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Bronfort Receives 2012 Lincoln Research Prize

On August 25, 2012, at the Florida Chiropractic Association National Convention in Orlando, Florida, Gert Bronfort, DC, PhD was awarded the 2012 Lincoln Research Prize for Chiropractic and Biomechanics. Among the outstanding nominees for the Prize, Dr. Bronfort was selected for demonstrating excellence in clinical research that most significantly contributed to the body of knowledge and also directly impacted patient care over the past three years.

The Prize was founded by its three sponsors, the Florida Chiropractic Foundation for Education & Research (FCF), Lincoln Chiropractic College Education & Research Fund (LCERF), and Florida Chiropractic Association (FCA), along with the Lincoln Endowed Research Chair at the University of South Florida, in order to bring attention to chiropractic research and build the image of chiropractic in the scientific research community worldwide. The Prize is awarded to an individual who demonstrates the most outstanding research productivity in patient-oriented, epidemiological, and health outcomes research related to chiropractic care. At \$20,000, the Lincoln Research Prize is the largest research prize in the chiropractic profession. The Inaugural Lincoln Research Prize was awarded to Dr. Scott Haldeman in 2011.

During 2009-2011, Dr. Bronfort was the lead scientist on three new large

federal research grants designed to determine the effectiveness of chiropractic manipulation and exercise for headache, low back pain, and spinal dysfunction. In addition to research grants, academic responsibilities, and other services to the profession, Dr. Bronfort is also a member of the Cochrane Back Review Group, an NIH advisory council, and helped the British Chiropractic Association defend the profession against a landmark lawsuit. During 2009-2011, Dr. Bronfort also published numerous peer-reviewed research papers in high impact journals, and gave several important scientific presentations around the world about chiropractic care.

Dr. Bronfort's career research accomplishments are numerous, including over 100 published scientific papers, book chapters, and abstracts, service on several US and international committees related to spine care, and principal investigator on multiple major federal grants. He cur-

About the Florida Chiropractic Foundation

A not-for-profit organization, the Florida Chiropractic Foundation funds chiropractic scholarships and research. To learn more about the Foundation, visit www.floridachiropracticfoundation.org or call 407-654-3225.

rently holds the position of Vice President of Research at Northwestern Health Sciences University. He earned a DC degree from Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College, and a PhD degree from Vrije University of Amsterdam. Borrowing the words of a prominent researcher who provided a letter of recommendation, "Dr. Bronfort is recognized as one of the most productive clinical researchers in the history of the chiropractic profession." Dr. Bronfort indicated that he will donate a portion of the prize money to help support opportunities for chiropractic researchers in training.

The three sponsors of the Lincoln Research Prize—FCF, LCERF and FCA—collaborated over a decade ago to raise funds for the endowment of the Lincoln Chair at the University of South Florida, the first fully endowed chair in chiropractic and biomechanics at a public university. All three sponsors have committed to the annual funding of the \$20,000 prize. On behalf of the sponsors, FCF Chairman Dr. Ken Dougherty noted, "The Lincoln Prize, as initially proposed by Dr. Ed Williams, FCA CEO Emeritus, is designed to further implement and encourage chiropractic research and to build its image in the scientific community."

The Lincoln Research Prize was named to highlight its relationship to the Lincoln



Gert Bronfort, D.C., Ph.D., 2012 Lincoln Research Prize Winner (center), is congratulated by the Lincoln Chair and sponsor representatives: (from left) John Mayer, D.C., Ph.D., Lincoln Chair at the University of South Florida; Craig Newman, D.C., President, Florida Chiropractic Association; Ken Padgett, D.C., President, Lincoln Chiropractic Education and Research Fund; and Ken Dougherty, D.C., President, Florida Chiropractic Foundation.

Chair and to further perpetuate the name of Lincoln Chiropractic College, a highly regarded chiropractic institution before it merged with the National College of Chiro-

practic in the late 1970s. The former LCERF chairman, Dr. Ed Maurer, engaged the LCERF and FCA to initiate the funding effort for the Lincoln Chair in 1995. **FCA**