistry and biology in 1939, and then to the University of Michigan for the M.S. degree in 1942 and the Ph.D. degree in 1943 in biochemistry. He recalls that he earned his way through college working at the Kalamazoo State Hospital on a study that explored whether mental illness has a chemical basis, this in the mid-1930's.

It was in Kalamazoo that he met his future wife, Naomi Roosevelt, a graduate of Kalamazoo College. They were married in 1942 and are parents of daughter, Jane Ann (a nurse), and grandparents of Samantha and Nathaniel.

In his career at the School of Dentistry, Dr. Jay served with distinction in his administrative roles as the first permanent chairman of the Department of Oral Biology and as the first director of the Dental Research Institute. With the goal of building closer ties between the basic sciences and clinical dentistry, he reorganized the curriculum in oral biology and, to staff DRI, searched out competent researchers to conduct studies in such areas as cell biology, microbiology, pathology, physiology, biological chemistry, pharmacology, and anatomy, studies that would focus on underlying causes of dental caries and disease. He relinquished the DRI directorship in 1972 and the department chairmanship in 1977 to devote more time to teaching and research.

Dr. Jay is known nationally and internationally for his research work and has published extensively in the areas of bone cartilage and metabolism, connective tissue, and the role of complex proteins in bone calcification. He has been a leader in many scientific organizations, including the American Society of Biological Chemists, the International Association for Dental Research, the Harvey Society, the Midwest Workshop on Connective Tissues, the Gordon

Conferences, the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research, the Sigma Xi Society, and the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, among others. In addition to his teaching and administrative duties, he served on many School committees and acted as consultant to the National Institute for Dental Research, the Veterans Administration, and the Governor's (Michigan) Task Force on Fluorides.

Dr. Jay's plan after retirement was to stay in Ann Arbor with "life going on pretty much the same - reading, writing, fishing, playing a little golf, and growing roses."

Faculty Obituary for Dr. Dominic Dziewiatkowski

Professor Emeritus Dominic Dziewiatkowski died on September 29, 1987, after suffering a ruptured aneurysm. He was 72 years old. Born in Chicago on February 20, 1915, "Dr. Jay" grew up on a farm in Southwest Michigan. He earned an A.B. degree in chemistry and biology from Western State Teachers College in Kalamazoo in 1939, then came to U-M, where he earned an M.S. in 1942 and a Ph.D. in 1943 in biochemistry. Dr. Dziewiatkowski taught biochemistry at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine from 1943 to 1946, and then at the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health from 1946 to 1948. In 1948, he accepted an associate professorship at The Rockefeller University in New York, where he carried out extensive research studies on the metabolism of bone cartilage and on the Physiology of connective tissue. In 1967, he returned to U-M as professor of dentistry, chair of the Department of Oral Biology, director of the Dental Research Institute, and professor of biological chemistry in the medical school. During his tenure at the School, he reorganized the oral biology curriculum to form closer ties with the basic Sciences and clinical dentistry. After an outstanding career in teaching, research, and administration, Dr. Jay began retirement furlough in July 1984. Dr. Dziewiatkowski was known nationally and internationally for his work in research and published extensively in the areas of bone and cartilage metabolism, connective tissue, and the role of complex proteins in bone calcification. He was a leader in many scientific organizations, including the American Society of Biological Chemists, the IADR, the Harvey Society, the Midwest Workshop on Connective Tissues, the Gordon Conferences, the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research, the Sigma Xi Society, and the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine, among others. He is survived by his wife, Naomi Roosevelt, whom he married in 1942, of Ann Arbor; his daughter, Jane Ann Dziewiatkowski Damren of Grosse Pointe, Michigan; and three grandchildren.

The Dr. Dominic D. Dziewiatkowski Award

The annual award was established in 1989 in memory of Dr. Dominic Donald Dziewiatkowski who chaired the Department of Oral Biology and directed the Dental Research Institute from 1967-1972. Dr. Dziewiatkowski is fondly remembered for his dedication to students. This award will be given annually in his memory to honor an outstanding student researcher.