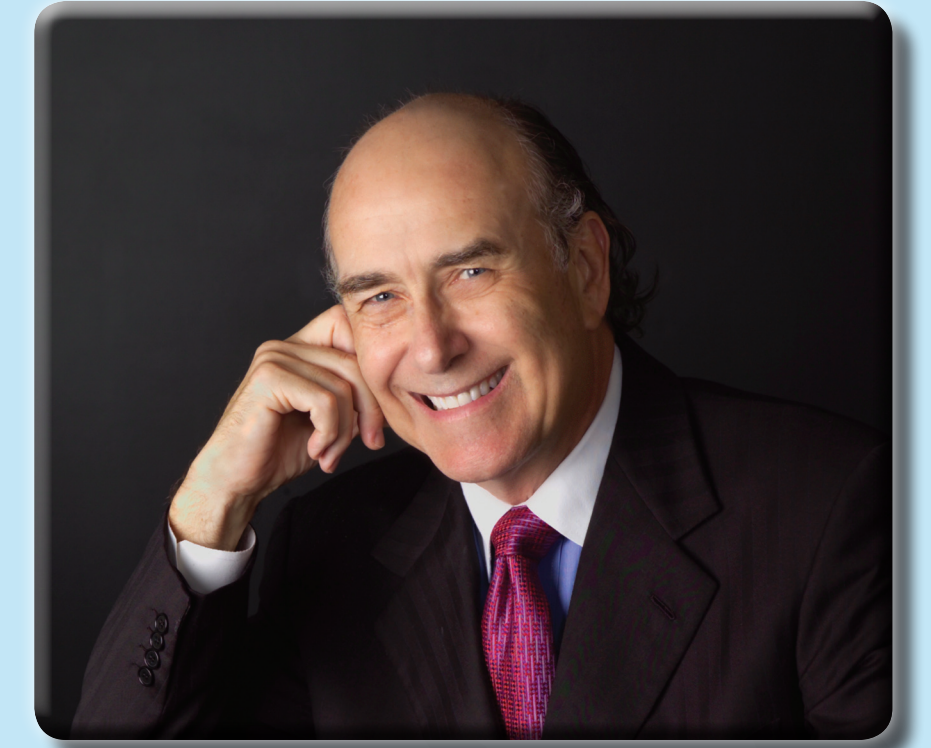


# ISRS Presidential Award

## Dr. George O. Waring III



***Dr. George O. Waring III is being given the 2010 ISRS Presidential Award in recognition of his dedication to refractive surgery and the ISRS, and most importantly the Journal of Refractive Surgery.***

The Presidential Recognition Award is given to George O. Waring III MD, in part for his longevity in refractive surgery as a laboratory researcher, clinical investigator, author and editor.

With the support of Dwight Cavanagh, Emory University, National Eye Institute funding, and surgical instruction by Svyatoslav Fyodorov in Moscow, Dr. Waring established the multicenter Prospective Evaluation of Radial Keratotomy (PERK) study (1980-1996), resulting in 34 peer-reviewed publications.

His NEI grant (1988-1991), to examine excimer laser corneal ablation in monkeys, used Khalil Hanna's delivery system. After studying with Jose Barraquer in Bogotá, Theo Seiler in Berlin, and Yves Pouliquen in Paris, Dr. Waring left the U.S. regulatory constraints and became department chairman at Magrabi Eye and Ear Hospitals in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (1993-1995), where LASIK matured.

He presented Summit Technology's data, which led to the first FDA approval of PRK (1995). He obtained the first physician-sponsored IDE (1995), this one for LASIK. Doyle Stulting, Keith Thompson, and he established a free-standing, private refractive surgery center in affiliation with Emory University.

As an FDA investigator, Dr. Waring has implanted logel intracorneal lenses, Intacs intracorneal ring segments, Verisyse phakic IOLs (training with Jan Worst), AcuFocus small aperture corneal inlays, and the Tetraflex accommodating IOL. He was principal investigator for Nidek's hyperopic and topographically guided LASIK FDA trials.

In 2010 he continues research on Nidek's optimized prolate ablation with Jack Holladay, and on the prevention of lens capsule opacities with Reiner Thyzel at ARC Laser. From 1989 to 2010 he served as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Refractive Surgery*, bringing supportive rigor to peer review and writing editorials such as "Making Sense of Keratospeak" and "Free Market Madness vs. Regulatory Rigor Mortis." The Waring Medal for Editorial Excellence is awarded by Slack, Inc. annually.

His pedagogical career has included 25 years as professor of ophthalmology at Emory University, 37 named lectures, and teaching in over 600 ophthalmology meetings in some 60 countries on 6 continents.