



THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
IMMUNOLOGISTS

**Statement of Mark M. Davis, Ph.D., President of The American Association of Immunologists (AAI), Regarding Today's Announcement by Anthony S. Fauci, M.D. August 22, 2022**

The American Association of Immunologists (AAI), the nation's oldest and largest professional association of research scientists and physicians who study the immune system, expresses our deep gratitude to our esteemed member, Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., DFAAI (AAI '73), in response to his announced intent to step down from a career of extraordinary public service. As the longtime director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and Chief of its Laboratory of Immunoregulation, and more recently, as Chief Medical Advisor to President Joe Biden and a member of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, Dr. Fauci has played an invaluable role in advancing immunological discovery and its application to human health. His innumerable scientific achievements have been matched by his exceptional communication skills, which have not only strengthened NIAID and the research community it supports, but also provided the American public—and people around the globe—with clear, critically important scientific information, particularly during public health emergencies.

AAI has recognized Fauci for these and many other accomplishments through numerous awards:

- 2021: AAI Exceptional Leadership in Science Award, a special award to recognize Fauci for his extraordinary leadership during the global COVID-19 pandemic, including his guiding voice advocating that public health measures be based on scientific knowledge and his leadership in supporting the development and delivery of effective vaccines to allow the safe emergence from the pandemic
- 2019: Distinguished Fellows of AAI ("DFAAI") (inaugural class), recognizing long-standing AAI members for distinguished careers and outstanding scientific contributions as well as service to AAI and the immunology community
- 2005: AAI Lifetime Achievement Award, in recognition of his career of scientific achievement and contributions to AAI and fellow immunologists
- 2000: AAI Public Service Award, for his extraordinary leadership in advocating for biomedical research and advancing immunology.

An AAI member since 1973 (see his [profile page with oral history](#), recorded in 2015), Fauci is a past chair of the AAI Program Committee and past member of the AAI Clinical Immunology Committee. He has also served as a section editor, associate editor, and reviewer for *The Journal*

*of Immunology* and as a major symposium speaker and scientific and policy session panelist at numerous AAI annual meetings. During Virtual IMMUNOLOGY2021™, Fauci was a speaker in a special session entitled “COVID-19 and the Science of Pandemics—Lessons Learned;” and at IMMUNOLOGY2006™, he spoke in a prescient session entitled, “Pandemics and Bioterrorism: Why Immunology Research May Save the World.”

An advisor to seven presidents on domestic and global health issues, Fauci is an internationally renowned immunologist and clinician who has made fundamental contributions to basic and clinical research on the pathogenesis and treatment of immune-mediated diseases while helping to pioneer the field of human immunoregulation. Since 1984, Fauci has directed research efforts at NIAID and by NIAID-funded extramural scientists, nationally and internationally. As the long-time chief of the NIAID Laboratory of Immunoregulation, his seminal findings have elucidated the immunopathogenesis of, and the immune response to, HIV.

As NIAID director, Fauci oversees a research portfolio of more than \$6 billion dedicated to basic and applied research to prevent, diagnose, and treat established infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and emerging diseases such as Ebola, Zika, and COVID-19. NIAID also supports research studying the basic biology of the immune system, transplantation biology, autoimmune disorders, allergies, and respiratory illness such as asthma.

Fauci has been recognized for his dedicated public service and scientific accomplishments with numerous awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom (the highest honor given to a civilian by the President of the United States), the National Medal of Science, the George M. Kober Medal of the Association of American Physicians, the Mary Woodard Lasker Award for Public Service, and the Robert Koch Gold Medal. More recently he was named as the 2020 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Federal Employee of the Year and was the recipient of the 2021 Dan David International Prize for Public Health. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Medicine, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

AAI looks forward to continuing to work with Fauci for the duration of his government tenure and to maintaining our longstanding relationship as he pursues new ways to advance biomedical research and strengthen the research enterprise.