Comments and Critique

Ole Møller Jensen Memorial EJC Travel Award

THE European Journal of Cancer is pleased to announce the establishment of an annual travel award to commemorate Ole Møller Jensen whose premature death robbed cancer epidemiology of one of its most distinguished practitioners and many of us of a close personal friend. The award, initially of £500, will be made each year to the author of a manuscript published in the European Journal of Cancer in the field of cancer epidemiology or a closely related area. The recipient will be selected by the editors of the EJC following the advice of the Consulting Editors.

Dr Ole Jensen graduated from Copenhagen University Medical School in 1970 and subsequently studied epidemiology in the U.K. and the U.S.A. before taking up a position in the Unit of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the International Agency for Research on Cancer. He was appointed Director of the Danish Cancer Registry in 1980 and in the space of one decade, the Registry developed into one of the most distinguished cancer epidemiology groups internationally. Ole Jensen had a strong interest in the population-based Cancer Registry and developed successful research activities in occupational cancer and, latterly, nutrition and cancer. Under his direction, the Danish Cancer Registry developed important programmes in these areas and also in radiation and environmental issues.

There were several additional aspects to the developments at the Danish Cancer Registry under the guidance of Ole Jensen. Principally, the Registry had a broad international outlook and was closely involved in many international efforts including collaborative research projects. The Registry also became a fertile research environment with a large, lively staff which included many fine epidemiologists. This was a major achievement of Ole Jensen: prior to his appointment in 1980, there had only been small pockets of epidemiology in Denmark and at his untimely death there was a strong base for the future consolidation of epidemiology in that country.



Ole Møller Jensen

In selecting the recipient of the award, the relevance of the manuscript with regard to the aims and achievements of Ole Jensen will be taken into account. Preference will also be given to younger research workers. The award is intended to help support the travel costs involved in attendance at a European meeting and it is expected that the recipient will provide a short report of the meeting for publication in the European Journal of Cancer.

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