

CSCC Award for Research Excellence
Sponsored by Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics

Dr. Jean-Claude Forest

Jean-Claude Forest earned his BSc A in 1967. This was followed by a PhD from Carleton University (1971), and a MD from l'Université de Sherbrooke (1975). After a residency in Medical Biochemistry at the affiliated hospitals of Laval University, he received the certification in Medical Biochemistry by the College of Physicians of the Province of Québec. In 1986, he became a Founding Fellow of the CACB. He is also Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.

Dr. Forest is Chief of the Medical Biochemistry Service and a Member of the Lipidology Service of the « Centre hospitalier universitaire de Québec ». He is also Professor in the Department of Medical Biology of the Faculty of Medicine of Laval University. Dr. Forest is the Founding Director of the « Centre de recherche de l'Hôpital St-François d'Assise », an affiliated Research Center to Laval University, now staffed with more than 350 people including researchers, research assistants, graduate and post-graduate students involved in research related to human reproduction, human genetics, perinatology, and biomaterials. He has been Vice-Dean of Research and Graduate Studies of the Faculty of Medicine of Laval University from 1994 to 1998. His interests in research include development of biological markers for screening and diagnosis of diseases associated with pregnancy and to the neonatal period. He has also developed a number of methods used in clinical biochemistry leading to two patents and he has also been involved in evaluation of clinical laboratory technologies. Over the past 15 years, he has been continuously funded by the major research granting agencies in Canada. He is the author or co-author of more than 275 scientific papers, book chapters and communications. He has been Associate Editor of Clinical Biochemistry from 1992 to 1998. He is also an invited reviewer for a number of Scientific Journals. Through the years, he has been Member or Chair of numerous scientific committees at the provincial or national level. In particular, he has been Member of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee of the « Fonds de recherche en santé du Québec » (1991-1999). More recently, in March 2000, he was appointed Director of the New Quebec Research Network for Human Reproduction, Child Development and Well Being. His task is to establish a Research Network regrouping researchers from all horizons interested by child development and wellbeing.

Dr. Forest is serving at the international level on many scientific committees and research organizations. As example, he is a Founding Member of the Tri-National Research Group on Determinants of Preeclampsia (Canada, Mexico, USA). After having been Member, and thereafter Vice-Chair, of the Scientific Division of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC), he was appointed, on January 2000, Chair of this Division. He is regularly invited to sit on Scientific Committee of international congresses in the field of laboratory medicine.

Jean-Claude Forest's contribution to education has also been diverse and intense. He has supervised a number of graduate students, post-doctoral research fellows and residents in medical biochemistry and other disciplines over the past 15 years. He has been very influential in restructuring the Residency Program in Medical Biochemistry and introducing a Network Residency Program in Medical Biochemistry in the Province of Québec in which all four faculties of medicine and affiliated teaching hospitals participate. He is now the Director of this Network Program in Medical Biochemistry since 1992 after serving for many years as Chairman of the Admission, Evaluation, and Promotion Committee. Throughout his career he has not only taught undergraduates and residents but also participated in continuing education of physicians, technologists and other health care professionals.

His dedication to the profession and to the CSCC (Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists) through his record of service to the profession. Over the years he has served on many CSCC committees, including Member of Council (1984-1986), President Elect (1987-1989) and President (1989-1991) of the CSCC. He also participated in the organization of the 1983 Annual Meeting and was Chair of the Organizing Committee of the 1994 Annual Meeting in Québec City.