

2021 Dickson Awardee: Laurence Brunton

Laurence Brunton is an emeritus professor at the [UCSD School of Medicine](#) and an experienced researcher in cardiovascular physiology and pharmacology (cyclic nucleotide metabolism, subcellular compartmentation of signaling). For 30 years, Laurence Brunton was responsible for the autonomic pharmacology/physiology labs that all MS1 and Biomedsci PhD, reducing animal use and turning the required 3 one-day lab sessions into a ten-week elective course with training in ethical use of animal subjects, instrumentation, and simple surgical techniques. Laurence started a mentored postdoctoral training program called [IRACDA](#) (Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Award) which focuses on training minority postdocs and providing academic skills.



Laurence's main academic effort is the editing and writing of [Goodman & Gilman's The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics](#), a book known as “the blue bible of pharmacology” and “the gold standard in pharmacology” for which he has served as Editor-in-Chief for the past 18 years. Laurence maintains a website that permits students at most schools of medicine and pharmacy nationally to have electronic access to the book free-of-charge, contributing to medical education worldwide. Continuing a tradition started by the late Prof. Patrick Ledden, Laurence has helped organize and guide campus-wide monthly faculty luncheons for faculty to hear from other faculty members and provide cross-campus and cross-department meetings that get faculty to venture outside their daily academic boundaries.