

2016 Governor Rudy Perpich Award: Dr. Lucinda Bateman

Presented by Dr. Lily Chu

The late Governor Rudy Perpich led Minnesota for a decade and was an IACFS/ME Board Member. He worked hard to influence his fellow politicians in other states and in Washington, DC to recognize CFS. In recognition of Gov. Perpich's distinguished service to the ME/CFS community, we present an award to a distinguished CFS/FM scientist, physician or healthcare worker every Conference. Our two prior winners were Dr. Nancy Klimas and Dr. Lenny Jason.

This year's winner of the Rudy Perpich award is Dr. Cindy Bateman. Dr. Bateman obtained her BS and MS degree from BYU, graduated from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, completed her internal medicine residency at the University of Utah, and has been a Board-certified internist since 1991. She initially practice general internal medicine but in 2000, shifted her focus to ME/CFS, fibromyalgia, and chronic fatigue, inspired by the experiences of her sister, Shauna Bateman Horne. Since then she has taken care of thousands of patients, published several important research projects, and educated many people about these conditions, through serving on the faculty of the University of Utah, consulting with the US CDC, co-founding the he non-profit, OFFER (The Organization for Fatigue and Fibromyalgia Education and Research) and serving on the IACFS/ME Board, CFIDS Association for America (now Solve CFS) Board, and the US CFSAC. I have had the great honor of interacting with Cindy for the last 6 years. She encouraged me to join the IACFS/ME Board back in 2011 and provided a scientifically-based yet practical, patient-centered approach to diagnosing ME/CFS when I served on the IOM Committee with her in 2014.

Cindy's current passion is building a Center of Excellence for ME/CFS that will provide knowledgeable compassionate care for all patients, house an active research program, and educate scientists, clinicians, and the public. She has contributed much to this field.....much more than I can cover in these few moments. Please join me in giving Cindy a round of applause!