

**ASMR Medical Research Week®
Thursday June 8, 2006**

Professor William (Bill) Brinkley, ASMR Medallist 2006

"Celebrating Health and Medical Research in Australia: A Renaissance for Discovery and Opportunity"

Professor William (Bill) Brinkley is Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Molecular & Cellular Biology, Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA.

A former President of The Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology (FASEB), a 60,000 member federation that supports and promotes America's leadership in basic and clinical research, Brinkley feels that it is important for every scientist to become involved in establishing government science policy.

Professor Brinkley is touring Australia as the ASMR Medallist Lecturer.

His message is about the opportunities created by the recent increases in Australian Government funding for Health and Medical Research and what Australians should expect from the future of the health research endeavour.

"America is poised to lose it's pre-eminent position as the worlds leader in health and medical research", Professor Brinkley said. He urged Australian researchers to make the most of the current opportunities. "The USA", Professor Brinkley said, "will suffer a continuing decline in medical research output if our leaders do not follow the example of the Australian Government by increasing funding to appropriate levels".

Biographical information from <http://www.asmr.org.au/media/index.html>

For interviews with Professor Brinkley, contact:

Dr Sarah Meachem on 0412 640 774
or Catherine West on 0415 928 211

Professor Brinkley will be speaking at the ASMR Medical Research Week® Dinner, Grand Ballroom, Hyatt Hotel, Melbourne.

**COMMONWEALTH HEALTH MINISTER'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH AND
MEDICAL RESEARCH (\$50,000) TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE DINNER**