

2017 Council Resolution 9: In Memory of Robert Wears, MD, FACEP

Council Action: ADOPTED

Board Action: ADOPTED

Status: Completed

SUBMITTED BY: Florida College of Emergency Physicians

WHEREAS, The specialty of emergency medicine lost a premier researcher, staunch advocate, compassionate physician, dedicated educator, and dear friend and colleague in Robert Wears MD, FACEP, who passed away July 16, 2017, at the age of 70; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears was an active and contributing member of both national ACEP and the Florida College of Emergency Physicians since their beginnings and was recognized with life fellow status since 1980; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears was an associate editor for *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, as well as serving on the editorial boards of *Human Factors and Ergonomics*, the *Journal of Patient Safety*, and the *International Journal of Risk and Safety in Medicine*; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears graduated from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and was in the very first class of emergency medicine residents at the University of Florida College of Medicine Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears earned a master's degree in computer sciences from the University of North Florida and a doctorate degree in industrial safety from the Crisis & Risk Research Centre at the Ecole des Mines de Paris - Paris Institute of Technology in France; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears served as a Professor at the University of Florida College of Medicine Jacksonville for over 40 years, as well as a visiting Professor in the Clinical Safety Research Unit at Imperial College London; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears was an international leader and expert in patient safety, and his internationally recognized research led to improvements in patient care by focusing on human factors engineering, including the study of team dynamics during emergency department shift changes and patient-care handoffs; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears published more than 150 articles in medical journals around the world, more than 20 book chapters, and co-edited five books; and WHEREAS, Dr. Wears was a mentor to so many students, residents, and young faculty throughout his career being generous with his time, vast knowledge, and his wisdom; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears touched the lives of countless individuals as an educator, physician, role model, mentor, colleague, friend, and devoted husband and father; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears was a pioneering force in academic emergency medicine and a masterful, yet humble, academic scholar who was always in "learner mode" and the pursuit of new knowledge; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Wears shaped the future of emergency medicine, not only in Florida, but throughout the nation, whose leadership and continuous innovations resulted in improved system efficiency, and ultimately, more effective patient care; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the American College of Emergency Physicians remembers with gratitude and honors the

many contributions made by Robert Wears, MD, FACEP, as one of the leaders in emergency medicine and a true pioneer of the specialty; and be it further

RESOLVED, That national ACEP and the Florida College of Emergency Physicians extends to his wife, Dianne Wears, his children and grandchildren, his friends, and his colleagues our condolences and gratitude for his tremendous service to the specialty of emergency medicine.

Background:

Strategic Plan Reference:

Prior Council Action:

Prior Board Action:

Council Action:

The Council adopted Resolution 1(17) on October 28, 2017.

Testimony:

Board Action:

The Board adopted Resolution 1(17) on November 1, 2017.

References:

Implementation Action:

A framed resolution was prepared for Dr. Wears' family.

Background Information Prepared by:

Reviewed by: