

Robert C. Ward served as one of the earliest faculty members of the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, joining the college in 1970 when it was still a private institution in Pontiac, Michigan. He was the charter chairperson of the Department of Family and Community Medicine and instrumental in developing an osteopathic manipulative medicine residency. He served as director of special projects for the college, as a professor in the Office of Medical Education Research and Development, and ultimately, professor in the Department of Osteopathic Manipulative Medicine. Nationally and internationally, Dr. Ward had a significant impact on osteopathic principles and practice as the principal investigator of the Osteopathic Principles Education Project. He developed a glossary and other material seminal to the research and practice of osteopathic medicine. He also served as president of the North American Academy of Musculoskeletal Medicine and as a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the International Federation of Manual Medicine.