



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
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## **Congratulations to Douglas C. Wallace, winner of the 2019 Charles L. Hoppel Prize for Outstanding Contributions in Mitochondrial Research!**

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The prize is supported by an endowment that was established to honor Dr. Hoppel's service to Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and his distinguished career in mitochondrial biology as a researcher, educator and mentor.

The winner of the third Charles L. Hoppel Prize, Douglas C. Wallace, PhD, is the Michael and Charles Barnett Endowed Chair in Pediatric Mitochondrial Medicine and Metabolic Disease and Director of the Center for Mitochondrial and Epigenomic Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Dr. Wallace was selected from a highly competitive pool of nominees based on the recognition of his extraordinary career achievements in mitochondrial biology. Moreover, his commitment to trainees and colleagues, his ability to advance discoveries from laboratories to patients, and his continued service to the broader community reflect the values that Charles Hoppel has displayed over his 50-year career as an academic scientist.

In a career spanning more than 40 years, Dr. Wallace has distinguished himself through his persistent approach to studying mitochondria and mitochondrial diseases. He founded the field of Mitochondrial Medical Genetics by defining the genetics of the human mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA), discovering the first mtDNA disease, and demonstrating that a wide spectrum of diseases are caused by mitochondrial genetic variation. He invented the transmitochondrial cybrid technique and defined the rules of cytoplasmic genetics. Wallace also demonstrated the maternal inheritance of the human mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and discovered regional mtDNA lineages (haplogroups) and delineated global mtDNA variation. He identified the first inherited mtDNA mutations for mitochondrial diseases and created the first mouse models of heritable mitochondrial diseases. For his contributions, Wallace is an elected member of the US National Academies of Science and Medicine, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Academy of Sciences of Italy.

In addition to his research accomplishments, Dr. Wallace's other career contributions have exemplified many of the values and attributes of Charles Hoppel's career. He has trained over 100 scientists as graduate and post-doctoral trainees. Wallace has altered the trajectory of many individuals including research associates and countless patients through his generous and focused efforts to advance mitochondrial research.

Dr. Wallace will receive the Prize on the occasion of presenting the third annual Charles L. Hoppel Lecture in the fall of 2019 at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, where he will describe his research in mitochondrial science.