The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) presented its 2017 Advocate of the Year Award to Ray D. Page, DO, PhD, FACOI, for his exceptional advocacy efforts on behalf of individuals living with cancer and their cancer care teams. As a member of the Government Relations Committee and in other roles, Dr. Page has provided distinguished leadership in the society's policy and advocacy efforts.

As a member of ASCO's Delegation to the American Medical Association, Dr. Page has worked to ensure that ASCO policy priorities have been thoughtfully considered and, in many cases, endorsed by AMA's influential governance body. Dr. Page has been actively involved in meetings with Administration agencies so that policymakers fully understand and consider the current realities of cancer care as regulations that directly impact oncology practices are developed. He has actively advocated on cancer-related policies by sending multiple messages to lawmakers through the ACT Network to ensure that the voice of the cancer care community is heard. He has met with Congressional lawmakers in their in-district offices and hosted Congresswoman Kay Granger's (TX-12) staff at The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders in Fort Worth, TX.

Dr. Page has also been a dedicated ASCO volunteer and currently serves as chair of the Clinical Practice Committee, member of the Pathways Task Force, and member of the Clinical Pathways Task Force.
“Ray never misses an opportunity to advocate on behalf of cancer care and our patients,” said Robin Zon, MD, FACP, and last year’s Advocate of the Year. “For many years, he has been a tireless advocate who has made many valuable contributions to advance ASCO’s policy agenda. Ray uniquely understands the important role oncology professionals play in shaping healthcare policies that have a direct impact on our ability to provide high-quality cancer care for our patients.”

Dr. Page, a medical oncologist and hematologist, is President of The Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders in Fort Worth, TX. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry and biology from Southwestern University before going on to complete his Master's degree in physiology at Baylor University Graduate School-Baylor College of Dentistry. He later received his Ph.D. in Pharmacology along with his Doctorate in Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Page is the past President of the Texas Society of Clinical Oncology and serves on its Legislative, Education and Membership Committees.

During the Advocacy Summit, the society also recognized its 2017 ASCO Advocacy Champions for their extraordinary contributions in a variety of advocacy activities, including meetings with federal lawmakers and agency staff, participating in grasstops outreach, state legislative activities, and in-district meetings and site visits during Congressional recesses.

Visit ASCO’s ACT Network to learn more about becoming involved in ASCO’s advocacy activities. Updates on the latest cancer policy news are available on ASCO in Action.

About ASCO:

Founded in 1964, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc. (ASCO®) is committed to making a world of difference in cancer care. As the world’s leading organization of its kind, ASCO represents nearly 45,000 oncology professionals who care for people living with cancer. Through research, education, and promotion of the highest-quality patient care, ASCO works to conquer cancer and create a world where cancer is prevented or cured, and every survivor is healthy. ASCO is supported by its affiliate organization, the Conquer Cancer Foundation. Learn more at www.ASCO.org, explore patient education resources at www.Cancer.Net, and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube.