21st 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 25, 2019
Faculty Excellence Awards Program

12:00 Welcome ................................................................. Betsy Ripley, M.D., M.S., RAC
Senior Associate Dean, Faculty Affairs

21st Annual Presentation of Awards

Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award ........................................................... Peter Buckley, M.D.
in Health Sciences Education
Dean, School of Medicine
Executive VP for Medical Affairs
VCU Health

Michael Grotewiel, Ph.D.
Associate Dean, Graduate Education

Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education
• Best Teacher in the Course and Clerkship Awards
• Faculty with High Evaluation Awards

Teaching Excellence Awards ................................................................. Peter Buckley, M.D.
• The Enrique Gerszten, M.D. Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
• The Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching
• The Distinguished Mentor Award (Two recipients)
• The Educational Innovation Award

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

Women in Science, Dentistry and Medicine Professional Achievement Award
Kimberly Sanford, M.D. Past-President, WISDM Faculty Organization

MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award ................................... Thomas Yackel, M.D., M.PH., M.S., M.B.A.
(Two recipients) President, MCV Physicians
Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Practice, VCU School of Medicine

VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education..... Brian Aboff, M.D.
“LGME” Awards Senior Associate Dean, Graduate Medical Education
• Fellowship Director Award
• Program Director Award
• Program Coordinator Award

1:00 Closing Remarks................................................................. Betsy Ripley, M.D., M.S., RAC

All attendees are invited to lunch on the Plaza, see last page of program for lunch ticket.
The Awards

**Teaching Excellence Awards**

The Enrique Gerszten, M.D. 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 award is funded by gifts to the MCV Foundation. The recipient receives from the endowment fund a cash award of $1,429 and $5,715 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 $3,667.

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.

A plaque with each award recipient’s name and photo will be displayed in the McGlothlin Medical Education Center.

**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/awards/. The medical student who received this award for 2019 was Bret Clawson. Her award was presented at Student Honors Day in April.

**Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine (WISDM) Professional Achievement Award**

The primary purpose of this annual award is to recognize those women who are a role model and mentor, promoting the professional development of other women faculty, and demonstrate excellence in: 1) success as a mentor and role model for women faculty; 2) professional excellence: accomplished in their primary area of practice (clinical, basic sciences, etc.); 3) leadership: university administrative duties, and other leadership roles; 4) Scholarship; 5) teaching expertise. Additional information about the award and the list of previous recipients may be found at http://www.medschool.vcu.edu/facultyaffairs/awards/
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 program coordinators, 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 Pre-Clinical and Clinical years through student and course director evaluations. Each award recipient receives an outstanding teacher pin, a certificate, and $100 for educational development.

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

*The School of Medicine Teaching Excellence Awards Program was established in 1999. Additional information may be found at https://medschool.vcu.edu/about/deans-office/facultyaffairs/.
Faculty Excellence Awards Recipients

Enrique Gerszten, M.D. Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
Frank A. Fulco, M.D.
Associate Professor of Internal Medicine

Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching
Josephina A. Vossen, M.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Radiology

Distinguished Mentor Award
Steven H. Crossman, M.D.
Associate Professor of Family Medicine and Population Health
Michael F. Miles, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Educational Innovation Award/Educational Research Award
Peter J. Haar, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Radiology; Marvin Alexander (Alex) Meredith, Ph.D., Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology; Gross Anatomy Teaching Faculty; VCU Radiology Residency Program; VCU CT Technologists

Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award
presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation
Sudha Jayaraman, M.D., M.Sc.
Associate Professor of Surgery

Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement Award
Susan R. DiGiovanni, M.D.
Professor of Internal Medicine

MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award
Robin L. Foster, M.D.
Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Vigneshwar Kasirajan, M.D.
Professor and Chair of Surgery
Faculty Excellence Awards Recipients

VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education “LGME” Award
   "Fellowship Director Award"
   **Paula A. Ferrada, M.D.**
   Professor of Surgery
   "Program Director Award"
   **Rahul J. Anand, M.D.**
   Associate Professor of Surgery
   "Program Coordinator Award"
   **Pamela Adams-Lewis, Ed.D., M.B.A.**
   Senior Graduate Medical Education Program Coordinator, Pathology

Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award in Health Sciences Education
Departments of Anatomy and Neurobiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Biostatistics, Division of Epidemiology (Family Medicine & Population Health), Health Behavior and Policy, Human and Molecular Genetics, Microbiology and Immunology, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Physiology and Biophysics

Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education
Best Teacher and High Evaluation Awards in the Course and Clerkship
Frank A. Fulco, M.D.

Associate Professor of Medicine and Academic Hospitalist at McGuire Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC), Frank Fulco, M.D., R.Ph., has held numerous administrative and educational leadership positions since 2001. He is currently Internal Medicine Site Director for the Combined Emergency Medicine/Internal Medicine Residency program, Associate Director for the MIII Internal Medicine Clerkship at McGuire VAMC, and Associate Program Director for the Department of Internal Medicine (DOIM) Residency Program. Dr. Fulco completed the VCU Post-Baccalaureate Graduate Certificate in Teaching in Medical Education (TiME) in 2015.

Dr. Fulco’s dynamic and interactive process of teaching is renowned. “He is a master at identifying the way to reach each individual learner and intuitively knows how to tailor his evaluations and feedback to foster professional development among his trainees,” observes Jeffrey Kushinka, M.D., Associate Professor and Chair, Division of General Internal Medicine. “Dr. Fulco’s mentorship has been essential to my career.” attests Monika Kumar, M.D., now practicing at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. “It is easy enough to teach facts from a book, but to teach young physicians how to become the best versions of themselves, to push them into uncomfortable territory and then to see them excel – these are the skills that have made an impact on me and many of my co-residents.”

Comments from resident learners reflect their appreciation of this process:

“He continually readdresses his expectations of you, constantly giving you more independence and makes you work to be your best!” “He models enthusiasm, compassion, critical thinking, and teaching every day.” “He loves to teach, and it shows.”

The number of educational activities Dr. Fulco supports or has created is remarkable. In part, he helps coordinate DOIM morning report, M&M conferences, journal clubs, serves as a Foundations of Clinical Medicine medical student small group leader, is a core advisor and educator for the DOIM residency program, and a M4 medical student mentor and core advisor. Dr. Fulco mentors DOIM residents on quality improvement (QI) and patient safety and serves as a module facilitator for the DOIM Immersion Experience in Comparative Physiology. He played a key role in developing a novel Acute Cardiology Experience (ACE TEAM) rotation and a QI and Patient Safety curriculum block at the VAMC. Additionally, he is Scientific Chairman and Coordinator for CME Internal Medicine Grand Rounds at the VAMC.

