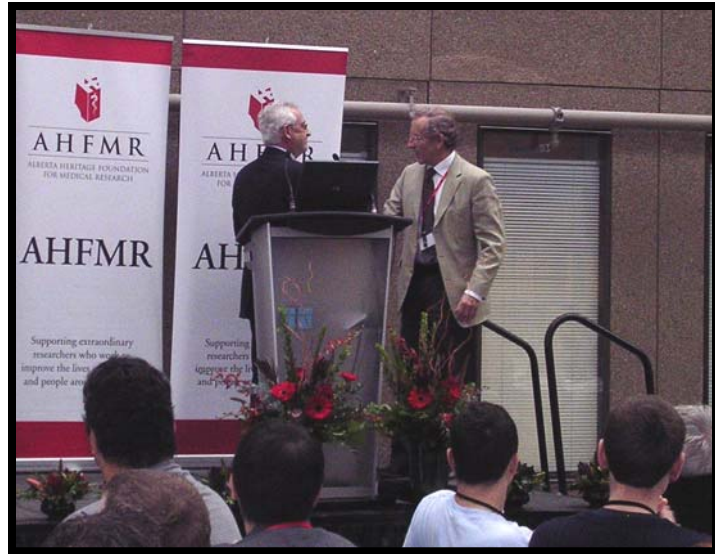


AHFMR Recognizes Libin Institute's Dr. Hendrik ter Keurs

On November 4th 2008, the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) presented the Libin Cardiovascular Institute of Alberta's Dr. Hendrik ter Keurs with an award recognizing him being an AHFMR funded scientist for twenty five years. This award is extremely significant, as after initial AHFMR funding, subsequent cycle funding comes only when researchers meet a gradually increasing merit threshold. As a result of this process, very few individuals reach the twenty-five year milestone. This year, AHFMR recognized a total of only three individuals from the University of Calgary for reaching the twenty-five year milestone.



Dr. Hendrik ter Keurs is a Professor in the Department of Physiology and Biophysics, of the University of Calgary's Faculty of Medicine. Dr. ter Keurs studies the causes and treatment of heart failure, including the mechanisms that control the force of the heart beat, and heart cells that survive after a heart attack. He has discovered a mechanism that is both responsible for the reaction of cardiac muscle contraction to calcium, and for the generation of arrhythmias in diseased hearts. Dr. ter Keurs also uses gene techniques to modify contractile proteins inside the cell.

The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research currently provides funding for more than 600 researchers and researchers-in-training at the University of Calgary, the University of Alberta, and the University of Lethbridge. AHFMR's commitment is to fund health research based on international standards of excellence. In 2005 the Alberta Government pledged an additional \$500 million to the Foundation's endowment. The endowment supports an annual investment of approximately \$60 million in health research in Alberta. Since 1980 AHFMR has committed more than \$1 billion in funding to Alberta's medical research community. For more information, visit www.ahfmr.ab.ca

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