Deming Receives Creighton University School of Medicine Alumni Merit Award

Richard Deming, MD'80, Des Moines, Iowa, received the Creighton University School of Medicine Alumni Merit Award at the University's annual Alumni Weekend on Sept. 21.

Deming graduated from the Creighton University School of Medicine in 1980, where he was awarded the Dr. Adolf Sachs award for graduating at the top of his class. He is currently the medical director of Mercy Cancer Center and the CyberKnife Radiosurgery Center of Iowa. Mercy Cancer Center in Des Moines is the largest provider of radiation oncology services in Iowa and has received a national grant and designation as one of the few "National Comprehensive Community Cancer Programs."

Deming has been praised for his work with several oncology organizations and patient advocacy programs. He continuously fights to reduce the burden on cancer patients through legislative, research and policy changes.

Deming also founded the Above and Beyond Cancer program at Mercy Cancer Center. Above and Beyond Cancer is an organization that coordinates adventure-based programs for cancer survivors and caregivers that are designed to energize and inspire. In January 2012, Deming and 19 cancer survivors climbed to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro.

He has received many awards for his work including the Making a Difference Award from the American Cancer Society, the Sword of Hope Award for Healthcare Promotion, the Light of Wellness Leadership Award from the Iowa Wellness Council, and the Lane Adams Quality of Life Award from the American Cancer Society.

Deming is active in many professional organizations including as a member of the Iowa Leadership Council of the American Cancer Society, serving on the Board of Directors for the American Cancer Society, the American Cancer Society's Cancer Action Network, the Iowa Oncology Research Association, and is on the Expert Panel for Radiation Oncology for the American College of Radiology. He is a charter member of the Des Moines chapter of LiveStrong, the Lance Armstrong Foundation, and medical director of the LiveStrong at the YMCA Cancer Survivor Program, and a Susan G. Komen Society "Doctor for the Cure."