HCMS Presents Dr. Samuel L. Katz with Prestigious John P. McGovern Compleat Physician Award

Houston, TX (Jan. 16, 2014)...The Harris County Medical Society (HCMS), the professional association for Harris County physicians, and the Houston Academy of Medicine (HAM), the scientific and charitable organization of HCMS physicians, are honoring renowned pediatrician and virologist Samuel L. Katz, MD, with the John P. McGovern Compleat Physician Award. The award will be presented to him Friday, Jan. 17, at the HCMS/HAM Installation of Officers & Leadership Recognition at the Petroleum Club of Houston, 800 Bell Street.

The John P. McGovern Compleat Physician Award is a national award presented annually by HAM to recognize a physician who exemplifies the ideals of Sir. William Osler—medical excellence, humane and ethical care, commitment to medical humanities and writing, research, and harmony between the academic and medical practitioner. The award is named after its first recipient, John P. McGovern, MD, who founded the American Osler Society.

Throughout his career, Dr. Katz has embodied the Oslerian ideals. Dr. Katz's pioneering work on the development and global promotion of the Edmonston measles virus vaccine revolutionized children's health and reduced childhood mortality worldwide. Thanks to the vaccine and his global promotion of it, the measles virus went from killing six to eight million children per year worldwide to 158,000 in 2011. As a result of his work and the vaccine-related public policies, measles was declared eliminated from the U.S. in 2000 and eliminated from the Western Hemisphere in 2002.

Dr. Katz also has made significant contributions to the development of vaccine programs for other infectious diseases, like polio, rubella, influenza, and HIV infection. In 2003, he was awarded the Albert B. Sabin Gold Medal by the Sabin Vaccine Institute for his contributions to vaccine discoveries. He has won numerous medals and awards for his contributions to vaccine discoveries.

Dr. Katz is currently the Wilburt Cornell Davison Professor and Chairman Emeritus of Pediatrics at Duke University School of Medicine. As Chair, he established an exchange program with Oxford University and provided training for an annual succession of residents from the American University of Beirut. Dr. Katz has mentored nearly five decades of Duke students, residents and colleagues, instilling the importance of collaboration to improve patient care and public health. Dr. Katz became a teacher of politicians and the public and ambassador for the fight against infectious diseases. He has won several awards for his teaching skills. He is an honors graduate of Dartmouth College and Harvard Medical School. He completed his internship at Beth Israel Hospital and pediatrics residency training at Massachusetts General Hospital and Boston Children's Hospital, followed by a fellowship in virology and infectious diseases.

Dr. Katz has held a number of leadership roles in vaccine advocacy. He has served as chair of the Committee on Infectious Diseases of the American Academy of Pediatrics (the Redbook Committee), served 11 years on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control, chaired the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Committee on Issues and Priorities for New Vaccine Development. He also has served on several World Health Organization (WHO) and CVI and HIV panels. He is a member of many scientific advisory committees and boards, including the

National Institutes of Health, Federal Drug Administration, WHO, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the Hasbro Children's Foundation.

Over the past 30 years, Dr. Katz has lectured at more than 80 locations across the U.S. He has written or contributed to more than 100 articles on the study of infectious disease and vaccine research and co-editor of a textbook that is now in its 10th edition. Dr. Katz is a revolutionary scientist, a respected teacher, a valued colleague, and a tremendous citizen of his profession and the world. As a dedicated mentor and teacher and an active citizen of the global scientific community, Dr. Katz has touched the lives of countless children, families, students, and colleagues. He embodies the remarkable traditions of Sir William Osler. Dr. Katz personifies the Compleat Physician.

HCMS, established in 1903, is the professional society for physicians in Harris County. It is the largest county medical society in the nation, with a membership of more than 11,000 physicians and medical students. Its mission is to be the leading advocate for its member physicians, their patients and the community, in promoting the highest standards of ethical medical practice, access to quality medical care, medical education, research, and community health. In 1915, HCMS incorporated the Houston Academy of Medicine to support the community service, education, scientific and charitable programs for physicians, their patients, and the community at large in Harris County.