

# VCU School of Medicine

Virginia Commonwealth University

## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Faculty Excellence Awards Program



Arnold Gold Faculty  
Humanism Award



VCU/VCUHS Leadership  
in Graduate Medical  
Education Award



Teaching Excellence  
Awards



MCVP Distinguished  
Clinician Award



WISDM Professional  
Achievement Award

Kontos MSB Auditorium  
Wednesday, September 23, 2009

# *Faculty Excellence Awards Program*

12:00 WELCOME..... PonJola Coney, M.D.  
Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs

## **PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

11th Annual Teaching Excellence Awards..... Jerome F. Strauss, III, M.D., Ph.D.  
Dean, School of Medicine  
Executive VP for Medical Affairs  
VCU Health System

- The Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
- The Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching
- The Distinguished Mentor Award
- The Educational Innovation Award

Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award..... Christopher Woleben, M.D.  
presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation Associate Dean, Student Affairs

Women in Science, Dentistry and Medicine  
Professional Achievement Award ..... Susan M. Lanni, M.D.  
President, WISDM Faculty Organization

MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award..... John D. Ward, M.D., M.S.H.A.  
Chief Medical Officer, VCU Medical Center/  
MCV Physicians

VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education..... Mary Alice O'Donnell, Ph.D.  
"LGME" Award Associate Dean, Graduate Medical Education

Outstanding Teacher Awards in ..... Jerome F. Strauss, III, M.D., Ph.D.  
Health Sciences Education  
Jan F. Chlebowski, Ph.D.  
Associate Dean, Graduate Education

Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate  
Medical Education..... Isaac K. Wood, M.D.  
Senior Associate Dean, Medical Education &  
Student Affairs

- Best Teacher in the Course and Clerkship Awards
- Faculty with High Evaluation Awards

1:00 CLOSING REMARKS..... Jerome F. Strauss, III, M.D., Ph.D.  
PonJola Coney, M.D.

*All are invited to lunch on the Plaza.*

*Faculty Excellence Awards*

# The Awards

## TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARDS\*

**The Faculty Teaching Excellence Award** recognizes extraordinary accomplishment in all aspects of education. This award is the School of Medicine's highest recognition for teaching. The recipient receives a \$1,000 cash award and \$3,000 for scholarship and educational development.

**The Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching** recognizes superior teaching in clinical medicine taught in the last two years of medical school and residency training, and encourages excellence in an increasingly complicated and challenging educational environment. The award is funded by a gift to the MCV Foundation. A cash award from the endowment fund is given to the recipient. This year's cash award is \$3,386.44.

**The Distinguished Mentor Award** recognizes significant contributions to the career development of others, such as mentorship to fellow faculty members, junior faculty, residents, fellows, graduate students, post-docs, medical students or other mentoring relationships. The recipient receives a cash award of \$500 and \$1,000 for scholarship and educational development.

**The Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award** recognizes an individual faculty member, a group, or an academic unit for a significant educational innovation or educational research. The recipient receives a cash award of \$500 with an additional \$1,000 for scholarship and educational development.

*Each award recipient's name will be placed on a plaque in the lobby of Sanger Hall. A photo of each recipient will be placed in Sanger Hall's Curriculum Corridor.*

## LEONARD TOW HUMANISM IN MEDICINE AWARD PRESENTED BY THE ARNOLD P. GOLD FOUNDATION

The Humanism in Medicine Awards, initiated by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation, recognize a graduating medical student and a faculty member at participating medical schools. The purpose of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award is to underscore the value of humanism in the delivery of care to patients and their families. The principles of integrity, excellence, compassion, altruism, respect, empathy and service are paramount qualities in the recipients of this award. The Gold Foundation bestows a personalized certificate and a \$1,000 prize each on a graduating medical student and a faculty member, nominated and selected by their peers. Additional information may be found at [http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/career\\_dev/awards/humanism.html](http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/career_dev/awards/humanism.html). The medical student who received this award in 2009 was Nathan McLaughlin. His award was presented at Student Honor's Day in May.

## WOMEN IN SCIENCE, DENTISTRY, AND MEDICINE (WISDM) PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The primary purpose of this annual award is to recognize those women who have served as strong role models and mentors for the professional development of women faculty and who consistently demonstrate qualities that show excellence in one or more of these areas: 1) success as a mentor and role model; promoter of the professional development of women; 2) professional excellence: to include accomplishments in whichever primary arena (clinical, basic sciences, etc.); 3) leadership: includes university administrative duties as well as other leadership roles; 4) scholarly endeavors; 5) teaching expertise. Additional information about the award and the list of previous recipients may be found at [http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/wims/wisdm/pro\\_achieve\\_award.html](http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/wims/wisdm/pro_achieve_award.html)

# *The Awards*

## **MCV PHYSICIANS DISTINGUISHED CLINICIAN AWARD**

Sponsored by the Medical College of Virginia Physicians (MCVP), this annual award recognizes clinical excellence among faculty at the VCU Medical Center. Criteria considered include, but are not limited to, the following attributes for patient care: compassion, clinical effectiveness, efficiency, comprehensiveness, availability and responsiveness to patients. For additional information, contact MCV Physicians.

## **VCU/VCUHS LEADERSHIP IN GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION AWARD**

This award recognizes outstanding contributions to medical education by residency and fellowship directors. Criteria for selection include: a fully accredited residency program; evidence of dedication and effectiveness in teaching residents/fellows; behaviors that are value-based and highly principled; an exemplary role model; a program with benchmark features from which the field can learn; participation in a national program director's association. For additional information, contact the Graduate Medical Education Office.

## **OUTSTANDING DEPARTMENTAL TEACHER AWARD IN HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION**

Honors outstanding teaching in departments with substantial teaching commitments in undergraduate, graduate, and professional studies. Selection is determined by a process developed by each basic sciences department. Each award recipient receives an outstanding teacher pin, a certificate, and \$100 for educational development.

## **OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARDS IN UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**

Best Teacher in the Course and Clerkship Awards recognize a faculty member as the best teacher in each course and clerkship in the MI, MII, and MIII years through student and course director evaluations. Each award recipient receives an outstanding teacher pin, a certificate, and \$100 for educational development.

Faculty with High Evaluation Awards recognize faculty who have received a ranking of excellent or higher on student evaluations. Each award recipient receives a certificate.

\*The School of Medicine Teaching Excellence Awards Program was established in 1999. Additional information may be found at [http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/career\\_dev/awards/teachingawards.html](http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/career_dev/awards/teachingawards.html).

