

Medical Student Research Conference Awards

September 20, 2020

Mentor Awards

2020 Summer Research Fellowship Outstanding Mentor in Basic Science Research

Donna L. Hammond, PhD – Anesthesia

Nominated by Faizan Khawaja, M2

2020 Summer Research Fellowship Outstanding Mentor in Clinical Research

Anthony Fischer, MD, PhD - Pediatrics

Nominated by Lucas Maakestad, M2

2020 Summer Research Fellowship Outstanding Mentor in Translational Research

Cesar de Cesar Netto, MD, PhD – Orthopedics and Rehabilitation

Nominated by: Victoria Vivtcharenko, M2

Eli Schmidt, M2

Sam Ahrenholz, M1

Caleb Iehl, M1

Student Research Awards – Foundation

François M. Abboud Prize for Best Platform Presentation (U of I Foundation Award)

Kristy Sevcik, M2

ORAL

Title: “Understanding the Role of Interferons in Ebola Virus Infection of Keratinocytes”

Mentor: Wendy Maury, PhD, Microbiology

Donald D. Heistad Prize for Best Poster Presentation (U of I Foundation Award)

Madison Wahlen, M2G

POSTER

Title: “Effect of Distance from and Time to Definitive Care on Traumatic Brain Injury Outcomes in the Setting of a Rural Trauma System”

Mentor: James Torner, PhD, Epidemiology

Borts Award (U of I Foundation Award)

Gabby Bierlein-De La Rosa, M1G

ORAL

Title: “Cortical thickness and surface area in individuals with adult-onset myotonic dystrophy type 1”

Mentor: Peg Nopoulos, MD, Psychiatry

Edward Heath Award (U of I Foundation Award)

Riley Behan, M2G

POSTER

Title: “Optimization of Adipocyte Spheroid Model for Testing of Polychlorinated Biphenyl Toxins”

Mentor: James Ankrum, PhD, Biomedical Engineering

Melvin Marcus Clinical Research Award (U of I Foundation Award)

Ryan Sabotin, M2

ORAL

Title: “Morphological Characterization of Cerebral Fusiform Aneurysms”

Mentor: Edgar Samaniego, MD, Neurology

Excellence in Global Health Programs Research Award

Andy Tran, M2

ORAL

Title: “Evaluation of a screening tool for the identification of neurological disorders in rural Uganda”

Mentor: Deanna Saylor, MD, Neurology

Student Research Awards - Departmental

Margaret V. Lunsford Award for Research in Anesthesia

Faizan Khawaja, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Determining the neuroprotective role and mechanisms of Nicotinamide Riboside and NAD+ using rodent models of chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy"

Mentor: Donna L. Hammond, PhD, Anesthesia

Excellence in Anesthesia Research

Ethan Lemke, M2 and Matthew Behrens, M2 **POSTER**

Title: "Correlation of POCUS measures of OSA with Apnea- Hypopnea Index (AHI): An exploratory study."

Mentor: Rakesh Sondekoppam, MBBS, Anesthesia

Arthur A. Spector Award in Basic Biomedical Research

Kenten Kingsbury, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Modeling Diabetes: Hyperglycemia Affects TGFBI Expression and Glycation in the Extracellular Matrix of the Posterior Cornea"

Mentor: Mark Greiner, MD, Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences

Nicholas P. Rossi Award for Cardiothoracic Surgery Research

Camilla Koczara, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "An exploratory survey of the cell density of progenitor populations in proximal to distal native airways of the ferret lung transplant model"

Mentor: Kalpaj Parekh, MBBS, Cardiothoracic Surgery

Excellence in Dermatology Research

Kevin Cheung, M4 **ORAL**

Title: "The Genetics of Early-stage Melanoma in Veterans"

Mentor: Jennifer Powers, MD, Dermatology

Excellence in Emergency Medicine Research

Ty Bolte, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "What hospital level quality improvement practices are associated with improved sepsis quality indicator performance (SEP-1) and sepsis mortality?"

Mentor: Azeemuddin Ahmed MD, Emergency Medicine

Excellence in Family Medicine Research

Emily Ruba, M2 **POSTER**

Title: "International Standards Guiding the Use of Simulated Patients in Medical Education: A Qualitative Research Study"

Mentor: Jane Miller, PhD, Family Medicine

Carl V. Gisolfi Research Award for Excellence in Health and Human Physiology

Holly Conger, M4 **ORAL**

Title: "Testosterone Deficiency in Men Being Treated for Primary Pancreatic Cancer"

Mentor: Amy Pearlman, MD, Urology

John Stokes Award for Research in Internal Medicine

Jayden Bowen, LOA **ORAL**

Title: "High and low ratios of neutrophils differentially regulate T-cell responses"

Mentor: Julia Klesney-Tait, MD, PhD, Internal Medicine

Excellence in Internal Medicine Research

Cassidy Dean, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Qualitative Investigation of Facilitators and Barriers Associated with Adherence to Wahls and Swank Dietary Interventions"

Mentor: Terry L. Wahls, MD, Internal Medicine

Excellence in Internal Medicine Research

Zach Skopec, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Molecular Mechanisms of Skeletal Muscle Atrophy"

Mentor: Chris Adams MD, PhD, Internal Medicine

William Johnson Award for Research in Microbiology and Immunology

Greta Becker, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Optimization of an ELISA to detect Anaplasma exposure in visceral leishmaniasis patients in Brazil"

Mentor: Christine Petersen, DVM, PhD, Epidemiology

Research Excellence in Molecular Physiology and Biophysics

Joseph Hentges, M1 **ORAL**

Title: "Dependence on canonical MAPK signaling in drug-resistant melanoma"

