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National Pharmacy Organization Awards UH-Hilo Pharmacy Dean Top Research Honors

Volwiler Award recipient is leader in the field of natural products.

The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy has selected **John M. Pezzuto**, Ph.D., Dean of the [Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy](#), to receive its top research award.

Pezzuto will receive the [2014 Volwiler Research Achievement Award](#) for his **outstanding research and contributions to the field of natural product drug discovery**. The award will be announced in July at the [2014 Annual Meeting](#) in Grapevine, Texas, and will be published in *Academic Pharmacy Now* and on the AACP Web site.

“It is a tremendous honor, and I am very grateful for being recognized by the AACP in this manner,” Pezzuto said. “Over the years I have had the privilege of working with many fine colleagues, students, postdocs and visiting scholars. We continue to hope our hard work will make a difference for future generations.”

As Founding Dean of the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, created in 2007, Pezzuto leads approximately 100 faculty and staff to educate and train students for careers in pharmacy. After 35 years in academia, he has amassed more than 500 publications, is the co-inventor of several patents, the editor of four books, a member of more than ten editorial boards of international journals, and the editor-in-chief of *Pharmaceutical Biology*. He is widely known for identifying the cancer-prevention aspects of resveratrol, a chemical found in grapes and grape products. Primarily noted for working in the area of natural products, he has been an administrator and researcher in pharmacy and drug discovery.

Pezzuto received his bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Rutgers University and Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (now Rutgers University). He was the recipient of a postdoctoral fellowship from the National Cancer Institute and performed two years of postdoctoral work in the Department of Chemistry at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

“I have been witness to John’s work for many years, and have been impressed with the intensity that he displays when pursuing his research,” said Lucinda Maine, AACP executive vice president and CEO. “His research is world renowned and has the potential to affect the health of millions not only now but in the future.”

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The Volwiler Research Achievement Award was established as the research prize in academic pharmacy to honor the late Ernest H. Volwiler, former president and research director of Abbott Laboratories. According to AACCP, “the intent of the Award is to recognize annually an individual within the ranks of pharmacy education recognized by his or her peers as one of the leading research workers in a given area of the pharmaceutical and clinical sciences, pharmacy practice and the social and administrative sciences, and for outstanding contributions to the respective disciplines.” Dean Pezzuto joins a highly distinguished group of researchers who have received this award since it was introduced in 1977.

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About AACCP

Founded in 1900, the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy is a national organization representing the interests of pharmacy education and educators. AACCP is comprised of all accredited colleges and schools of pharmacy with pharmacy degree programs, including more than 6,400 faculty, 62,500 students enrolled in professional programs, and 5,100 individuals pursuing graduate study. To learn more about AACCP, visit www.aacp.org.