



International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements, Inc.

September 1, 2021

21st Gray Medal Recipient: Professor Mary Gospodarowicz



The International Commission on Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU) is pleased to announce that the 21st Gray Medal was presented to Professor Mary Gospodarowicz at the ESTRO Conference held in Madrid, Spain 27-31 August 2021.

Mary Gospodarowicz was born in Gdansk, Poland and received her medical degree from the University of Toronto followed by specialty certifications in internal medicine, radiation oncology and medical oncology. She joined the faculty at Princess Margaret Hospital, University of Toronto in 1978 and has been enormously productive since then, influencing the education of health professionals on a global level and the care of countless patients with cancer. She became chief of the Radiation Medicine Program in 2001, and was appointed Medical Director of the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in 2005, as well as Regional Vice-President of Cancer Care Ontario for Toronto Central South.

Mary has made substantial contributions in global health with the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) and partner organizations, with formidable achievements that earned her the Presidency of the UICC in 2012. She initiated the Global Task Force on Radiotherapy under the auspices of UICC and Lancet Oncology, resulting in the seminal report on "Expanding the global access to radiotherapy" that provided evidence for the demand, efficacy, and cost-effectiveness of radiotherapy throughout the world, and especially a call to address inequalities in access in low and middle income countries. She also participated in the Lancet Commission on Global Access to Pain Control & Palliative Care. She has also been at the heart of cancer staging and prognostic factor assessments and risk group development for many years and presently is co-Chair of the UICC TNM / Prognostic Factors Project and a former Chair of the Canadian Committee on Cancer Staging. She has authored in excess of 350 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and has been involved in important research studies of second cancers in survivors following radiotherapy. She is an international expert in the management of lymphoma and GU cancers and has additional research interests that include clinical trials evaluating radiation therapy in cancer treatment, image-guided precision radiotherapy, and survivorship.

Mary has also held a great many additional leadership positions that include past Presidency of the Canadian Association of Radiation Oncologists, and received honorary memberships in several international cancer societies. She is the recipient of prominent awards including the ESTRO Lifetime Achievement Award, the Janeway Medal from the American Radium Society, the ASTRO Gold Medal, and the Harold O. Warwick Prize from the Canadian Cancer Society. In 2015, she was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada (OC).