Mentor: Christopher Stipp, PhD, Biological Sciences

Excellence in Basic Neuroscience Research

Dake Huang, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "The Parabrachial Nucleus"

Mentor: Joel Geerling, MD, PhD, Neurology

Excellence in Clinical Neuroscience Research

Anthony Piscopo, M1 **ORAL**

Title: "A Meta-analysis of Supraorbital Craniotomy vs Endoscopic Endonasal Approach for Anterior Skull Base Meningiomas"

Mentor: Jeremy Greenlee, MD, Neurosurgery

Excellence in Translational Neuroscience Research

Ariel Roghair, M1 **POSTER**

Title: "Activation of Retinal Microglia and Astrocytes Across Murine Models of Traumatic Brain Injury"

Mentor: Alexander Bassuk, MD, PhD, Pediatrics

Excellence in Clinical Research in Obstetrics & Gynecology

Anne Nora, M4 **ORAL**

Title: "Identifying Social Determinants of Health in a Gynecologic Oncology Population"

Mentor: Michael Haugsdal, MD, Obstetrics & Gynecology

Excellence in Obstetrics & Gynecology Research

Maggie Jakubiak, M2 **POSTER**

Title: "The Effect of Weight and Body Mass Index (BMI) on Serum Progesterone Values in In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Cycles"

Mentor: Rachel Mejia, DO, Obstetrics & Gynecology

Thomas A. Weingeist Award in Ophthalmology

Jennifer Wu, LOA **ORAL**

Title: "Database Formation for Analysis of a New Electroretinogram Device: the RetEval"

Mentor: Arlene Drack, MD, Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences

William E. Scott Research Award in Ophthalmology

Aparna Ajjarapu, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Delayed Anterior Segment Complications After Treatment of Retinopathy of Prematurity with Laser Photocoagulation"

Mentor: Alina Dumitrescu, MD Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences

Hansjoerg E. Kolder Award for Ophthalmology Research

Cheyenne Godwin, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Development of an in vivo model for Neuromyelitis Optica Spectrum Disorder in Long Evans Rats"

Mentor: Oliver Gramlich, PhD, Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences

Ignasio V. Ponseti Prize in Orthopaedic Research

Arman Hlas, M1 **POSTER**

Title: "Characterization of Factors Contributing to Iatrogenic Injury to Articular Cartilage during Arthroscopic Procedures"

Mentor: James Martin, PhD, Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation

Research Excellence in Orthopaedics

Victoria Vivtcharenko, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Comparison Between Cotton Test and Tap Test For The Assessment of Coronal Syndesmotic Instability: A Cadaveric Study"

Mentor: Cesar De Cesar Netto, MD, PhD, Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation

Excellence in Otolaryngology Research

Timon Higgins, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Dexamethasone-Eluting Cochlear Implants Reduce Intracochlear Inflammation Following Surgery"

Mentor: Marlan R. Hansen, MD, Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery

Richard G. Lynch Award for Excellence in Pathology Research

Jane Persons, M4 **POSTER**

Title: "Epidemiology of Suicide in an Iowa Cohort"

Mentor: Marco Hefti, MD, Pathology

Richard G. Lynch Award for Excellence in Pathology Research

Jacob Kaplan, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Outcomes of Succinate Dehydrogenase-Deficient Paragangliomas"

Mentor: Andrew Bellizzi, MD, Pathology

Excellence in Pediatric Basic Science Research

Alaina Berg, M1 **ORAL**

Title: "Initial Characterization of Porcine Pancreatic Ductal Organoids"

Mentor: Aliye Uc, MD, Pediatrics

Excellence in Pediatric Clinical Research

Bryn Myers, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Pinpointing the genetic basis of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome – Hypermobility Type"

Mentor: Benjamin Darbro, MD, PhD, Pediatrics

Excellence in Neuroscience and Pharmacology Research

Kelsey Blocklinger, M1 **ORAL**

Title: "Behavioral Deficits in the Protocadherin-10 (Pcdh10) Mouse Model Relevant to Autism"

Mentor: Ted Abel, PhD, Neuroscience and Pharmacology

George Winokur Research Award in Psychiatry

Brian Kinnaird, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Identifying Antidepressant Gene Expression Signatures from an L1000 Dataset"

Mentor: Mark Niciu, MD, PhD, Psychiatry

Bob Robinson Research Award in Psychiatry

Sarah Minion, M2 **POSTER**

Title: "Evaluation of an online delirium screening module to improve provider knowledge of delirium in the Emergency Department"

Mentor: Sangil Lee, MD, Emergency Medicine

Lauretta Bender Research Award in Psychiatry

Brandon Bacalzo, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Ketamine Metabolomics in a Human Neuronal Cell Line"

Mentor: Mark Niciu, MD, PhD, Psychiatry

Jason Martin Medical Student Research Award in Radiology

Jacob Elam, M3 **ORAL**

Title: "Pulmonary Embolism Imaging: Incidentals and Overtesting"

Mentor: Prashant Nagpal, MD, Radiology

Larry W. Oberley Award in Radiation Oncology

Robert Zhu, M2 **ORAL**

Title: "Validation of 3D volume-based treated tumor response assessment over standard RECIST v1.1"

Mentor: Yusung Kim, PhD, Radiation Oncology

Kimberly Ephgrave Medical Student Award for Research in Surgery

Austin Kazarian, M4 **ORAL**

Title: "Oncologic Outcome of Low Testosterone in Male Patients with Pancreatic Cancer"

Mentor: Carlos Chan, MD, PhD, Surgery

Excellence in Urology Research

Hannah Botkin, M3 **ORAL**

Title: "Optimizing Renal Function and Quality of Life in the Cervical Cancer Patient with Hydronephrosis"

Mentor: Bradley Erickson, MD, Urology