

# The Louis Schmidt Award

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|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1948 – Leo C. Massopust, FBPA          | 1977 – Lardner A. Coffey, RBP, FBPA  |
| 1949 – Anne Shiras, FBPA               | 1978 – John P. Vetter, RBP, FBPA     |
| 1950 – Stella Zimmer, FBPA             | 1979 – Donald H. Fritts, RBP, FBPA   |
| 1951 – Ralph P. Creer, FBPA            | 1980 – Fritz Goro, RBP, FBPA         |
| 1952 – Leonard A. Julin, RBP, FBPA     | 1981 – I. Lloyd Matlovsky, RBP, FBPA |
| 1953 – Oscar W. Richards, PhD, FBPA    | 1982 – Leslie Bowcock, MD, AIMBI     |
| 1954 – Ferdinand R. Harding, RBP, FBPA | 1983 – H. Paul Newman, RBP, FBPA     |
| 1955 – C. Graham Eddy, FBPA            | 1984 – Percy Brooks, RBP, FBPA       |
| 1956 – Mervin W. LaRue, Sr., FBPA      | 1985 – Leon J. LeBeau, FBPA          |
| 1957 – Lloyd E. Varden, RBP, FBPA      | 1986 – Nile Root, RBP, FBPA          |
| 1958 – Albert Levin, RBP, FBPA         | 1987 – Martin L. Scott, FBPA         |
| 1959 – Paul H. Holinger, MD, FBPA      | 1988 – Ralph J. Marshall, PhD        |
| 1960 – H. Lou Gibson, RBP, FBPA        | 1989 – Thomas P. Hurtgen, FBPA       |
| 1961 – Warren Sturgis, RBP, FBPA       | 1990 – Raymond E. Lund, RBP, FBPA    |
| 1962 – Stanley J. McComb, RBP, FBPA    | 1991 – Robert F. Sisson, RBP, FBPA   |
| 1963 – Marie E. Ikenberg, RBP, FBPA    | 1992 – Nicholas M. Graver, RBP, FBPA |
| 1964 – Peter Hansell, MD, RBP, FBPA    | 1993 – A. Robin Williams, FBPA       |
| 1965 – Howard E. Tribe, RBP, FBPA      | 1994 – Will E. Renner, RBP, FBPA     |
| 1966 – John V. Butterfield, FBPA       | 1995 – Dan Patton, RBP, FBPA         |
| 1967 – not awarded                     | 1996 – Kenneth V. Michaels, FBPA     |
| 1968 – Chester F. Reather, RBP, FBPA   | 1997 – Ronald F. Irvine, RBP, FBPA   |
| 1969 – Laurence B. Brown, RBP, FBPA    | 1998 – Heather Angel, FRPS, FBIPP    |
| 1970 – Verlin Y. Yamamoto, RBP, FBPA   | 1999 – Richard M. Williams, FBPA     |
| 1971 – Stephen P. Dittman, RBP, FBPA   | 2000 – Herbert R. Smith, Jr., FBPA   |
| 1972 – Clifford L. Freehe, RBP, FBPA   | 2001 – William J. Stenstrom, FBPA    |
| 1973 – Stanley Klosevych, RBP, FBPA    | 2002 – W. David Tredinnick, FBPA     |
| 1974 – Roger P. Loveland, FBPA         | 2003 – Joseph Ogrodnick, FBPA        |
| 1975 – E. Lynn Baldwin, RBP, FBPA      | 2004 – Robert C. Turner, RBP, FBPA   |
| 1976 – Charles P. Hodge, RBP, FBPA     | 2005 – Samuel Giannavola, RBP, FBPA  |

2006 – Gigi Williams, FBPA

## The 2006 Louis Schmidt Laureate



*Gigi Williams, FBPA*

# The Louis Schmidt Award

**T**his Award – the highest given in the BCA – is named for our second President. It is awarded annually for “outstanding contributions to the progress of biological communications.” The selection of the recipient each year is made by a committee composed of the nine most recent winners. This selection is subject to the approval of the Board of Governors.

Mr. Schmidt was in charge of photography at the Rockefeller Institute in New York City and was a founding member of the BPA in 1931. He had an abiding interest in sharing his photographic knowledge with his students and in promoting the highest technical standards in our association.

In 1943, on the occasion of his death, the BPA Journal commented, “In many ways, the BPA is a monument to Louis Schmidt.”

To give special distinction to the Award, those who receive it are known as “Louis Schmidt Laureates.”

The BioCommunications Association, Inc. is grateful to Mrs. Mary Lappan Vetter, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for the generous gift of a 100-year-old, gold-headed cane. It was received August 4, 1990, in Phoenix, Arizona. The cane is part of the BCA Louis Schmidt Award and was presented the first time to Robert F. Sisson on August 3, 1991, in Tampa, Florida.

The gold head is composed of heavy inlaid gold on a copper base. The principal value of the cane is due to the goldsmith’s ability to create and fashion a design of elegant beauty. The cane’s original owner was Dr. Goebel who received it in a presentation of unknown designation in 1902. It came into Mrs. Mary Lappan Vetter’s possession upon the death of her uncle, Father Thomas T. Lappan.

Many universities, colleges and hospitals in Great Britain and America have adopted the practice of awarding a gold-headed cane as the highest honor that can be bestowed on one of their staff members. The BioCommunications Association, through the generous gift of Mary Vetter, is pleased to present this special cane as its highest honor.

# The 2006 Louis Schmidt Laureate

## *Gigi Williams, FBPA*

Gigi Williams has made outstanding contributions to biological communications for over 25 years. She began her career as a medical photographer at Royal Melbourne Hospital in 1981 and joined the Royal Children’s Hospital a year later. She was rapidly promoted to Chief Medical Photographer and, in 1989, was appointed the Director of the Education Resource Centre (ERC).

Gigi has successfully transformed the Education Resource Centre into a cost-effective, high-quality business. Her vision and leadership have contributed to the ERC being recognized nationally and internationally for setting the highest possible standards in audio-visual presentations and publications in the clinical field. This is evident from the vast list of awards credited to her staff. Gigi has also been the recipient of a number of awards for photography, for presentations at international conferences, and for papers published in international journals.

Gigi has a seemingly endless capacity for hard work, evident from her participation in a number of hospital committees, including Consumer Health Information, Allied Health Professionals, Web Advisory, Signage, and Archives, just to name a few. Gigi’s warmth and understanding, humor and dedication, and her ability to solve problems endear her to her colleagues. In 2004 Gigi was the recipient of the Chairman’s Medal of the Royal Children’s Hospital in recognition of her wisdom, integrity, mentorship, and inspiration to the many staff across the hospital.

She has been on the organizing committees of several international conferences, including the World Congress held in the USA in 1994 and the one held in Amsterdam in 1999. Her special interests are measurement using photography, pediatric medical photography, and photography with invisible radiation, on which she wrote a 50,000-word thesis to gain her Fellowship of the Royal Photographic Society. She is also a Fellow of the Biological Photographic Association (BCA) and the Australian Institute of Medical and Biological Illustration. She has served as AIMBI’s national president.

Gigi is co-author of a number of medical photography articles on the Medical and Scientific Photography web site (<http://msp.rmit.edu.au/>), which is designed as a resource base for doctors, scientists and students wanting practical information on medical and scientific imaging techniques. She currently resides in Melbourne, Australia, with her husband, Robin, and her sons, Huw and Peter.