# *Faculty Excellence Awards Recipients*

## **Faculty Teaching Excellence Award**

***Tomasz Kordula, Ph.D.***

Associate Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

***Raphael J. Witorsch, Ph.D.***

Professor, Department of Physiology and Biophysics

## **Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching**

***Douglas S. Franzen, M.D., M.Ed.***

Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

## **Distinguished Mentor Award**

***Clive M. Baumgarten, Ph.D.***

Professor, Department of Physiology and Biophysics

***Richard G. Moran, Ph.D.***

Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

## **Educational Innovation Award**

***The Thomas Palliative Care Program***

***at VCU's Massey Cancer Center***

Team Members:

***J. Brian Cassel, Ph.D.***

Senior Data Analyst, VCU Health System Oncology Business Unit

***Patrick Coyne, M.S.N.***

Clinical Director, VCU Health System Oncology Business Unit

***Carrie Cybulski, P.M.P.***

Program Coordinator, VCU Health System Oncology Business Unit

***Mary Ann Hager, M.S.N.***

Administrator, VCU Health System Oncology Business Unit

***Laurel Lyckholm, M.D.***

Professor and Fellowship Director, Department of Internal Medicine, VCU School of Medicine

***Thomas Smith, M.D.***

Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, VCU School of Medicine and  
Medical Director of Program

# *Faculty Excellence Awards Recipients*

## **Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award**

presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

***Edward James Read, Jr., M.D.***

Attending Physician, Emergency Services  
Hunter Holmes McGuire Richmond VA Medical Center

## **Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement Award**

***Mary Helen Hackney, M.D.***

Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine

## **MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award**

***Domenic A. Sica, M.D.***

Professor, Department of Internal Medicine

## **VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education “LGME” Award**

***Stephanie A. Call, M.D., M.S.P.H.***

*“Program Director Award”*

Associate Professor, Department of Internal Medicine

***Scott A. Vota, D.O.***

*“Rising Star Award”*

Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology

# *Faculty Teaching Excellence Award*

## **Tomasz Kordula, Ph.D.**



Ask Dr. Tomasz Kordula to explain the structure of DNA and you might be in for a surprise. “He typically removes his belt and uses it as a prop to illustrate the various conformations of double stranded DNA,” explained Suzanne E. Barbour, Professor, School of Medicine, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. While some of his props may be unconventional, “his careful attention to the ‘art’ of teaching has made Dr. Kordula a favorite with the students.” No wonder he is receiving the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award.

“Dr. Kordula has vast, diverse and complex teaching experiences that span the entire spectrum of higher education, ranging from undergraduates, small discussion groups, graduate and medical students and postdoctoral fellows,” said Dr. Sarah Spiegel, Professor and Chair, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. “He has made notable contributions to the development of the highest standard of

education both within and outside of the classroom.”

“There is no question that Tomek is an outstanding teacher,” commended Robert F. Diegelmann, Ph.D., Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. “He demonstrates his excellence in teaching in the Medical Biochemistry course, as well as in the IOC 503 ‘super course.’” Student comments include: “incredibly engaging and enjoyable lecture style,” “clearly enthusiastic about teaching,” “excellent, very interactive, clear, easy to follow,” and “great presenter and did a good job of putting challenging topics in layman’s terms.” Added a former graduate student, “He is one of the best teachers I have ever encountered. His lectures in molecular biology were spectacular and I only wished they never ended.”

“While he is extremely involved in teaching the first year medical students, being a graduate course director, serving on various students’ graduate committees, admitting new graduate students, and acting as a second advisor for several students from other labs, he always seems to find the time to speak with each of his own students personally to discuss our projects’ pitfalls and triumphs,” wrote Dr. Lauren Bryan. “He is personally invested in each of his graduate students and believes that it is his responsibility to ensure our success. Thanks to Dr. Kordula, I now leave VCU with an excellent resume, fantastic scientific training and a bright future in science.”

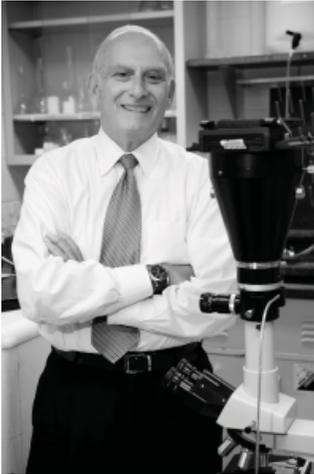
“I think that Dr. Kordula is such an excellent teacher because he shows a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and optimism, which is extremely contagious,” added another Ph.D. student. “When I was facing difficulties, he used it as an opportunity to teach me how to find alternative approaches and improve the techniques. He seems to never stop teaching – even during casual scientific discussions he made sure that I understood the scientific big picture. It is thanks to him that I got a wonderful position in a world-renowned laboratory of stem cell research where I am implementing everything that I have learned from him.

“I can easily say that my decision to set upon a career in science was greatly influenced by having Tomek as an advisor in the early stages of my academic education,” wrote another former doctoral student, now with the Collège de France. “He was the first person to introduce me to the hands-on excitement of making science, and I am deeply indebted to him for that.”

“In a research intensive environment like ours, it is easy to lose sight of the major reason we are here: to educate the next generation of biomedical researchers and health care workers,” added Dr. Barbour. “Dr. Kordula should be commended on his dedication to this noble profession. The Faculty Teaching Excellence Award is an appropriate way to reward him for his efforts.”

# *Faculty Teaching Excellence Award*

## **Raphael J. Witorsch, Ph.D.**



Did you hear the one about cell signaling?

Known nearly as well for his tremendous sense of humor as for his excellence in teaching and expertise in physiology, Dr. Raphael Witorsch is a master at communicating difficult information in a memorable way.

For more than 25 years, Dr. Witorsch's unique teaching style has won the hearts and minds of his students. "He is able to make even the reproductive system fun." Dr. Witorsch makes 8 a.m. classes a joy and a reason to come in. "He is an extremely personable, animated and excited instructor who wakes students up from early morning drowsiness and excites us about his topic." "He conveyed his material in a manner that was both completely understandable and immensely enjoyable." "We always left his lectures with huge smiles and a more complete understanding of how the body worked."

"Interestingly, Ray's abilities as a stand-up comic and storyteller (often side-splitting), are in no way contradictory to his professionalism," wrote Linda Costanzo, Ph.D., Assistant Dean for Pre-clinical Medical Education, in nominating Dr. Witorsch for the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award. "Somehow, a 50-minute lesson with Ray Witorsch flies by – he is able to convey the beauty of the body systems in a way that enhances the core story, makes it more memorable, and places it in meaningful context."

In addition to being a highly respected and popular professor of physiology in the School of Medicine, he has also directed the physiology courses in the Schools of Dentistry and Pharmacy. "He can calibrate his presentation to the professional needs of particular groups of students," added Margaret C. Biber, D. Phil, Professor of Physiology. "Thus, his success has not been limited to the dental, medical and graduate students but has extended to other students such as nurses, pharmacy students, physical therapists and industrial hygiene students."

