

## Emily Couric Memorial Lecturer

The Emily Couric Memorial Lecture was developed by the ACG, the Virginia Gastroenterological Society (VGS) and the Old Dominion Society of Gastroenterology Nurses and Associates (ODSGNA) to honor Virginia State Senator Emily Couric, who lost her battle with pancreatic cancer in October of 2001. Senator Couric was a strong advocate for healthcare issues, particularly in her instrumental work to pass the nation's first legislation mandating health insurance coverage for colorectal cancer screening. The Emily Couric Lecturer is someone prominent in the field of GI cancer related topics. This individual is nominated by the President following consultation with the VGS and the appointment is subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.

### 2020 Lecturer Katie Couric

*From Grief to Advocacy to Activism*



Ms. Couric is an award-winning journalist, New York Times best-selling author and a co-founder of Stand Up To Cancer (SU2C). Since its launch in 2008, Stand Up To Cancer has raised more than \$600 million to support cutting-edge collaborative science and its research has contributed to six new FDA approved therapies. In 2017, she founded Katie Couric Media (KCM), which has developed a number of media projects, including a daily newsletter, a podcast, digital video series and several documentaries. KCM works with purpose driven brands to create premium content that

addresses important social issues like gender equality, environmental sustainability and mental health.

Ms. Couric was the first woman to solo anchor a network evening newscast, serving as anchor and managing editor of the CBS Evening News from 2006 to 2011 following 15-years as co-anchor of NBC's Today show. She also hosted a syndicated show and served as the Yahoo Global News Anchor until 2017. She has won a duPont-Columbia, a Peabody, two Edward R. Murrows, a Walter Cronkite Award, and multiple Emmys. She was twice named one of Time magazine's 100 most influential people and was a Glamour Magazine woman of the year three times. She has also received numerous awards for her cancer advocacy work; honored by both the Harvard and Columbia schools of public health, the American Cancer Society and The American Association of Cancer Researchers.

In addition to writing *The Best Advice I Ever Got: Lessons from Extraordinary Lives*, Ms. Couric's memoir will be published in the Fall of 2021. Ms. Couric has also published in *The American Journal of Gastroenterology*, "An Unexpected Turn: My Life as a Cancer Advocate," in May 2016.

## Past Emily Couric Memorial Lecturers

- 2019 Suresh T. Chari, MD, FACG: *Early Detection of Pancreatic Cancer: Problems, Promise, and Prospects*
- 2018 David A. Greenwald, MD FACP: *80% Colorectal Cancer Screening by 2018: How Did We Do and Where Do We Go From Here?*
- 2017 Mark B. Pochapin, MD FACP: *Colon Cancer: Polyps, Prevention and Progress*
- 2016 David E. Fleischer, MD, FACP: *Why the Esophageal Health of a Masai Tribesman in Kenya Matters to GI Docs in the U.S.*
- 2015 Irving M. Pike, MD, FACP: *National Registry Benchmarking for Colonoscopy Quality: The "High Road" Toward Improving the Performance of Colonoscopy and Cancer Prevention*
- 2014 Stephen B. Hanauer, MD, FACP: *Cancer in IBD: The Colon and Beyond*
- 2013 Nicholas J. Shaheen, MD, MPH, FACP: *Can We Prevent Cancer in Barrett's Esophagus?*
- 2012 Carol A. Burke, MD, FACP: *Optimizing the Diagnosis and Management of Patients with Hereditary Colorectal Cancer*
- 2011 Robert H. Hawes, MD, FACP: *Current Diagnosis and Management of Cystic Neoplasms of the Pancreas*
- 2010 David A. Johnson, MD, FACP: *Colon Cancer Screening: Evolution to Eradication...*
- 2009 Dennis J. Ahnen, MD: *The Adenoma-Carcinoma Sequence Revisited – Has the Era of Genetic Tailoring Finally Arrived?*
- 2008 Kenneth E. L. McColl, MD, FRSE: *Why has Adenocarcinoma Moved from the Stomach to the Esophagus and Where Does Sex Come In To It All?*
- 2007 Peter A. Banks, MD, MACG: *Pancreatic Cancer: Present Understanding and Future Prospects*
- 2006 Douglas K. Rex, MD, FACP: *What is Needed to Transform Colonoscopy into a Truly Protective Strategy Against Colorectal Cancer?*