Ronald W. Busuttil, MD, PhD is one of the world’s preeminent liver transplant and hepatobiliary surgeons. He has practiced at UCLA for 5 decades. He received his medical degree and PhD from Tulane University in 1971 and 1975, respectively. He completed his General Surgical training under William P. Longmire, Jr, MD at UCLA in 1977. From there he joined the surgical faculty in general, vascular and hepatobiliary surgery. By the early 1980’s, it was clear that the west coast of the United States needed a liver transplant program, so he visited Dr. Thomas Starzl, MD, PhD at the University of Pittsburgh for two weeks of training. From there he assembled a clinical team at UCLA and, after large animal model training, he performed the first successful human liver transplant on February 1st, 1984. Since that time, he has developed UCLA into one of the world’s largest and most respected transplant programs. To date, over 7100 liver transplants have been performed, over 80 surgical fellows have been trained, and hundreds of research studies and publications have been completed. To honor his lasting impact on our Department, School of Medicine and Health System, we have established this lectureship.

We are proud to announce that the 2022 Ronald W. Busuttil, MD, PhD Visiting Professor lectureship will be held on February 8th and 9th, 2022. Goran B. Klintmalm, MD, PhD has been selected as the first visiting professor. Dr. Klintmalm received his medical degree and PhD from Karolinska Institute in Stockholm in 1975 and 1984, respectively. He completed his General Surgery training in Sweden and undertook two years of transplant surgery training under the guidance of Dr. Thomas Starzl, MD, PhD at the University of Colorado and Pittsburgh, finishing in 1981. Having returned to Sweden he was recruited to Dallas, TX in 1985, where he established the first of its kind multiorgan transplant program at Baylor University Medical Center. He led and developed Baylor into one of the largest and most innovative transplant centers in the country. Dr. Klintmalm has trained numerous fellows in transplantation, been a member of multiple major surgical societies, was President of the American Society of Transplant Surgeons (ASTS), and has greatly contributed to the fields of transplantation through numerous research studies, abstracts, manuscripts, and books on the topic. We are excited and honored to welcome Dr. Klintmalm to UCLA in his role as Visiting Professor.