



COLLEGIUM RAMAZZINI



TOWN OF CARPI

The Collegium Ramazzini and the Town of Carpi are proud to recognize

RICHARD A. LEMEN

As Ramazzini Award recipient for 2019

Dr. Richard Lemen has worked for over 50 years as an epidemiologist and leader in occupational health. He has dedicated his professional life to protecting the health and improving the working conditions of people in countries around the world.

Dr. Lemen is a native of Missouri. He began his long career in public health in 1967 as a Preventive Medicine Specialist in the United States Army. In 1970, he joined the United States Bureau of Occupational Safety and Health, the predecessor to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). There he was involved in some of the first epidemiological studies of workers exposed to asbestos and beryllium in the United States, and he visited some of the most heavily contaminated industrial facilities in North America. In subsequent years, Dr. Lemen became involved in a series of pioneering NIOSH studies, including investigations of workers exposed occupationally to bischloromethyl ether, benzidine-based dyes, styrene and butadiene. Findings from these studies provided the foundation for exposure standards that have saved the lives of many thousands of working men and women.

In 1980, Dr. Lemen was appointed Director of the NIOSH Division of Criteria Documentation and Standards Development. There he was responsible for translating findings from epidemiological studies into recommendations on occupational health standards that could be transmitted to the US Department of Labor. He contributed to the development of standards on asbestos, beryllium and rubber chemicals and to policies protecting workers against cancer, heart disease, and neurological impairment.

Dr. Lemen served subsequently as Assistant Director, then Acting Director and finally Deputy Director of NIOSH. He was awarded the US Public Health Service Distinguished Service Medal and the Surgeon General's Exemplary Service Medal. He retired from the US Public Health Service in 1996 at the rank of Assistant Surgeon General.

Over the past two decades, Dr. Lemen has continued his work as a scientific advocate for workers with a particular focus on protecting the health of workers exposed to asbestos. He has served as the Senior Scientific Advisor of the Center to Protect Workers' Rights. He is an Adjunct Professor of Environmental Health at the Rollins School of Public Health of Emory University. He is Co-Chair of the Science Advisory Board of the Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization. He was appointed by President Barack Obama to the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health and served in that capacity for nine years - from 2009 to 2018. He has appeared as a formidable expert in legal proceedings on behalf of the victims of asbestos.

Dr. Richard Lemen is a true follower of Bernardino Ramazzini. In his life's work, he has combined high scientific achievement with tireless public service and evidence-based advocacy. He has followed in the footsteps our founders, Professors Irving J. Selikoff and Cesare Maltoni.

It is an enormous privilege for the Collegium Ramazzini and the Town of Carpi to bestow the Ramazzini Award for 2019 upon our dear friend, a beloved colleague and public health hero - Dr. Richard A. Lemen.

Carpi, Ottobre 26, 2019

PHILIP J. LANDRIGAN, M.D.
Presidentwnte

MORANDO SOFFRITTI, M.D.
Secretary General

ALBERTO BELLELLI
Major of Carpi