Dr. Fulco has received dozens of recognitions, including Outstanding Clerkship Teaching Awards, Outstanding Faculty Awards, and Outstanding Ward Attending Awards and the Most Skilled Clinico-pathology Conference Diagnostician Teaching Award from DOIM residents. Dr. Fulco was honored with the SOM Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching in 2011.

The primary curriculum designer, mentor, and recruiter for the Chief Resident in Quality and Patient Safety (CRQS) program, Dr. Fulco has developed early career internists into experts in QI and patient safety. These trainees have gone on to leadership positions, including one at the national level within the V.A.

Dr. Fulco has shared his process for designing and reporting morning report sessions at the Association of Program Directors for Internal Medicine Chief Residents for the past 7 years. In addition to significant clinical research, he has published as part of a multi-institutional study applying a validated evaluation tool, MERSQI, to systematically review high impact educational literature.

Lenore Joseph, M.D., Associate Chief of Staff/Education, at McGuire VAMC echoes many learners and colleagues in describing Dr. Fulco. “He is deliberate in honoring the dignity of all patients and treating clinical team members of all disciplines and contributions with great respect and appreciation. . . . At the end of the day, notwithstanding his many accolades and achievements, Dr. Fulco remains one of the kindest and humblest individuals that I know, a true servant leader.”

Faculty Excellence Awards
“The average experience for a medical student on a radiology rotation usually entails sitting quietly in their chair with their eyes stuck on the screen of their phone in a desperate attempt to stay awake,” recalls Mashya Abbassi, M.D, former VCU medical student, and current radiology resident at Boston University. “I had the good fortune of being paired with Dr. Vossen. My time there was anything but average; she showed me interesting cases, talked me through the search patterns of various joint plain films, went through anatomy and even had me sit and play-dictate some studies.”

This is a typical story from students of Dr. Josephina Vossen, Assistant Professor of Radiology, and Medical Director of Stony Point Radiology. Dr. Vossen, who joined the VCU faculty in 2016, is a musculoskeletal radiologist, interpreting radiographs, CTs, MRIs, and performing image-guided procedures. She became the Musculoskeletal Fellowship director in 2018 and the Radiology Residency Program Director for 35 residents this July.

Dr. Vossen teaches medical students, resident, fellows, faculty, and staff in Radiology - but also learners in Orthopedics, Internal Medicine, Rheumatology, and other specialty areas.

“With medical students who rotate in our reading rooms, Dr. Vossen engages in non-threatening Socratic dialogue that captures attention and sparks both understanding and enthusiasm,” observes colleague Peter Haar, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Radiology.

Matthew Herczyk, M.D. former Radiology resident and fellow, explains, “She is knowledgeable, organized, incredibly hard-working and most of all develops inspiring relationships with her students. I attribute most of my knowledge and skill with Musculoskeletal ultrasound to her and, under her guidance, won a Cum Laude aware at the annual Radiological Society of North America event with a digital presentation on talus fractures. Josephina has consistently shown dedication in her role as an educator and take personal responsibility for the success of her patients.”

Dr. Vossen teaches in many venues, including procedure rooms, grand rounds, multidisciplinary conferences, and reading rooms during image review. Her ability to teach practical clinical skills effectively to her audience’s level and needs makes her much in demand by multiple Schools and departments to teach students, trainees, and faculty. Dr. Vossen is often the first contact in radiology for clinical medical students. She has mentored students to present educational exhibits to clinical radiologists at meetings including the American Roentgen Ray Society, The Radiology Society of North America, and the Society of Skeletal Radiology.

In 2016 Dr. Vossen received international recognition for her teaching when she was awarded the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA) Certificate of Merit Award for an educational exhibit. In 2017, she received a Cum Laude Award for an educational exhibit, also at the RSNA. In 2017 and 2019, Dr. Vossen received the VCU Klaus Ranninger Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching; the recipient of this award is selected annually by the Diagnostic Radiology Residents. Dr. Vossen has contributed over 30 peer reviewed publications, 12 book chapters, and nearly 100 paper and poster/educational exhibit presentations.

Underscoring the impact that Dr. Vossen’s teaching has had on learners from varied backgrounds, Travis Prowant, MSHS, RRA RT (R), Registered Radiology Assistant, Department of Radiology notes, “Lest I fail to mention those of us, working alongside Dr. Vossen, who garner an educational experience that may include a new phrase or a new way to share knowledge in a way that any patient (or bystander) could understand. Her uncanny abilities, clinical acumen, and willingness to teach is beyond critique. Resident, fellow, medical student, radiologist colleague, Radiologic Technologist, rotating Orthopedic resident, or honestly anyone else that shares an encounter with Dr. Vossen will eventually share in her caring smile and welcoming nature, in addition to her imaging expertise, can-do attitude, and determination to deliver clinical outcomes.”
In the words of his Chair, Dr. Tony Kuzel, “Mentoring is not something Steve ‘does,’ rather, it is truly who he ‘is’.” Steven H. Crossman, M.D. is Associate Professor and Vice Chair, Clinical Operations and Family Medicine Education, Department of Family Medicine and Population Health. A VCU SOM graduate (M’95) Dr. Crossman is highly regarded for his clinical care and teaching, but what is truly remarkable are the impactful and lasting relationships he forms with his mentees. As Director of Medical Education for Family Medicine, Dr. Crossman provides leadership and mentoring to a team of clinicians and non-clinicians at various stages of their careers. He has served as a formal advisor to hundreds of students, residents, and others through Project HEART, fmSTAT, I2CRP, HOMBRE, Entrustable Professional Activity (EPA) coaching, and his clinical practice at VCU and CrossOver Healthcare Ministry.

Dr. Crossman is recognized for his work in global health, cultural competency, interprofessionalism, and addressing health disparities in underserved groups including the LGBTQ community. He has been honored with the Medical Society of Virginia Foundation Salute to Service Award - Service on Behalf of the International Community (2013), the VCU Presidential Award for Community Multicultural Enrichment (PACME) Faculty Award (2014), and the VCU SOM Leonard Tow Faculty Humanism Award (2014). He was elected to Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society in 1995. Dr. Crossman is an expert practitioner of the Balint group process supporting development of insight, ethical practice, and strong doctor-patient relationships in residents and other caregivers.

