FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2019 JOSEPH W. ST. GEME, JR. LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT ANNOUNCED

Washington, DC - The Federation of Pediatric Organizations (FOPO) is delighted to name F. Bruder Stapleton MD, the 2019 recipient of the Joseph W. St. Geme, Jr. Leadership Award. Dr. Stapleton will receive the award on Saturday, April 27, 2019, at the Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting’s Opening General Session in Baltimore, MD.

The Joseph W. St. Geme, Jr. Leadership Award was created in honor of Dr. St. Geme to recognize a pediatrician who is a role model for others to emulate as a clinician, an educator, and/or an investigator. Recipients of this award have a record of broad and sustained contributions to pediatrics that will have a major impact on child health. Most importantly, the award recognizes those individuals who have “created a future” within the field.

Dr. Stapleton is Senior Vice President of Scientific Affairs at Seattle Children’s Research Institute. Dr. Stapleton is an outstanding pediatric leader who has contributed meaningful changes for the future health care of children, the education of pediatricians, and the vibrancy of key pediatric organizations.

Over the course of his 40-year career, he has served in countless leadership roles in academic institutions and professional societies, which included an impressive 22-year tenure as the Chair of Pediatrics at the University of Washington School of Medicine and joint leadership roles at Seattle Children’s Hospital. Dr. Stapleton first found joy, value and challenges in the field of medicine as a pediatric nephrologist committed to caring for children from underserved communities with kidney disease. He made significant contributions both as an investigator and as a clinician, becoming a respected expert in pediatric nephrology on a broad range of topics, most particularly hypercalciuria and urolithiasis.
Since being drawn to leadership as a way to have a bigger impact, Dr. Stapleton has engaged in mentoring future leaders, new chairs and innumerable residents. His dedication to advancing pediatric academics helped established him as an important national and international figure on the value of pediatric medical education. Among the many forward-thinking educational initiatives he spearheaded include efforts to create a family-friendly learning environment for pediatric trainees and the establishment of a residency track program in Alaska as one way to address a shortage of primary care pediatricians in the Pacific Northwest.

Dr. Stapleton is well recognized for his visionary and sustained work in promoting a culture of equity and diversity in pediatrics. It is his long-held belief that a diverse pediatric workforce needs to be representative of the communities it serves and inclusive of many different viewpoints in order to provide culturally-relevant care and biomedical research that will positively impact the future of children in the U.S.

He created the American Pediatric Society (APS) Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion to address diversity in pediatric medicine at the national level. With his founding vision, the committee has since made far-reaching impact, serving as a catalyst for other leading pediatric professional organizations to create diversity initiatives of their own. In his memorable APS presidential address, entitled “Mind the Diversity Gap”, Dr. Stapleton inspired many with his commitment to advancing the careers of all underrepresented individuals in pediatric medicine, many of whom are women and minority populations.

FOPO is composed of the American Academy of Pediatrics, Academic Pediatric Association, American Pediatric Society, American Board of Pediatrics, Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs, Association of Pediatric Program Directors, and Society for Pediatric Research. The purpose of FOPO is to promote optimal health for children by building on the efforts and expertise of the member organizations, and on the relationships between the member organizations to accomplish shared goals.

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BIOSKETCH: F. Bruder Stapleton, MD

Bruder Stapleton, MD, is Senior Vice President of Scientific Affairs at Seattle Children’s Research Institute. He serves as a bridge between the institute’s business operations and academic affairs team working to ensure optimal integration to best serve Seattle Children’s mission. He served as Seattle Children’s Chief Academic Officer from 2007 to 2019 and pediatrician-in-chief from 1996 to 2007. In addition, he was the Ford/Morgan Endowed Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and the Associate Dean of the University of Washington School of Medicine from 1996 to 2018.

At the University of Tennessee, he served as Chief of the Division of Pediatric Nephrology at the University of Tennessee, where he founded the pediatric General Clinical Research Center. He served as A. Conger Goodyear Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and pediatrician-in-chief and medical director for Children’s Hospital of Buffalo in New York. He has served as secretary-treasurer and president of the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology, assistant secretary-general and treasurer of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association, president of the Southern Society for Pediatric Research, chairman of the Sub-Board of Pediatric Nephrology of the American Board of Pediatrics and member of its Board of Directors, and member of the Council of Pediatric Research for the American Academy of Pediatrics. He was the President of the American Pediatric Society and is founding editor-in-chief of Journal Watch Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine. He is also the Co-Editor-in-Chief of UptoDate Pediatrics and editor of the Oxford Handbook of Pediatrics. He is head of the Data Safety Monitoring Board for the NIH National Study of Kidney Disease in Children (CKiDS).

He received the University of Kansas Outstanding Medical Alumnus award in 2010 and the University of Washington School of Medicine Outstanding Resident Alumnus Award in 2017.