"His classroom is a dynamic, productive arena where students are engaged in active learning and reaching their fullest potential in understanding and applying physiology to their given discipline," related B. Ellen Byrne, DDS, Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, School of Dentistry. "Dr. Witorsch is an excellent teacher who has that special blend of patience, tact, personal concern, talent, communication skills and professional pride necessary to excel."

"Dr. Witorsch's serious commitment to excellence in teaching matches his impressive portfolio of research and service contributions," wrote Thomas P. Reinders, Associate Dean for Admissions and Student Services, School of Pharmacy. Professor S. Murthy Karnam, Ph.D. agreed, adding that "Dr. Witorsch has selflessly contributed to teaching generations of graduate and medical students. He has no equal in teaching enthusiasm."

"His talent in education is innate, as he received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the medical students in 1971, the very first year he taught at MCV," says Diomedes E. Logothetis, Ph.D., Chairman, Department of Physiology and Biophysics. "I can't think of a more deserving person than Ray to honor with the highest teaching recognition in the School of Medicine."

## *Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching*

### **Douglas S. Franzen, M.D., M.Ed.**



Transformed. It's a description used a lot by those familiar with the work of Dr. Douglas Franzen, Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine and this year's recipient of the Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical teaching.

"He has completely transformed our medical student and resident programs."

"Dr. Franzen completely transformed the educational activities of our department."

"You mention 'medical education' and it's like a switch gets turned on in his head. His entire body is transformed; he becomes incredibly energized; and he radiates his love for teaching."

Beginning with his tenure as the emergency medicine department's Clerkship Coordinator, "Doug created a very structured educational environment in which all students learn a well defined curriculum," explained Emergency Medicine Program Director Timothy C. Evans, M.D. "Further, he developed an evaluation system that is explicit and truly helps to differentiate the abilities and performance of each individual."

Next, as Assistant Program Director, "Dr. Franzen single-handedly reorganized the emergency medicine resident didactic curriculum, revised the medical student curriculum, and completely changed the way we evaluate medical students on the EM elective with new feedback and evaluation forms," added colleague Julie Mayglothling. Among the changes he has implemented is the adoption of an innovative curriculum using simulation to teach emergency medicine case sessions, enabling residents to gain valuable hands-on assessment and management skills in a controlled environment.

His impact on curriculum extends beyond emergency medicine. While participating in a focus group for the medical school curriculum, "He absolutely exuded with enthusiasm and ideas while at the same time being respectful and inclusive of other thoughts," recalled Ike Wood, M.D., Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Student Affairs. "I was so impressed by him that I specifically asked him to be on the Curriculum Planning Committee."

Doug also heads the ultrasonography curriculum. "As with all of his assignments, Doug has defined a very advanced curriculum and put the components in place for all of our residents to successfully complete this curriculum under his oversight," added Evans. "As the 'ultrasound guru,' he does more than teach a few," detailed an EM resident. "Monthly, he meets with each resident to review ultrasound images logged. He freely gives his time to help us be better physicians as well as earn credentialing in ultrasound. This selflessness is unsurpassed by other physicians with whom I have worked."

Other current and former residents agree wholeheartedly. "Both in and out of the emergency department, Dr. Franzen champions our educational development as residents. When working a shift with him, he always challenges us to have goals for each shift. When a shift is over, he will stay after and review the cases of the day and help us to carefully examine our decision making."

Perhaps Dr. Franzen's Program Director, Tim Evans, says it best: "He makes our students, our residents, our department and therefore our medical school and hospital better as a result of his efforts."

## *Distinguished Mentor Award*

### **Clive M. Baumgarten, Ph.D.**



Mentoring an academic superstar is one thing. Providing mentorship to a struggling student requires an entirely different level of commitment, the type of dedication offered by Dr. Clive Baumgarten over his 30 year career at the MCV Campus of VCU.

“Whereas it is often easier to appreciate and adopt the brightest and most talented students as mentees, continuing to invest time and effort without any apparent progress into the development of an academically challenged student poses considerable challenges for a mentor. The latter was my relationship with Dr. Baumgarten,” wrote a former mentee, now a clinical and research fellow in cardiology at Johns Hopkins. “When I faced my toughest academic hurdles and the odds were not in my favor, his unwavering belief in my success motivated me to reach my highest potential.”

While most of the students he has mentored have not faced such significant obstacles, they all are indebted to him. “Without his effort, friendship and guidance, I would never have been able to develop my academic or scientific career,” wrote Samuel C. Dudley, Jr, M.D., Ph.D., Chief, Section of Cardiology, University of Illinois at Chicago. “He taught me to be exacting and creative. I learned how to do experiments, but more importantly how to design them and to interpret the data. He taught me how to write. He has read almost every one of my grants since I have left his lab. In short, I received a career’s worth of mentorship. He is the finest teacher, scholar, friend and mentor I know.”

Other current and past mentees thoroughly concur: “Dr. Baumgarten is a mentor who renews passions and kindles the fires of thought.” “His delight in seeing others succeed is an inspiration and develops confidence in those around him.” “Always learning himself, he reminds me of the joys of life-long study, even when I have been steeped in the mundane.” “His reputation as a researcher and mentor was a major reason I applied to the M.D./Ph.D. program and my experience in his lab only strengthened this view.”

“He gives trainees in his lab the respect and freedom they want and encourages them to explore new directions,” explained Gea-Ny Tseng, Ph.D., Professor of Physiology and Biophysics. “When challenges occur (as they always do in research), he cheers the students on and guides them in the right direction.” Added a former mentee, “He was a patient ear that allowed my excitement to pour forth and a structured guide who helped me frame my ideas about a topic, facilitated clarity of those thoughts and pointed me to useful avenues.”

“The things I remember most distinctly about Dr. Baumgarten are his enthusiasm in scientific research, his dedicated working style, strict scientific thinking and optimistic life attitude, which greatly benefit my career and my life,” added a former colleague. “His encouragement and optimism cheered up everyone in the team and made even the darkest time of the dissertation research more bearable,” said another.

Although Dr. Baumgarten’s optimism was tried recently, “his dedication to his students and his duty as a mentor stood tall even during his greatest personal health challenge,” wrote Diomedes Logothetis, Ph.D., Chairman, Department of Physiology and Biophysics.

“As a mentor, he should be held up as a prototype,” summarized a current M.D./Ph.D. student. “I know I would be honored if someday my own students held me in even half the esteem that I hold him.”

## *Distinguished Mentor Award*

### **Richard G. Moran, Ph.D.**



After years of effort, why would a doctoral student deliberately choose a lab that typically requires an additional year of dissertation work? The answer is Rick Moran, recognized both through this award and by his students as a Distinguished Mentor.

“The reason for the extra year (and the popularity of his lab) is that Rick gives his students an extra degree of freedom in designing and executing their projects...they learn more and are more creative when more is expected of them,” explained Vice Chair, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Stephen T. Sawyer, Ph.D. “He makes sure that his students are making the best of their experience as graduate students,” agreed a former mentee.

“He never spoon feeds anyone; he will let you wander and find the answers,” added another former post-doc in the Moran lab. “Now I have my own lab and in times of crunch I still think ‘what would Rick do?’ He just does not feed the fish, but teaches them to swim and survive.”

“In Greek mythology, ‘Mentor’ was the advisor of Odysseus who was entrusted with instructing and guiding Odysseus’ son Telemachus in his absence during the Trojan War. I think this definition is apt because Professor Moran was, first and foremost, concerned with the individual development of his students and postdoctoral associations,” explained John L. Andreassi, II, Ph.D. “He effectively guided us through every stage of our graduate training. He indoctrinated his students with a solid foundation of proper experimental design and encouraged us to explore our own ideas both in theory and at the bench.”

“Dr. Moran also felt strongly that his students must develop their thought processes in addition to their hands-on abilities,” said former doctoral advisee Fiona Turner. “We were encouraged to present at local, national and international meetings and he was instrumental in the manuscript writing process, offering valuable criticism and insight.” “His critiques focused and strengthened my grant application, which no doubt aided it in being funded,” added William A. Barton, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

“Rick is one of the finest mentors of graduate students that I have ever met,” said Michael F. Miles, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Pharmacology/Toxicology and Neurology. “He demands technical excellence and creativity from his students. More importantly, he demands (and teaches) an intense intellectual curiosity and honesty from each of his students.”

“I continue to benefit from Rick’s mentorship and guidance well beyond my Ph.D. candidacy,” wrote a former mentee who now is with Sloan-Kettering. “I turn to him whenever I put in a grant application or have a career development question since I know he will always be a source of valuable advice.”

“The success of graduates of the department or any one laboratory is the best measure of the quality of the mentoring,” states William L. Dewey, Ph.D., Professor and Interim Chair, Pharmacology and Toxicology. “There has been a long line of very successful graduates from Rick’s laboratory. He continues to be a real asset to this school and, through his mentoring he will continue to bring significant prestige to the whole institution.”

## *Educational Innovation Award*

### **The Thomas Palliative Care Program**



“To cure sometimes, to relieve often, to comfort always,” attributed to Hippocrates.

Palliative care is care given alongside usual care, whether curative or not. It focuses on meticulous symptom assessment and relief, honest and open communication, and medically appropriate goal setting. The VCU-Massey Thomas Palliative Care Team has helped make serious illness better for many, and has led the way nationally to prove the worth of palliative care and integrate it into usual care.

In 1999 there were no palliative care programs at hospitals over 300 beds. Today, there are more than 1300. “The VCU TPC team has been integral in this national movement,” wrote Gordon Ginder, M.D., Massey Cancer Center Director. “They wrote three of the eight curricula used by the Palliative Care Leadership Centers (PCLC) in teaching institutions how to start palliative care programs. They have trained more oncology groups than any other leadership center in the country. In fact, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation only agreed to allow oncology to be a ‘target for’ palliative care if the Massey Cancer Center PCLC was involved. Now they are intimately involved in developing the Veterans Administration palliative care initiative in which essentially every V.A. facility will be required to have a palliative care program.”

The Thomas team knew early-on the immense value of palliative care, allowing end-of-life patients the ability to pass in comfort, rather than under stress in an ICU/CCU. In addition to easing patients’ struggles, the Thomas Palliative Care Program was the first to document the significant cost savings from palliative care, proving that the cost of care for a dying patient can be reduced up to 60 percent in the last week of life. In addition, “their published graphs showing dramatic symptom improvement provides compelling evidence for the benefit of palliative care consultation alongside usual oncology care,” said Diane Meier, M.D., Director, Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC).

To broaden awareness and adoption of palliative care efforts, the Thomas team has developed both Virginia-centric and national initiatives. They launched the Virginia Initiative for Palliative Care, which allows all Virginia health care professionals to receive hands-on clinical training at VCU, and also have been central to efforts to increase education and establishment of palliative care centers nationwide through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-funded CAPC.

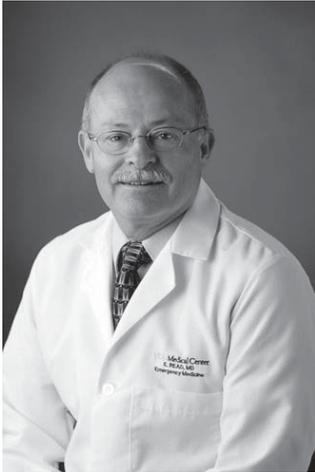
“The VCU Team played an essential role in developing our eight module CAPC curriculum,” added Dr. Meier. “VCU has been instrumental in implementing the curriculum around the country.” “Of the nearly 100 programs VCU has taught through that initiative, 100% have been confident that that have received the training they needed and 90% have started successful palliative care programs,” Dr. Ginder added.

Beyond education, the Thomas team continues to conduct breakthrough research. They “showed decisively that better pain management could be achieved leading to better clinical outcomes and likely improved survival,” Dr. Meier continued. “Their innovative work in dyspnea management has led to the practice changing use of nebulized fentanyl for dyspnea. They also have developed several innovative ways of treating chemotherapy induced neuropathic pain, menopausal hot flashes and other symptoms. Their goal is to become one of the national leading research centers.”

Congratulations to the Thomas Palliative Care Team: J. Brian Cassel, Ph.D.; Patrick Coyne, M.S.N.; Carrie Cybulski, P.M.P.; Mary Ann Hager, M.S.N.; Laurel Lyckholm, M.D.; and Thomas Smith, M.D.

## *Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award*

### **Edward James Read, Jr., M.D.**



Sometimes, it's not the treatment that makes the biggest difference; it's how you treat the patient -- just ask anyone who has worked with this year's winner of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award, Dr. Ed Read. "He understands that medicine is about whole-person care and teaches the students to not only use the clinical skills we have learned but also to listen to the patient, because behind each patient's physical pain is often a person with a stressed-out and depressed psyche. He has shown me that listening to patients, holding their hand, and even praying for them if they are open to it, can often do more for a patient than ordering multiple diagnostic tests."

Dr. Read is inspiring, both professionally and personally. "Dr. Read is a highly competent and compassionate physician who practices whole person care, respects his patients, colleagues, residents and students and emphasizes practicing integrity in medicine and life," wrote one colleague. Added another, "He is very involved in the lives of medical students and encourages them to not only have successful careers in medicine but to also lead fulfilled, balanced and purposeful lives."

A man of deep faith, Dr. Read reaches out to his students, hosting weekly Bible studies for medical students and a group for medical students and spouses, and sponsoring the Christian Medical and Dental Association. Beyond our borders, he has led yearly mission trips to El Salvador, providing care and compassion via a mobile free clinic and treating those who would have no other way to receive care.

It is through these mission trips, as well as his day-to-day conduct at the hospital, that Dr. Read communicates the need for cultural sensitivity among physicians. "For example, in El Salvador, a country with many Catholic churches, at one of the outdoor clinics, the students had piled our belongings on a shrine of the Virgin Mary. Dr. Read caught our mistake and corrected it so that we would not offend and lose the trust of our patients before we even met them."

While a CV can give an accurate picture of what a physician's medical achievements are, the best evidence for a practitioner's humanism can be found in the testimonies of those who know and work with him:

"He embodies kindness, compassion, humility and wisdom and is the consummate professional."

"Dr. Read demonstrates three important characteristics that every physician should exhibit: competency, compassion and being a good listener."

"Dr. Read continually reminds me what a privilege it is to take care of patients. "

"In a department where providers can become hardened and cynical, Ed approaches each patient with kindness and humility."

While new at Hunter Holmes McGuire Medical Center of the Department of Veterans Affairs, the impact Dr. Read has had on the lives of VCU medical students, colleagues, staff and patients will long be remembered and appreciated.

# *Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement Award*

## **Mary Helen Hackney, M.D.**



While it's natural for WISDM to look out for accomplished women to honor with its annual Professional Achievement Award, sometimes it's just as important to look in. This year's award recipient is the president of the WISDM Executive Council, Mary Helen Hackney, M.D., a superior medical oncologist specializing in breast cancer, and Associate Professor in the Division of Hematology Oncology in the Department of Internal Medicine.

"I have known Dr. Hackney for almost 20 years," said Harry D. Bear, M.D., Ph.D., Chairman, Division of Surgical Oncology. "She is clearly an outstanding role model for physicians generally and oncologists in particular, not only for her outstanding patient care but also for her dedication to teaching, mentorship and clinical research.

Her dedication and empathy for her patients are incredible and serve as an example to all of those around her, including myself."

"I can attest to the fact that patients derive their courage and spirit to fight their illness from the strength and care that they feel from their oncologist," added Kelsey E.S. Salley, M.D., Associate Program Director for Women's Health. "Dr. Hackney's compassionate approach to patient care, leadership abilities and mentoring relationship with so many residents, students and fellows are among the many qualities that make her an ideal role model deserving of this prestigious award. "

In nominating Dr. Hackney for the WISDM award, Brian J Kaplan, M.D., Program Director, General Surgery Residency, commended her skills as an oncologist, educator and mentor: "First and foremost, Dr. Mary Helen Hackney is the consummate oncologist..." In addition, "she is an excellent teacher and it is not unusual that students and residents line up to spend some time with her."

"She is well known for her professionalism, and super care of patients, and is looked on as a role model by both medical students and residents," agreed James P. Neifeld, M.D., Stuart McGuire Professor and Chair, Department of Surgery.

Dr. Hackney's efforts on behalf of Massey Cancer Center's Rural Outreach Program, for which she served as Director, have brought high level cancer care to those who otherwise would have been unable to receive it. She also has been a long-time volunteer physician at the CrossOver Clinic serving those in the Richmond area who have no other medical home.

"Dr. Hackney's work through WISDM as well as other institutional service has helped to foster professional development of many women in the medical center, myself included," added Cecelia H. Boardman, M.D., Associate Professor, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Colleague Laurie Lyckholm, M.D., Associate Professor, Hematology/Oncology and Palliative Medicine concurred: "She has worked tenaciously to elevate women's issues and causes in both the University and the Commonwealth of Virginia. She is a tremendous force in support of women everywhere."

"She is looked up to by women in all aspects of medicine as a compassionate and distinguished clinician who always offers the most up-to-date care in a caring way and as a teacher and mentor who can pass the information on to others who will hopefully be able to follow in her footsteps," summarized and commended Dr. Bear. "We are very fortunate to have her here and I can think of no one more deserving of this honor."

## *MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award*

### **Domenic A. Sica, M.D.**



Compassionate. Brilliant. Dedicated. His character is so multifaceted that a single perspective cannot do him justice, but his devotion to patient care is overarching. “Dr. Sica is a brilliant physician who has the ability to work up and care for the most severely ill patients,” explains Harold Young, M.D., Chair of the Department of Neurosurgery. “He is compassionate and has a vast clinical background. Dr. Sica also brings the very best in medicine to any patient that he cares for.”

Recognized as one of the top nephrologists in the area by Richmond Magazine, Dr. Sica directs the Hypertension Clinic at VCUHS and works closely with free-standing clinics and health care providers in the greater Richmond area to provide both education and quality health care in the area of hypertension.

Dr. Sica also has been involved in countless service and leadership roles in nephrology, clinical pharmacology, and hypertension organizations, currently is on the Board of Directors of the American Society of Hypertension, and is a sought-after speaker at national and international meetings.

He is the recipient of numerous awards for his clinical skills including the Distinguished Clinical Care award from the VCU Department of Medicine, the inaugural Master Clinician Award from the International Society of Hypertension in Blacks, and the inaugural Marvin Moser Award from the American Society of Hypertension, an award given to a clinician who has provided outstanding service in the hypertension community in patient care, scholarly activity, and research. Recipient of several Best Teaching Attending Awards, he also is dedicated to educating the next generation of scientists. “He always finds the time to selflessly mentor housestaff,” wrote one colleague, “and is especially giving of his time and experience to junior faculty, encouraging their growth both as clinicians and scientists.”

“Dr. Sica is formed in the mold of the old school ‘triple threat’ of academics: an extremely well accomplished and recognized scientist, clinician, and educator,” another colleague explained. “He is a dedicated scientist and clinician who is always giving back to his community. He is a true role model and an excellent ambassador both locally and nationally for our university.”

Colleagues praise “his very quiet, but consistent philanthropic support of our community. He established the Ram Slam Scholarship Program in 1998 to recognize Richmond City Public High school students for both community service and academic excellence, personally providing over \$100,000 in scholarship dollars in the past 11 years. “A rabid sports fan, he has shared his support and love of the VCU basketball team with the youth of the area, purchasing up to 2000 tickets per year over the last 10 years to allow kids to attend these games,” added his nominating team. “He has even managed to combine his two loves (hypertension and sports), providing free health and blood pressure screenings before games.”

Most recently, Dr. Sica and his wife endowed the Sica Family Single Mother Scholarship, which already has allowed several young women to successfully complete school at VCU. Of his involvement, Dr. Sica has said: “It is my belief that we need to invest in our youth, which is the greatest resource we have in this country. There are many deserving young adults who cannot make it to school because of the finances of attending and these scholarships are one way of getting them started.”

“Without a doubt, we are fortunate to have Dr. Domenic Sica as a part of our university and community,” commended Lisa K. Brath, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine Pulmonary-Critical Care Division. “He is certainly one of our ultimate role models, and by all accounts, well deserving of the title of Distinguished Clinician of the Year.”