“Steve Crossman is the epitome of a mentor. He is always available, takes time to listen to (student) concerns, and guides them to make well-informed career decisions that incorporate their personal values, interests, and skills in the context of their academic record. And he does so with compassion,” observes Christopher M. Woleben, M.D., M’97, SOM Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics.

Molly Favour, M’20, describes her experience. “During the three years that I have known him as my HEART group leader and advisor, Dr. Crossman has shown time and again that his commitment to fostering the next generation of physicians goes beyond classroom knowledge - he cares about cultivating physicians who are whole people, with good hearts and minds. Dr. Crossman's approach to mentorship has changed the way that I view success and given me important lessons that I will carry with me throughout my career and life.”

Dr. Crossman’s impact on his students continues as they move into their own practices. As Kelly Lacy Smith, M.D., Assistant Professor, UNC Family Medicine, explains, “I was accepted to VCU SOM and quickly found a home in Family Medicine. . . . I graduated in 2013; however, Dr. Crossman and I remain in close contact. He works and supports me as a junior faculty member to discuss my future career goals. On numerous occasions, we have had phone meetings or emails to discuss projects that I am hoping to implement. . . .”

“When I returned to VCU and wished to get my foot into teaching, he eagerly guided me towards work with the American Balint Society. Under his mentorship, I have been able to initiate Balint groups, organized group discussion of challenging physician-patient relationships . . . and am working towards my national certification as a Balint Leader. He has made himself available and volunteered his time to mentor me through this process,” attests Megan Lemay, M.D., Assistant Professor of General Internal Medicine, VCU.

Wendy Dryden, M.D., M’13, now a Family Medicine practitioner in Washington state, sums up Dr. Crossman’s example and lasting impact: “More than anyone else I worked with at VCU, Dr. Crossman was the mentor who showed me how to become the kind of doctor that I always wanted to be.”
Distinguished Mentor Award

Michael F. Miles, M.D., Ph.D.

A great mentor meets you where you are, while simultaneously envisioning and enabling where you can be. Michael L. Miles, M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Toxicology and Neurology, is lauded by his mentees and colleagues for his “how can we help?” approach. Dr. Miles enjoys an international reputation for his research concentrating on the use of functional genomics to understand alcohol use disorder. He is the scientific director of the NIAAA P-50 funded VCU Alcohol Research Center and has published over 200 papers and abstracts. In 2014 Dr. Miles received the Outstanding Teacher Award for the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology.

Dr. Miles has supervised over 100 neurology resident trainees and formally mentored 18 postdoctoral fellows, 12 PhD students and 5 MD/PhD students. He is exceptionally skilled in recruiting and educating MD/PhD students, preparing them for outstanding careers in biomedical research. These translational trainees have been unusually successful in earning NIH F30 awards; one trainee received a perfect score from the study section on his first submission.

Paul Vorster, Ph.D., currently in the Stanford SOM Department of Pathology, was originally hired as a lab technician and Dr. Miles mentored him as he learned the intricacies of Trizol extractions. Later, Dr. Miles mentored Dr. Vorster through his doctoral training. “He remained focused on a central research question, but tackled the problem by integrating multiple disciplines. I still use this approach in my current research. Mike impressed on me the value of remaining teachable!”

The impact of Dr. Miles’ mentorship continues to be significant as students become independent scientists and clinicians. “I routinely impart on my mentees (technicians, undergraduates, medical, and doctoral students) the same knowledge and guidance I received from Dr. Miles . . . (he) has shown me unwavering support in the form of recommendations and career advice with the many grant and award applications I have submitted (6 of 8 grants funded, recipient of 3 young scholar awards),” describes Jo Lynne Harenza, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Oncology, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Alexander H. Putman, PhD, Senior Pharmacologist, Office of Hematology Oncology Products, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, agrees. “With his oversight, I won numerous presentation awards, published scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals, and was awarded an individual predoctoral fellowship by the NIAAA. This skill set not only prepared me for a successful career in academics but also allowed me to excel in a career outside of academics that directly affects human health on a daily basis. As a senior pharmacologist . . . I evaluate the safety of investigational new drugs prior to initiation of human clinical trials, review new drug applications for marketing approval, and develop the labeling of new drugs as it pertains to human safety.”

An aspect of mentoring not always appreciated is how one mentors fellow faculty by example. “Since I arrived in 2005, Mike has been the first person that I have consulted for advice when I’ve had a question involving navigating faculty life. . . . More telling but less quantifiable, he has worked behind the scenes for years to actively promote my work to colleagues,” states Jill C. Bettinger Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology.

Andrew van der Vaart, M.D./Ph.D. Candidate, Pharmacology and Toxicology, sums up Dr. Miles’ dedication and insight well. “He knows what his students are capable of, and sees to it that we live up to our full potential. If I were to become discouraged because experiments were not going perfectly, he would also know to lift my spirits—to remind me that biology is often stochastic, slippery, hard to pin down. The most important thing was always the learning process; this lesson resonated through the time I was under his mentorship. It is a testament to his own commitment to lifelong learning.”

Faculty Excellence Awards
Medical students are often told that their Gross Anatomy Course cadaver is their “first patient”. Peter Haar, M.D., Ph.D., M ’06, Assistant Professor of Radiology, has collaborated with colleague Alex Meredith, Ph.D., the Gross Anatomy teaching faculty, radiology residents, and CT technologists over the past six years to create an active learning experience that allows students to study cross-sectional images of their own and other cadavers in the anatomy lab. Students learn from junior Radiology residents who help them interpret the images and identify unique and clinically significant findings in their patient. Students also practice physical exam skills and pathology sample analysis and log observations into a “patient chart”.

This innovation requires significant logistical and coordinative planning. “This included arranging for availability on the CT scanners and transportation for the cadavers from Sanger Hall to Main Hospital, 3rd floor,” explains Ann Fulcher, M.D., Professor and Chair of Radiology. “Dr. Haar converted what could have been a complex but mundane task into a learning experience for not only the medical students but also our junior Radiology residents who participated alongside our CT technologists in scanning each cadaver in staggered 20-minute intervals.”

In order to provide the best support for students to learn to correlate cross-sectional images with their cadaveric dissection, Dr. Haar incorporated both a set of didactic screencast videos that provide instruction about interpretation of the CT images and an imaging host that provides an online, mini-picture archive allowing students to interact with the cadaver CT image sets from the entire class, from any location. Radiology residents are assigned to gross anatomy groups as “imaging consultants” throughout the course. Students are evaluated on their active learning assignments, MCQ exams, labelling of cadaver CT images on their gross anatomy practical exam, and Cadaver Rounds score. Student feedback is extremely positive, and student suggestions have been integral to continuing to develop the course.

“Dr. Haar has carefully designed a curriculum to complement the traditional model of gross cadaveric dissection workshops . . . students receive individualized teaching and develop the knowledge base and perception skills necessary for a strong foundation in anatomy and radiology. As a radiology resident, it has been a privilege to be directly involved in the curriculum that defined my experience learning anatomy in medical school. Witnessing students express excitement for radiology akin to the excitement I felt in their shoes as a medical student has been incredibly rewarding, and I am thankful to Dr. Haar for involving residents in such a meaningful teaching and leadership opportunity,” states Michael Pasyk, M.D., (VCU M’17), PGY-2 Radiology Resident.

Over the past six years, over 1300 medical students have learned from the 195 cadavers that have been CT scanned so far. In addition to supporting real-time learning, the image collection is a growing educational resource, allowing each cadaver, a valuable gift intended for student learning, to educate many more learners.

Tying it all together, the gross anatomy course culminates in “Cadaver Rounds,” a longitudinal, self-directed group exercise where student teams present their findings in a grand rounds setting, describing a plausible clinical condition their cadaver likely experienced. Dr. Meredith and colleagues described Cadaver Rounds in Academic Medicine this year.

John T. Povlishock, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Anatomy and Neurobiology, values the collaboration this project has nurtured. “. . . I know of no other comparable laboratory-based teaching exercise conducted in the US. Not only is this a novel approach in teaching anatomy and reinforcing clinical CT-based learning but also, it is a unique way to bring our faculty together in a highly integrated fashion to benefit our students . . . and speaks volumes about the creativity and collegiality of our clinical and basic science faculty.”
Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award
Sudha Jayaraman, M.D., M.Sc.

The Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award presented today recognizes a faculty member who demonstrates both clinical excellence and outstanding compassion in the delivery of care, and who shows respect for patients, their families, and healthcare colleagues. This year we honor Sudha Jayaraman, M.D., M.Sc., Associate Professor, Division of Acute Care Surgical Services, Department of Surgery, and Co-Director of the VCU Program for Global Surgery. Board certified in Surgical Critical Care and General Surgery, Dr. Jayaraman is recognized both for her kindness and compassion for individual students, colleagues, and patients, and for her dedication to improving health around the globe. Dr. Jayaraman joined the VCU Faculty in 2013 after completing fellowships in acute care surgery, surgery and public health, and surgical critical care at Brigham & Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School.

“From my very first meeting with Dr. Jayaraman, the enthusiasm she has towards teaching students was palpable,” describes Megan Wojick, M’21. “Even with very little research experience, she welcomed me as a mentee and provided an abundance of opportunities from which to choose. Through my work with her, I was allowed to pursue my interest in global health by spending eight weeks in Rwanda helping to further her research. She has always been extremely approachable and accessible. She is the type of surgeon I hope to emulate one day with her compassion towards patient care. She has provided numerous opportunities to help me succeed, and I wouldn’t be where I am today without her help.”

“Dr. Jayaraman was instrumental in helping one of our medical students in a time of crisis,” recalls Chris Woleben, M.D., Associate Dean for Student Affairs and advisor for our local chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society. The student was injured while completing a summer research project overseas. Dr. Jayaraman made sure the student received expert medical care on site, while thousands of miles away from home, also maintaining communication with the student’s family. “Dr. Jayaraman personally arranged a special critical care medical transport for the student, chest tube and all, and greeted the student upon arrival in Richmond.”

Catherine Valukas, M’19, further describes Dr. Jayaraman’s compassionate care for patients and families. “Her patients hugged her, cried with her, laughed with her, and felt comfortable asking any and all questions. She effortlessly explained intricate medical diagnoses to patients in their own language -- using carpentry and plumbing to describe what she did surgically. In the OR, Dr. Jayaraman includes everyone in the room, building a team to be part of patient care and uses every opportunity as a teaching point. . . .”

Dr. Jayaraman is a longtime contributor to the Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries and Risk Factors Study, and co-author of more than a dozen papers the group has published in The Lancet and JAMA. Dr. Jayaraman has contributed to over 100 papers, abstracts, and book chapters to the literature. She is in demand as a lecturer locally, nationally, and around the world. Dr. Jayaraman and colleague Tilahun Adera, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.A., were recently awarded a VETAR Value and Efficiency Teaching and Research Award from VCU Vision by Design to study evaluation of trauma care using a multi-institutional trauma registry in Rwanda. She served as a 2019 VCU Faculty Scholar at Oxford University’s Harris Manchester College Summer Research Institute.

In addition to today’s honor, her excellence in patient care and teaching has been recognized with the 2004 Association of Women Surgeons Future Leaders in Surgery Medical Student Award and the 2019 Medical Society of Virginia Foundation’s Salute to Service Award for Service to the International Community, presented to a Virginia physician who has dedicated his/her abilities to advancing the health of the international community.
Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement “WISDM” Award

Susan R. DiGiovanni, M.D.

Colleague Anna K. Vinnikova, M.D., Associate Professor of Nephrology, marvels at all that Dr. Susan DiGiovanni is able to accomplish in her many roles. “I suspect that she has acquired a magic “time-turner” from her beloved Harry Potter series and “makes” extra time to fit everything she does in her day!”

Dr. DiGiovanni, M’84, H’89, came to VCU in 1980 as a medical student, and stayed to complete her residency in Internal Medicine and fellowship in Renal Medicine. She was elected to AOA in 1983. After fellowship training, Dr. DiGiovanni entered private practice for two years. Looking for a different type of challenge, she won an intramural research training award and spent four years as a Staff Fellow in the Laboratory of Kidney and Electrolyte Metabolism at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Upon completing this fellowship, she returned to VCU as an Assistant Professor, serving as a staff physician, teaching, and continuing her research on kidney function. Over time, she realized she especially enjoyed the time she spent teaching, and gradually shifted her focus to education.

In 2010 Dr. DiGiovanni, having led many aspects of medical education, including serving as Course Director for the M2 Renal Course since 1999, was selected as the SOM Assistant Dean for Medical Education, Pre-Clinical Curriculum. In 2011 she was promoted to Professor of Medicine. In 2015 she became Associate Dean for Medical Education, and later that year, assumed the role of Interim Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education. In 2017 Dr. DiGiovanni became Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education and Student Affairs for the School of Medicine, responsible for all aspects of medical student education and support services.

Renowned for her ability to teach difficult concepts, Dr. DiGiovanni received Outstanding Teacher Awards for the M2 Renal Course for 15 years. She has served as the Director of Education and Nephrology Fellowship Program Director since 2005, leading the program through successful accreditation and expansion of educational offerings. In 2011 Dr. DiGiovanni received the SOM Leadership in GME Award for her work directing the Program. Dr. DiGiovanni has mentored medical students in Project HEART groups since the program began in 2005, as well as dozens of students, housestaff, and fellows.

Dr. DiGiovanni’s leadership ability is also evident in her clinical service. She has served as Medical Director for the Renal Clinic since 1998. An advocate for underserved patients, she pioneered the use of telemedicine to provide renal care to imprisoned patients. She served as the Medical Director of the VCU Division of Nephrology Greensville Department of Corrections Dialysis Unit from 2001-2006, and the Leigh Street Dialysis Unit from 2003-2005.

Dr. DiGiovanni serves as a site visitor for the LCME and from 2007-2010 she served on the item writing and test review team for the American Society of Nephrology. Since 2009 she has been a Review Panel member for the American Society of Nephrology NephSAP CME self-assessment publication. Dr. DiGiovanni completed the VCU Postbaccalaureate Graduate Certificate in Medical Education (TiME) program in 2014.

Dr. DiGiovanni was inspired to go into medicine by her father, who worked as a janitor at Queens Hospital Center, NYC. He would come home and talk about all of the interesting things he had seen during the day, fascinatign his young daughter and greatly influencing her decision to go into medicine. This background is evidenced in Dr. DiGiovanni’s special empathy for learners who come from atypical backgrounds. She is a role model demonstrating respect for all members of the healthcare team, and dedication to providing quality medical care for all.
MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award
Robin L. Foster, M.D.

“Dr. Foster is a role model for all clinicians. She can somehow both manage a busy department and find time to connect deeply with her patients. She is truly incredible.”

This is a typical appreciation of the contributions of Robin L. Foster, M.D., Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Pediatrics, who has served as Medical Director of the Child Protection Team for the past 18 years. Dr. Foster completed medical school and residency training at VCU, returning in 1996 after completing her fellowship in pediatric emergency medicine. She is triple board certified in General Pediatrics, Pediatric Emergency Medicine, and Child Abuse.

Tiffany Kimbrough, M.D., Assistant Professor of General Pediatrics and Medical Director of the Mother-Infant Unit, explains, “... she completes comprehensive evaluations of children for physical and sexual abuse and neglect cases and testifies in court on their behalf... her team has completed over 900 medical examinations for physical abuse, providing care all over the state in the last year. She has the uncanny ability to put children at ease who are often terrified and traumatized. Her disarming bedside manner allows families to trust her with complex dynamics; they are often reticent to share crucial details with healthcare providers due to distrust of the medical system.”

Dr. Foster’s work also includes preventing future injury. “Our burn center admits between 100-150 children each year. Every child under five and any child that the burn team feels warrants a child protective evaluation receives Dr. Foster's attention. ... She is collaborative and delivers an invaluable service to both the Commonwealth at large and VCU. We were able to show a zero-recidivism rate after review of years of children admitted for burn care, (winning) us best in category that year at the American Burn Association,” shares Michael J. Feldman, M.D., Medical Director, Evans-Haynes Burn Center, Associate Professor of Surgery.

Colleagues and trainees praise Dr. Foster’s mentoring. “As a new Pediatric EM attending... she guided and supported me in my efforts to bring sepsis screening to the Pediatric ED. I frequently consult her for advice on clinical management of ED patients and call her at all hours for help in navigating the intricacies of social services and law enforcement when complex situations arise. Students, residents and fellows often tell me how much they value their time with Dr. Foster,” attests Jon Silverman, M.D., M.P.H., Assistant Professor of Pediatric Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Foster has provided hundreds of presentations for students, trainees, medical providers and community members to raise awareness for prevention, treatment, and intervention in cases of child abuse and neglect. Her service includes terms as President of the Board for Prevent Child Abuse Virginia and the Richmond Midnight Basketball League, and work for the Virginia Poverty Law Center, and Reach Out and Read. Her service to Virginia includes membership in the State Bar Commission on the Needs of Children (since 2000), the Central Regional Fatality Team (since 2012), and the Department of Criminal Justice Services Court Appointed Special Advocates/Criminal Justice Act Advisory Committee (since 2014). Dr. Foster served as the legislative and child abuse chair of the state chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics for a decade, enacting legislation to protect the safety and rights of children at that time. She serves on the Board of ImPACT Virginia; a nonprofit dedicated to eliminating human trafficking.

Her work has been recognized with numerous honors, including the 2009 YMCA Outstanding Women Award for Health and Science, the 2009 Prevent Child Abuse VA Child Champion Award, the Child Advocate Award from VA Commonwealth Attorneys in 2013, the 2016 Medical Society of Virginia Salute to Service Award for the Uninsured and Underserved. She was elected to the VCU SOM Brown Sequard Chapter of AOA by our students in 2017.

Faculty Excellence Awards
“A clinician is someone who always puts the best interests of the patient and the family first. They should be steadfast in this, regardless of external pressures to perhaps do something to the contrary. They should be compassionate and kind. A distinguished clinician should be wise, should be abreast of potential new innovations that offer the patient a better quality or longer life… They should not be afraid of making a decision, even when that decision is emotionally difficult. They should be an example to their colleagues of what they should aspire to. They should be nurturing to their junior colleagues and paramedical staff. They should be a beacon of kindness and wisdom. Vigneshwar Kasirajan is someone who exemplifies all of these traits.” Richard Cooke M.D., Medical Director Cardiac Transplantation, VCU Medical Center, describes why Vigneshwar Kasirajan, M.D., Stuart McGuire Professor and Chair of the VCU Department of Surgery is being recognized with the MCVP Distinguished Physician Award.

Dr. Kasirajan came to VCU in 2000 as an Assistant Professor, was promoted to Associate Professor in 2004, and Professor in 2008. He assumed increasingly important leadership roles and in 2014 became Chair of the Department of Surgery. His areas of clinical focus include management of advanced heart failure with total artificial heart, clinical trials with mechanical left ventricular assist devices, treatment of atrial fibrillation with minimally invasive surgery, and histological changes in human atria after catheter ablation and surgery.

“Through his leadership, infrastructure, grant funding, scientist recruitment, and research outcomes have increased geometrically. New patents and advancements directed at patient care moving from translational studies through FDA trials is now the rule rather than the exception. Our department is on course to be within the top 10 research divisions in the US in 5 years. This is only possible through Dr. Kasirajan's leadership and dedication to his department and patient care,” states Martin J. Mangino, Ph.D., Professor of Surgery, Emergency Medicine, and Physiology and Biophysics, and Associate Chair of Surgery (Research).

Dr. Kasirajan’s advocacy for extremely complex patients who have been turned away elsewhere and his collaborative and warm interpersonal manner with colleagues, patients, and families have earned him broad admiration.

“As clinicians, we all develop networks of support that are critical to our success and the delivery of the highest level of patient care. Dr. Kasirajan tops my list. Whenever we have a complex case, he is our "go to". He is an active collaborator. He listens, he questions, he listens more and then thoughtfully offers a coherent plan of action. He is never rushed or cursory in his approach. He is always compassionate and holistic. These skills clearly set him apart from many of his peers. We can and do learn from his example every day,” explains Charlotte “Cha” Roberts, Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, VCU Pauley Heart Center.

Dr. Kasirajan is recognized as a role model by our future physicians. “Dr Kasirajan is the type of physician anyone would want for their loved ones. Listening to his patients with compassion; hearing their goals, concerns, and barriers to treatment to come up with the best approach for every individual patient has been one of the many aspects of being a distinguished physician that I have been learning from him,” observes Armita Kabirpour, VCU SOM Class of 2020.

Anthony D. Cassano, M.D., M.S.H.A., Associate Professor of Surgery, Chief, Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery, shares the ultimate compliment. “From a clinical perspective, if I needed heart surgery he would be the one to do it. He is seen as the go-to guy who always goes the extra mile for the patient. You can call him any time day or night and he is there to help you.”
VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education “LGME” Award

Paula A. Ferrada, M.D.
"Fellowship Director Award"

Dr. Paula Ferrada is the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship Program Director. She received her medical degree from the Universidad del Valle in Cali, Columbia and completed a surgical residency at Harvard University’s Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. She subsequently did a fellowship in Surgical Critical Care at the University of Pittsburgh followed by a fellowship in Acute Care Surgery at the University of Maryland. Dr. Ferrada joined the VCU faculty in 2010 and has served the roles of both Medical Director of the Surgical Intensive Care Unit and Fellowship Program Director since 2015.

Those who nominated her describe her as an amazing mentor, teacher, and role model. One of her former fellows writes: “Dr. Ferrada is a proven leader in the surgical world and an outstanding clinician. Her merits alone would make any surgeon happy to be her fellow. All that aside, the greatest aspect of Dr. Ferrada is that she has been and continues to be an amazing role model to me and countless other students, residents, fellows, and surgeons. The greatest lessons I have learned from Dr. Ferrada have come by observing how she interacts with her patients, colleagues, and team. Dr. Ferrada not only leads by example but is dedicated to the concept that team succeeds when all members strive to reach the highest standards by helping each other. All challenges and shortcomings are viewed as an opportunity to learn and improve. I had the privilege of witnessing her develop this culture and team atmosphere, which resulted in an exceptional clinical and training environment.” Another nominator writes: “From writing chapters in surgical textbooks, to being the Director of the Surgical ICU, to participating in a dance competition to raise money for the Children’s Hospital, Dr. Ferrada is someone who truly leads by example and inspires others. . . .”

We congratulate Dr. Ferrada for winning the 2019 Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award for Fellowship Program Directors!
Dr. Rahul Anand is the General Surgery Program Director. He received his medical degree from the University of Michigan and completed his general surgery residency at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. After completing his residency, Dr. Anand did a surgical critical care fellowship at the University of Maryland. Dr. Anand has served as the General Surgery Program Director since 2015.

Dr. Anand is an outstanding advocate for the program and his residents. Described as a great educator, surgeon, and mentor, Dr. Anand cares deeply about the residents, their well-being, and professional success. Under his leadership, he re-vitalized the curriculum, revamped educational programming, and created a Chief Resident for Education Position. As a result of the many changes, there has been outstanding improvement in the program’s Board pass rate and performance on the annual ACGME resident survey. Dr. Anand is nationally renowned for his efforts as a surgery program director and this past year he was appointed to the Board of Directors for the Association of Program Directors in Surgery and was honored as an Associate Member in the Academy of Master Surgeon Educators in the American College of Surgeons.

One nomination letter writer describes Dr. Anand as “a great teacher, role model, and good friend.” The writer goes on to say “Throughout my residency he has been supportive of my endeavors and has provided constructive criticism that has helped me mature as a physician. . . . Dr. Anand is an excellent surgeon who not only has great technical skills, but also articulates his decision making in a way that has helped set the foundation of how I proceed in the operating room.” Dr. Anand also works tirelessly with VCU medical students in advising them for both surgical and non-surgical residencies. Many medical students each year will ask Dr. Anand for his advice and for letters of recommendation. The appreciation that the medical students have for Dr. Anand can be witnessed by the fact he has been a VCU School of Medicine Honorary Hooder at graduation in both 2016 and 2018. Not many other clinicians at VCU have had this honor twice.

We congratulate Dr. Anand for winning the 2019 Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award for Residency Program Directors!
VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education “LGME” Award

Pamela Adams-Lewis, Ed.D., M.B.A.

"Program Coordinator Award"

Dr. Pam Adams-Lewis is the Program Coordinator for the Pathology Residency and Fellowships. Dr. Adams-Lewis received her undergraduate degree from the Virginia Union University, and Masters of Business in Health Service Administration and a Doctorate of Education in Organizational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Adams-Lewis has served as the program coordinator in pathology since 2016.

Dr. Adams-Lewis, known to many as Dr. PAL, is a high energy, dedicated, and enthusiastic program coordinator. One of the nomination letter writers reports “I have been involved with pathology graduate medical education for 37 years. Dr. PAL stands head and shoulders above anyone else who served as a program coordinator during that time. She is, in a word, AMAZING. . . . She has set a new standard for excellence in GME administration within the Department of Pathology. She is super organized, stays on top of all reporting deadlines, keeps abreast of all accreditation compliance requirements and changes and is a superuser of all relevant electronic systems.” Another letter writer goes on to say “Dr. Adams-Lewis has consistently brought her unique skill set in graduate medical administration to improve our program’s organization and effectiveness, improving the trainee experience and making it easier for faculty to contribute and improve the clinical learning environment. I am immediately reminded of the time she devoted to an educational process improvement project, working with me to develop a novel tool for tracking and documenting resident accomplishments for more effective ACGME Pathology Milestones assessment for our Clinical Competency Committee.”

