

Dr. F. Kelley St.Charles, Recipient of the 2018 Tobacco Science Research Conference Lifetime Achievement Award

Laudatio to the award given by Serban C. Moldoveanu

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The Policy Committee of 72nd Tobacco Science Research Conference selected Dr. F. Kelley St.Charles to receive the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award. It is my pleasure and honor to present this award to Dr. St.Charles. Dedicating his professional life to tobacco research, and having made significant contributions to tobacco science, Dr. St.Charles is well entitled to receive this award.

I will start with a statement about core values at Reynolds American which indicate to be “principled, creative, dynamic, and passionate”. This may sound to you like a slogan, and personally I hate slogans after living a good part of my life in a communist system where you were bombarded with slogans. However, I believe that these

characteristics have, in fact, a real meaning and are very important in order to be a good researcher. Starting 36 years ago at Brown and Williamson Tobacco Co. and without the premonition that he would work someday for R.J. Reynolds, Dr. St.Charles fully obeyed these core values. He has done this during all his professional life, first at B&W, then as a consultant to British American Tobacco, and currently at R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. I will elaborate a little about how these core values apply to Dr. St.Charles. Discussing about being principled, I was always impressed by Dr. St.Charles’ exceptional scientific integrity, and his dedication to provide only fully reliable results from his work. The desire to do the right thing is definitely something to admire in Dr. St.Charles. Regarding being a passionate scientist, I noticed myself this passion many years ago, when I joined B&W and Dr. St.Charles was already working there for four years. He is younger than me and I was thinking then that he was passionate because he was so young. Nevertheless, more than 30 years later (and not being that young anymore) Dr. St.Charles remained the same passionate researcher, continuously looking for further understanding of the many aspects of tobacco science, engaging in debates, and listening to other peoples’ ideas. I think that everyone who has participated in TSRC conferences is well aware that Dr. St.Charles is very passionate about tobacco science as can be seen, for example, from his frequent and pertinent comments to many presentations. All his collaborators from inside and outside of the companies, where Dr. St.Charles was or is employed, also witnessed his dynamic character, his willingness to take ownership of the projects and to promote change when necessary. Regarding creativity, his published work speaks clearly about that. Among his most

significant contributions is the procedure of determining the mouth-level exposure of smokers to cigarette smoke, a procedure that has been adopted as CORESTA Recommended Method #80. He then developed a model for the respiratory retention of compounds in cigarette smoke based on vapor pressure as well as a procedure for estimating a smoker's mouth-spill of cigarette smoke. This allowed the mouth level exposure of smoke to become an indicator of the actual dose of toxicants to smokers. Other contributions include his work on the misleading nature of using ratios of smoking constituents versus yields, the pH measurement of particulate phase of electronic cigarettes (or ENDS), and his work on the vapor pressure and enthalpy of vaporization of nicotine from tobacco. In addition to this research, a significant volume of Dr. St.Charles' results were reported in internal documents

which were considered proprietary. This can be seen from the large number of his citations in the Legacy Tobacco Library.

To make this presentation short, I will not make further comments on Dr. St.Charles' important scientific contributions, and I will only wish him to continue his valuable contribution to tobacco science for many years to come.

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