# *VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award*

## **Stephanie A. Call, M.D., M.S.P.H.**



Leadership in Graduate Medical Education? Stephanie Call, Internal Medicine Program Director, defines it.

“Through her extraordinary creative efforts, willpower and dedication, Stephanie Call has produced one of the top, most sought after Internal Medicine training programs in the US today,” praised Chairman, Division of Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine, Alpha A. (Berry) Fowler, III, M.D. “As long-heralded programs such as Harvard, Johns Hopkins and Yale frequently fail to fill their Internal Medicine intern matches, the VCU School of Medicine Internal Medicine program consistently fills all positions with top flight graduates from medical schools across the US.”

“Stephanie is truly passionate about what she does,” wrote Lisa K. Brath, Program Director, Pulmonary-Critical Care Fellowship. “Her work ethic is beyond compare. I’ve lost count of the number of emails that she sends out at 2 am and thus the number of times we’ve all asked, ‘When does the woman sleep?’”

“Stephanie has demonstrated her commitment to the program, designing and implementing multiple education innovations and enhancements,” added Dr. Brath. “She’s also engaged the housestaff in the process of change, involving them directly in seeking programmatic improvements in clinic structure, call schedules and didactic conferences.”

“She has introduced behavioral interviewing, evidence-based practice methods, one-minute precepting, illness scripts and numerous other techniques to improve the program,” stated Peter Boling, Interim Chair, Division of General Internal Medicine. “A further testament to Stephanie’s leadership is the near perfect performance of VCU Internal Medicine graduates on the ABIM certifying exam since she took over directorship of the program,” added Dr. Fowler.

Her inclusive leadership approach has led to a sea change in the relationship between Internal Medicine and the subspecialty programs, “fostering an academic atmosphere and unparalleled cooperation between programs.” As evidence, program directors of all ten subspecialty programs: Nephrology, Pulmonary, Geriatrics, Hematology-Oncology, Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Cardiology, Rheumatology, Gastroenterology, Endocrinology and Infectious Disease, joined as one to second her Leadership award nomination: “Through her hard work and support, she has made the fellowships a vital part of the department rather than the poor cousins that we were before.”

Praise for Stephanie Call is not limited to the confines of the VCU Medical Center. “Her national leadership in the Association of Program Directors for Internal Medicine, her expertise in team-based learning, and her sustained recognition as a national expert on faculty development training have led to multiple invitations to speak and lead conferences all over the globe,” added John D. Buckley, M.D., M.P.H., President, Association of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine Program Directors. “However, her most important attribute is what she views as her primary career responsibility, and that is as her residents’ advocate, coach, role model and mentor. She does this with passion and exquisite effectiveness.”

“It seems that good educators and directors are eternally busy, and their reward for this is to actually become busier,” added Dr. Brath, “but whether it means meeting the resident at the hospital at 6 am or having them come to her house for dinner, Stephanie always finds the time. She constantly reminds us that ‘we work for the residents’ and that the residents are our highest priority.”

This is not the first award Stephanie Call has received. Among others, she is a past recipient of the Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching. It also assuredly will not be the last. As the Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine, Richard P. Wenzel, M.D., says, “She is one in a million, a superstar in our midst.”

## *VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award*

### **Scott A. Vota, D.O.**



Barely three years ago, Scott Vota, D.O., was completing his Neurophysiology fellowship. Today, he is being recognized for his significant accomplishments as Neurology Program Director. A Rising Star to be certain.

“In just a few years, Dr. Vota has exemplified the role of Program Director, turning a struggling program into a very well rounded one,” praised the Neurology residents. “He has not just raised the bar of expectation for everyone but helped us go beyond too.”

“Scott has made significant contributions to graduate medical education within our department,” explained former Neurology department chair, Alan R. Towne, M.D., M.P.H. “He has improved our program both through his dedication to recruitment efforts and increasing resident morale. He has implemented a Friday morning patient care conference and a team-based learning board review course. He has demonstrated a high level of competence, commitment and leadership and has a very promising future in academic medicine.”

Known for his dedication to neurology education as well as patient care, Dr. Vota also leads a weekly EMG/Neuromuscular conference and monthly Journal Club for Clinical neurophysiology residents. He developed the curriculum for the Neurology Evening Lecture series for a non-neurologist audience and established a Chemodenervation workshop for housestaff and faculty in Neurology. He is also Director of the Muscular Dystrophy Clinic and EMG Laboratory.

“In addition to building his practice and participating in research projects, Scott has implemented new curriculum and processes and has significantly improved our program in two short years.” Andrea Perseghin, Medical Education Team Leader, Department of Neurology. “Most importantly, Scott has a vision for our program and has communicated this to faculty and residents who are working together with Scott to achieve this vision.”

“He is a hard-working, caring, personable boss/friend who is loved by all who work with and for him,” added Neurology colleague Diane Atkinson. “His door is always open to his residents for counseling and teaching.” Adding further shine to this rising star is his commitment to community involvement. “As a neuromuscular specialist, Dr. Vota volunteers each year for the Muscular Dystrophy Association summer camp as a resident physician.” He’s also “Coach Vota” for his daughter’s soccer team.

He has earned the respect of his peers and his patients and has played a key role in training both residents and fellows,” added Dr. Towne. The residents clearly agree: “He leads by example and we have found his dedication both inspiring and motivating. He is truly a role model. His leadership to the program is invaluable. As residents we strive to emulate him.”

If this is how Dr. Vota is viewed after just two years as program director, the sky’s the limit for this rising star’s future.

*Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award in  
Health Sciences Education*

**Babette Fuss, Ph.D.**

Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology

**Suzanne Barbour, Ph.D.**

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

**Al M. Best, Ph.D.**

Department of Biostatistics

**Derek Chapman, Ph.D.**

Department of Epidemiology and Community Health

**Sarah H. Elsea, Ph.D.**

Department of Human and Molecular Genetics

**David Straus, Ph.D.**

Department of Microbiology and Immunology

**Sandra Welch, Ph.D.**

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

**Joe Feher, Ph.D.**

Department of Physiology and Biophysics

Selection of the outstanding departmental teacher is determined by a process developed by each basic sciences department.