Dr. Adams-Lewis Chairs the VCUHS Program Coordinators’ Council as well as the Program Coordinators’ Professional Development Committee. She has been a major contributor to various informational projects directed toward GME at VCUHS such as the GME Executive Board Handbook. At the national level, she serves on the Nominating Committee for the Graduate Medical Education Administrators Section of the Association of Pathology Chairs.

We congratulate Dr. Adams-Lewis for winning the 2019 Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award for Program Coordinators!


Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award in Health Sciences Education

Melissa McGinn Greer, Ph.D.
Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology

Brian (Binks) Wattenberg, Ph.D.
Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Le Kang, Ph.D.
Department of Biostatistics

Elizabeth Prom-Wormley, Ph.D.
Division of Epidemiology
Department of Family Medicine and Population Health

Peter Cunningham, Ph.D.
Department of Health Behavior and Policy

Colleen Jackson-Cook, Ph.D.
Department of Human and Molecular Genetics

Rebecca Martin, Ph.D.
Department of Microbiology and Immunology

S. Stevens Negus, Ph.D.
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Jose Eltit, 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

Class of 2022 Scientific Foundations of Medicine
Sandra Colello, Ph.D.  Foundations of Disease
Todd Kitten, Ph.D.    Immunity and Infection
Kimberly Jefferson, Ph.D.  Immunity and Infection
Michael Maceyka, Ph.D.  Molecular Basis of Health and Disease
Jose Eltit, Ph.D.  Principles of Physiology

Class of 2022 Applied Medical Sciences A
Melissa McGinn Greer, Ph.D.  Anatomy
Cynthia Yazbeck, M.D.    Endocrine
George Smallfield, M.D.  GI & Metabolism
John Bigbee, Ph.D.    Histology
Andrew Poklepovic, M.D.  Marrow
Stamatina Danielides, M.D.  Movement
Sarah Milton, M.D.  Reproduction

Class of 2021 Applied Medical Sciences B
Kevin Sumption, M.D.  Cardiovascular
Dana Selley, M.D.    Mind, Brain and Behavior
Marjolein de Wit, M.D.  Pulmonary
Anna Vinnikova, M.D.  Renal

Class of 2021 and 2022 Practice of Clinical Medicine
Jessica Gertz, M.D.  Class of 2021 PCM Preceptor
Christopher Ogburn, M.D.  Class of 2021 PCM Preceptor (Family Medicine)
Carlo Pierantoni, M.D.  Class of 2021 PCM Small Group Leader
Aaron Fox, M.D.  Class of 2022 PCM Small Group Leader

Class of 2020 M-III Clerkships
Gregory Golladay, M.D.  Ambulatory
Michael Filak, M.D.    Family Medicine Clerkship
Gordon Pace, M.D.    Internal Medicine Clerkship
Alicia Zukas, M.D.    Neurology Clerkship
Jordan Hylton D.O.  Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship
Norma Jones-Ives, M.D.  Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship
Romesh Wijesooriya, M.D.  Pediatrics Clerkship
Christopher Kogut, M.D.  Psychiatry Clerkship
Gretchen Aquilina, M.D.  Surgery Clerkship
Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education

Best Teacher in the Course and Clerkship Awards

Outstanding Pre-Clinical Division Directors
This award recognizes outstanding leadership and contributions to the curriculum through promoting innovative teaching and assessment methods and supporting our students as learners.

Sarah Milton, M.D.  Applied Medical Sciences A (class of 2022)
Nathan Webb, M.D.  Applied Medical Sciences A (class of 2022)
Anna Vinnikova, M.D.  Applied Medical Sciences B (class of 2021)
Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education

Faculty with High Evaluation Awards

Class of 2020 M-III Clerkships

Olga Suarez-Winowiski, M.D. 
Selma Medical Associates 
Laura Paletta-Hobbs, M.D. 
Derek Leiner, M.D. 
Jonathan Snider, M.D. 
Mark Malkin, M.D. 
Richard Lucidi, M.D. 
Michael McMullin, M.D. 
Ahmed Shahab-Uddin, M.D. 
Judith Voynow, M.D. 
Kathryn Jones, M.D. 
Tushar Thakre, M.D. 
Alan Rossi, M.D. 
Scott Graham, M.D. 

Ambulatory 
Family Medicine Clerkship 
Medicine Clerkship 
Medicine Clerkship 
Neurology Clerkship 
Neurology Clerkship 
Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship 
Obstetrics/Gynecology Clerkship 
Pediatrics Clerkship 
Pediatrics Clerkship 
Psychiatry Clerkship 
Psychiatry Clerkship 
Surgery Clerkship 
Surgery Clerkship
Congratulations, TiME Faculty Fellows

Congratulations to School of Medicine faculty who have earned the Post-Baccalaureate Graduate Certificate in Medical Education from the School of Education were awarded during December 2018 and May 2019 graduation ceremonies at the Siegel Center!

The Teaching in Medical Education Faculty Fellows program (TiME) is available to full-time, tuition-waiver eligible health educators who are emphasizing teaching and medical education scholarship as a career path at VCU. The TiME program offers graduate courses during evening hours in the McGlothlin Medical Education Center during spring, summer, and fall semesters. More information is available at http://wp.vcu.edu/time/.

December 2018 Graduates
Hadi Anwar, M.D., Pediatrics
Stacey Schellhammer, R.N., Emergency Aviation

Spring 2019 Graduates
Mary Lee C. Magee, M.S., Family Medicine and Population Health
Harinder S. Dhindsa, M.D., M.P.H., M.B.A., Emergency Medicine
Rebecca E. Miller, M.D., Internal Medicine
Sahzene Yavuz, M.D., Internal Medicine
2019 Teaching Excellence Awards Nominees

Aline Baghdassarian, M.D., Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine
Stephen Bickston, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine
Michelle Brooks, M.D., Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine
Amelia Grover, M.D., Professor of Surgery
Phillip Hylemon, Ph.D., Professor of Microbiology and Immunology
Patricia Lange, M.D., Associate Professor of Surgery
Clifton Lee, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics and
Marieka Helou, M.D., M.P.H., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics
Martin Mangino, Ph.D., Professor of Surgery
Scott Matherly, M.D., Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine
Peter Moffett, M.D., Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine
Rehan Qayyum, M.B.B.S., M.H.S., Professor of Internal Medicine
Amir Toor, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine
Jordan Tozer, M.D., Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine
Ross Yaple, M.D., Assistant Professor of Psychiatry

*Congratulations to our Nominees!*

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Special Thanks
Office of Faculty Affairs
Kathy Kreutzer, M.Ed., Writer
Deborah Stewart, B.I.S., Program Coordinator

University Marketing
Tom Kocjsich

Curriculum Office
Lindsey Bowers
Lelia Brinegar, Ed.D.

Student Affairs
Heather Davison, M.T.

Graduate Medical Education
Brian Aboff, M.D.

###

Faculty Excellence Awards
Previous Teaching Award Winners

**Enrique Gerszten, M.D. 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
- Tomasz Kordula, Ph.D., 2009
- Raphael J. Witorsch, Ph.D., 2009
- Alan Dow, M.D., M.S.H.A., 2010
- Craig E. Cheifetz, M.D., 2011
- Margaret M. Grimes, M.D., M.Ed., 2012
- Clive M. Baumgarten, Ph.D., 2013
- Fidelma B. Rigby, M.D., 2013
- Susan D. Roseff, M.D., 2014
- Diane M. Biskobing, M.D., 2015
- Beth K. Rubinstein, M.D., 2016
- Kimberly W. Sanford, M.D., 2017
- Stephanie Call, M.D., M.S.P.H., 2018
- Virginia Pallante, M.S., 2018

**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
- Douglas S. Franzen, M.D., M.Ed., 2009
- Barry V. Kirkpatrick, M.D., 2010
- Frank A. Fulco, M.D., 2011
- Marjolein de Wit, M.D., M.S., 2012
- Mary Ann Turner, M.D., 2013
- Catherine E. Grossman, M.D., 2014
- Clifton C. Lee, M.D., 2015
- Paula A. Ferrada, M.D., 2016
- James Levy, M.D., 2016
- Duane C. Williams, M.D., 2017
- Phoebe Ashley, M.D., 2018
Previous Teaching Award Winners

**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. Leichneretz, 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
- Clive M. Baumgarten, Ph.D., 2009
- Richard G. Moran, Ph.D., 2009
- Richard M. Costanzo, Ph.D., 2010
- Paul H. Ratz, Ph.D., 2010
- Daniel H. Conrad, Ph.D., 2011
- Louis J. De Felice, Ph.D., M.S., 2012
- Therese M. Duane, M.D., 2012
- Aron J. Lichtman, Ph.D., 2013
- Diomedes E. Logothetis, Ph.D., 2014
- Hamid I. Akbarali, Ph.D., 2015
- Antonio Abbate, M.D., Ph.D., 2016
- Alpha A. (Berry) Fowler, III, M.D., 2017
- S. Murthy Karnam, Ph.D., 2017
- Sarah Spiegel, Ph.D., 2018

**Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award**
- Joann N. Bodurtha, M.D., M.P.H., 1999
- Michelle Whitehurst-Cook, M.D., and Rita 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
- Curtis N. Sessler, M.D., and Team, 2008
- Thomas Palliative Care Program, VCU Massey Cancer Center, 2009
- Molecular Diagnostics Practicum Academic Unit, 2010
- Pawan Suri, M.D., 2011
- Ellen L. Brock, M.D., M.P.H., and Staff of the Center for Human Simulation and Patient Safety, 2013
- Michael Joyce, M.D., and Sammy Pedram, M.D., 2017
- Steven Bishop, M.D., 2018

Faculty Excellence Awards
2019 Awards Selection Committees

Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards
- Cherry Abdou, M-IV Curriculum Representative
- Jennifer Bradley, Weil Institute of Emergency & Critical Care Research, Graduate Student
- Stephanie Call, M.D., Internal Medicine
- Chelsea Kidd, M.D., Pathology, Housestaff
- Kathleen Kreutzner, M.Ed., Office of Faculty Affairs (non-voting)
- Bennett Lee, M.D., M.P.H., Internal Medicine
- Virginia Pallante, M.S., Human and Molecular Genetics
- Evan Reiter, M.D., Otolaryngology
- Anatevka “Tevy” Ribeiro, M-IV Curriculum Representative
- Beth Rubinstein, M.D., Internal Medicine
- Kimberly Sanford, M.D., Pathology
- Debbie Stewart, B.I.S., Program Coordinator (non-voting)
- Brian “Binks” Wattenberg, Ph.D., Biochemistry/Molecular Biology

Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education

Pre-Clinical Curriculum Committee
- Hayes Armstrong, Class of 2022 Curriculum Representative
- Bharat Balan, Class of 2021 Curriculum Representative
- Diane Biskobing, M.D., Curriculum
- Lelia Brinegar, Ed.D., Curriculum
- Susan DiGiovanni, M.D., Curriculum
- Om Evani, Class of 2022 Curriculum Representative
- Kiara Francisco, Class of 2022 Curriculum Representative
- Graham Gardner, Class of 2021 Curriculum Representative
- Pratyush Narayan, Class of 2021 Curriculum Representative
- Lukas Rizkalla, Class of 2022 Curriculum Representative
- Sarah Wang, Class of 2021 Curriculum Representative

M-III Clinical Education
- Family Medicine Clerkship Committee
- Internal Medicine Clerkship Committee
- Neurology Clerkship Committee
- Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship Committee
- Pediatrics Clerkship Committee
- Psychiatry Clerkship Committee
- Surgery Clerkship Committee

VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award
- Brian Aboff, M.D., Graduate Medical Education
- Lisa Brath, M.D., Graduate Medical Education Committee, Vice Chair
- Stephanie Call, M.D., Graduate Medical Education Committee, Chair
Save the Date!
Call for Proposals!

2020 Virginia Regional Health Sciences Education Symposium

Health Education Scholarship: A Team Sport

Join us at Virginia Commonwealth University for an opportunity to learn, share scholarship, network, and collaborate with other health professions educators from across Virginia and beyond!

February 28, 2020
11:00 am-3:30 pm

Submit proposals by November 15, 2019
More information/submit a proposal: tinyurl.com/vrheses20

Contact information: Office of Faculty Affairs, www.go.vcu.edu/somofa
The Office of Faculty Affairs thanks you for your participation in the awards program. We look forward to seeing you next year!

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This page is also your ticket for lunch on the Plaza. Enjoy!