*Outstanding Teacher Awards in  
Undergraduate Medical Education*

**Best Teacher in the Course and Clerkship Awards**

**M-I Courses**

<b>Neil Sonenklar, M.D.</b>	Behavioral Sciences I Course
<b>Raymond Colello, D.Phil.</b>	Gross and Developmental Anatomy Course
<b>Milton Sholley, Ph.D.</b>	Gross and Developmental Anatomy Course
<b>John Bigbee, Ph.D.</b>	Histology Course
<b>Virginia Pallante, M.S.</b>	Human Genetics Course
<b>John Tew, Ph.D.</b>	Immunology Course
<b>Suzanne Barbour, Ph.D.</b>	Medical Biochemistry Course
<b>Robert Diegelmann, Ph.D.</b>	Medical Biochemistry Course
<b>George Leichnetz, Ph.D.</b>	Neurosciences Course
<b>Linda Costanzo, Ph.D.</b>	Physiology Course
<b>Saba Masho, M.D.</b>	Population Medicine Course

**M-II Courses**

<b>Isaac Wood, M.D.</b>	Behavioral Sciences II Course
<b>Andrea Hastillo, M.D.</b>	Cardiovascular Course
<b>Isaac Wood, M.D.</b>	Careers in Medicine
<b>Diane Biskobing, M.D.</b>	Endocrine Course
<b>Doumit Bouhaider, M.D.</b>	Gastrointestinal Course
<b>Jonathan Ben-Ezra, M.D.</b>	Hematology/Oncology Course
<b>Gonzalo Bearman, M.D.</b>	Microbiology Course
<b>Michael Edmond, M.D.</b>	Microbiology Course
<b>Christopher Wise, M.D.</b>	Musculoskeletal Course Course
<b>Julia Nunley, M.D.</b>	Musculoskeletal Course Course
<b>Lenore Joseph, M.D.</b>	Nervous System Course
<b>H. Davis Massey, D.D.S., M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Pathogenesis Course
<b>Margaret Grimes, M.D.</b>	Pathology Teaching
<b>Edward Ishac, Ph.D.</b>	Pharmacology Course
<b>Linda Costanzo, Ph.D.</b>	Renal Course
<b>Susan DiGiovanni, M.D.</b>	Renal Course
<b>R. Paul Fairman, M.D.</b>	Respiratory Course
<b>Fidelma Rigby, M.D.</b>	Women's Health Course
<b>James Messmer, M.D.</b>	Radiology Teaching

**M-I and M-II Courses**

<b>Todd Gehr, M.D.</b>	Foundations of Clinical Medicine Course-IM Preceptor
<b>Christine Huynh, M.D.</b>	Foundations of Clinical Medicine Course-IM Small Group Leader
<b>Lynne Deane, M.D.</b>	Foundations of Clinical Medicine Course-FM Preceptor
<b>Alene Waller, M.D.</b>	Foundations of Clinical Medicine Course-FM Preceptor
<b>Jeanette Carpenter, M.D.</b>	Foundations of Clinical Medicine Course-FM Small Group Leader
<b>Laurel Lyckholm, M.D.</b>	Medical Bioethics Course
<b>Huguenot Pediatrics</b>	Foundations of Clinical Medicine Course-Peds Preceptor Site
<b>Christopher Woleben, M.D.</b>	Foundations of Clinical Medicine Course-Peds Small Group Leader

*Outstanding Teacher Awards in  
Undergraduate Medical Education*

**Best Teacher in the Course and Clerkship Awards**

**M-III Clerkships**

**James Anderson, M.D.**

**Elizabeth Miller, M.D.**

**John Taylor, M.D.**

**Chris Morosky, M.D.**

**James Mullins, III, M.D.**

**Sean McKenna, M.D.**

**Sherif Meguid, M.D.**

**Huan Vu, M.D.**

Family Medicine Clerkship

Medicine Clerkship

Neurology Clerkship

Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship

Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship, Riverside

Pediatrics Clerkship

Psychiatry Clerkship

Surgery Clerkship

*Outstanding Teacher Awards in  
Undergraduate Medical Education*

**Faculty with High Evaluation Awards**

**M-I Courses**

**Brian Meyer, Ph.D.**  
**Jeff Dupree, Ph.D.**  
**Randall Merchant, Ph.D.**  
**Arti Pandya, M.D., M.B.A.**  
**Ronald Smeltz, Ph.D.**  
**Mac Grogan, Ph.D.**  
**Kathryn Holloway, M.D.**  
**George Ford, Ph.D.**  
**Raphael Witorsch, Ph.D.**  
**Richard Wenzel, M.D., M.Sc.**

Behavioral Sciences I Course  
Gross and Developmental Anatomy Course  
Histology  
Human Genetics Course  
Immunology Course  
Medical Biochemistry Course  
Neurosciences Course  
Physiology Course  
Physiology Course  
Population Medicine

**M-II Courses**

**Kenneth Kendler, M.D.**  
**Margaret Grimes, M.D.**  
**Indra Kancitis, M.D.**  
**Anita Navarro, M.Ed.**  
**Lori Sweeney, M.D.**  
**James Messmer, M.D.**  
**Richard Sterling, M.D.**  
**Laurel Lyckholm, M.D.**  
**Gita Massey, M.D.**  
**James Levenson, M.D.**  
**Sara Monroe, M.D.**  
**Lenore Buckley, M.D.**  
**Mark C. Willis, Jr., M.D.**  
**Christine Fuller, M.D.**  
**Scott Whitlow, D.O.**  
**Todd Gehr, M.D.**  
**Margaret Grimes, M.D.**  
**Susan Lanni, M.D.**  
**Catherine Matthews, M.D.**  
**H. Davis Massey, D.D.S., M.D., Ph.D.**  
**Curtis Hayes, M.D.**  
**Beth Rubinstein, M.D.**  
**Christopher Morosky, M.D.**

Behavioral Sciences II Course  
Cardiovascular Course  
Careers in Medicine  
Careers in Medicine  
Endocrine Course  
Gastrointestinal Course  
Gastrointestinal Course  
Hematology/Oncology Course  
Hematology/Oncology Course  
Medical Bioethics Course  
Microbiology Course  
Musculoskeletal Course  
Musculoskeletal Course  
Nervous System Course  
Pharmacology Course  
Renal Course  
Respiratory Course  
Women's Health Course  
Women's Health Course  
Pathology Teaching  
Radiology Teaching  
Best New Teacher  
Best New Teacher

*Outstanding Teacher Awards in  
Undergraduate Medical Education*

**Faculty with High Evaluation Awards**

**M-III Clerkships**

**Bennett Lee, M.D.**

**Aaron Fox, M.D.**

**Catherine Matthews, M.D.**

**Stephen Cohen, M.D.**

**David Rayl, M.D.**

**Ron Williams, M.D.**

**N. Romesh Wijesooriya, M.D.**

**Al Friedman, M.D.**

**William Koch, M.D.**

**Annemarie Tull, M.D.**

**Peter Heyman, M.D.**

**Anna Hristova, M.D.**

**Joel Moran, M.D.**

**Sultana Salam, M.D.**

**Therese Duane, M.D.**

**Ronald Merrell, M.D.**

**Tom Hollandsworth, M.D.**

Medicine Clerkship

Medicine Clerkship

Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship

Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship

Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship, Riverside

Pediatrics Clerkship

Pediatrics Clerkship

Pediatrics Clerkship

Pediatrics Clerkship

Pediatrics Clerkship

Pediatrics Clerkship

Neurology Clerkship

Psychiatry Clerkship

Psychiatry Clerkship

Surgery Clerkship

Surgery Clerkship

Family Medicine Clerkship

## *2009 Teaching Excellence Awards Nominees*

**Melvin Fratkin, M.D.**, Department of Radiology

**Catherine Kelso, M.D.**, Department of Internal Medicine

**Barry Kirkpatrick, M.D.**, Department of Pediatrics

**Catherine Matthews, M.D.**, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

**Molecular Diagnostics Practicum**, Department of Pathology

**Paul Ratz, Ph.D.**, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

**Sarah Spiegel, Ph.D.**, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

*Congratulations to our Nominees!*

###

*Special Thanks*

**VCU Creative Services**

Allen Jones

**Curriculum Office**

Kathleen Kreutzer, Lelia Brinegar

**Dean's Office**

Joan Barrett, Ruth McIntosh-Brandt, Ann-Marie Taranto

**Educational Technology**

JK Stringer

**Student Affairs**

Janet Mundie

###

*Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Excellence Awards*

Jan F. Chlebowski, Ph.D., Associate Dean, Graduate Education

Carol L. Hampton, M.M.S., Associate Dean, Office of Faculty Affairs

Deborah Stewart, Teaching Awards Program Coordinator, School of Medicine

Isaac Wood, M.D., Senior Associate Dean, Medical Education and Student Affairs

# *Previous Teaching Award Winners*

## **FACULTY TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD**

Linda S. Costanzo, Ph.D., 1999  
James L. Levenson, M.D., 2000  
R. Paul Fairman, M.D., 2001  
Isaac Keith Wood, M.D., 2002  
Robert L. Balster, Ph.D., 2003  
Richard M. Costanzo, Ph.D., 2003  
Suzanne E. Barbour, Ph.D., 2004  
Robert F. Diegelmann, Ph.D., 2005  
David F. Gardner, M.D., 2006  
Edward J.N. Ishac, Ph.D., 2006  
Leslie S. Satin, Ph.D., 2007  
Enrique Gerszten, M.D., 2008

## **IRBY-JAMES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TEACHING**

David R. Salter, M.D., 1999  
Joel A. Blum, M.D., 2000  
Cesar I. Kanamori, M.D., 2001  
Robert K. Schneider, M.D., 2003  
Robert A. Adler, M.D., 2004  
Alpha (Berry) A. Fowler, III, M.D., 2005  
Brian J. Kaplan, M.D., 2006  
Stephanie A. Call, M.D., M.S.P.H., 2007  
John G. Pierce, Jr., M.D., 2008

## **DISTINGUISHED MENTOR AWARD**

John Bigbee, Ph.D., 1999  
W. Hans Carter, Jr., Ph.D., 2000  
Suzanne R. Lavoie, M.D., 2000  
Daniel H. Conrad, Ph.D., 2001  
Mary D. Nettleman, M.D., M.S., 2001  
Cynthia M. Heldberg, Ph.D., 2002  
Sandra P. Welch, Ph.D., 2002  
Deborah L. Haller, Ph.D., 2003  
George R. Leichnetz, Ph.D., 2004  
Roland N. Pittman, Ph.D., 2005  
David X. Cifu, M.D., 2005  
Chris Gennings, Ph.D., 2006  
John E. Nestler, M.D., 2006  
James M. Messmer, M.D., M.Ed., 2007  
John N. Clore, M.D., 2008

## **EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION/EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD**

Joann N. Bodurtha, M.D., M.P.H., 1999  
Michelle Y. Whitehurst-Cook, M.D., and Rita M. Willett, M.D., 1999  
Carol L. Hampton, M.M.S., 2000  
Alice S. "Dolly" Pakurar, Ph.D., 2001  
Thomas M. Kerkering, M.D., 2002  
Charles O. Frazier, M.D., 2003  
Edward J.N. Ishac, Ph.D., 2004  
J. Dennis Hoban, Ed.D., 2005  
Isaac K. Wood, M.D., 2006  
Leanne M. Yanni, M.D., and Team, 2007  
Alan Dow, M.D., M.S.H.A., and Team, 2008  
Curtis N. Sessler, M.D., and Team, 2008

## 2009 Awards Selection Committees

### **Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards**

Abisola Ayodeji, Class of 2010  
Joann Bodurtha, M.D., Department of Human and Molecular Genetics  
Ravinder (Ravi) Brar, Class of 2010  
Diane Cox, M.D., Department of Surgery (Housestaff)  
Audrey Forrest, Ph.D. Student, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology  
David Gardner, M.D., Department of Internal Medicine  
Chris Gennings, Ph.D., Department of Biostatistics  
Edward Ishac, Ph.D., Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology  
Kathleen Kreutzer, M.Ed., Office of Faculty Affairs, Interim Chair (non-voting)  
John Pierce, M.D., Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Roland Pittman, Ph.D., Department of Physiology and Biophysics  
James Shaw, M.D., Department of Internal Medicine  
Deborah Stewart, B.I.S., Office of Faculty Affairs (non-voting)

### **Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education**

#### **M-I Awards**

Nirjhor Bhowmik, M-I Curriculum Representative  
John Bigbee, Ph.D., Department of Anatomy  
Linda Costanzo, Ph.D., Chair, Department of Physiology and Biophysics/Curriculum  
Robert Diegelmann, Ph.D., Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
Nana Ohene-Baah, M-I Curriculum Representative  
Angie Wetzel, M.Ed., Curriculum  
Isaac Wood, M.D., Curriculum  
Kathryn Zedler, M-I Curriculum Representative

#### **M-II Awards**

Georgia Blackwood Kubic, M-II Curriculum Representative  
Katharine Bowers, M-II Curriculum Representative  
MaryEllen Cleary, M-II Curriculum Representative  
Linda Costanzo, Ph.D., Chair, Physiology/Curriculum  
Susan DiGiovanni, M.D., Nephrology  
Angie Wetzel, M.Ed., Curriculum  
Christopher Wise, M.D., Rheumatology  
Isaac Wood, M.D., Curriculum

#### **M-III Awards**

Cheryl Al-Mateen, M.D., Psychiatry  
Gonzalo Bearman, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Melissa Bradner, M.D., Family Practice  
Warren Felton, M.D., Neurology  
Barry Kirkpatrick, M.D., Pediatrics  
John Pierce, M.D., Obstetrics/Gynecology  
Jeannie Savas, M.D., Surgery  
Angie Wetzel, M.Ed., Curriculum  
Isaac Wood, M.D., Curriculum

### **VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award**

Judy Brannen, M.D., Veterans Affairs Medical Center  
Ralph "Ron" Clark, M.D., VCU Health System  
Margaret M. Grimes, M.D., Pathology, SOM  
Lenore Joseph, M.D., Veterans Affairs Medical Center  
Mary Alice O'Donnell, Ph.D., Graduate Medical Education  
Margaret Vandermark, Dean's Office, School of Medicine