



VCU

School of Medicine

To: School of Medicine Faculty, Residents, Medical and Graduate Students, Postdoctoral Fellows

From: Stephen Kates, M.D., Interim Dean, SOM, Interim Executive VP for Medical Affairs, VCUHS
Amelia Grover, M.D., FACS, Senior Associate Dean, SOM Office of Faculty Affairs & Faculty Development

Date: May 29, 2026

Subject: **2026 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

- ❖ **School of Medicine (SOM) Teaching Excellence Awards**
- ❖ **MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician of the Year Award**

We are pleased to announce the SOM **28th Annual Faculty Excellence Awards Program & Luncheon, to be held Wednesday, October 28, 2026, 12 – 1:30 p.m.** This annual faculty awards program is an opportunity for us to recognize and applaud the dedication, hard work, and excellence of faculty in teaching, leadership, humanism, patient care, and contributions to the professional development of others.

Awards

- **The SOM Teaching Excellence Awards** are managed by the Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development. **Deadline for nomination package and all documentation: Thursday, July 23, 2026.** See attached nomination form for eligibility, criteria, nomination instructions, and previous award winners.

A complete description of the SOM Teaching Awards is located at

<https://medschool.vcu.edu/about/deans-office/faculty-affairs/awards/#d.en.628404>

Nominate for these awards:

1. Enrique Gerszten, M.D. Faculty Teaching Excellence Award (the School's highest recognition for teaching)
2. Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching
3. Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award
4. Distinguished Mentor Award

Submit nomination packages via Filelocker at <https://filelocker.vcu.edu/>.

- Click "Upload," "Upload a file," locate your file
 - Click the down arrow next to your file
 - Click "Share this File," select Jody Hedstrom or hedstromj@vcu.edu
- **MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician of the Year Award** managed by MCV Physicians. Complete nomination instructions are attached. **Deadline for submitting nominations is Thursday, July 23, 2026.** If you have any questions, please contact Anne Bonnevie at anne.bonnevie@vcuhealth.org.

If you have questions about the awards, please contact [Dr. Jean Bailey](#) or [Jody Hedstrom](#), 828-6591, Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development. We appreciate your participation each year as we continue to honor our exemplary faculty with these annual awards.

Attachments



VCU

School of Medicine

2026 Teaching Excellence Awards Nomination Form

Please check one

 Enrique Gerszten, M.D. Faculty Teaching Excellence Award
(the School’s highest recognition for teaching)
Recognizes extraordinary accomplishment in all aspects of education.

 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.

 Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award
Recognizes an individual faculty member, a group, or an academic unit for significant educational innovation or educational research.

 Distinguished Mentor Awards
Recognizes two faculty who contribute to the career growth of trainees in a research setting or positively impact the career development of junior faculty and colleagues (e.g., mentorship to fellow faculty members, junior faculty, residents, fellows, graduate students, post-docs, or other mentoring relationships).

Please use a separate form for each nomination.

SOM Faculty Nominee:		Degree:	
Academic/Professional Title:		Department:	
Phone:	Box #:	E-Mail:	Fax:
Nominator:	Box #:	E-Mail:	Fax:

Deadline for nomination package & all documentation: Thursday, July 23, 2026

Eligibility

Faculty, administrators, residents, students, postdocs, or a candidate may nominate any SOM faculty member teaching in undergraduate medicine, graduate education, graduate medical education, continuing education, or other schools/programs. This includes part-time MCV employees. **Previous nominees’ packets may be updated and resubmitted with a current CV (separate) and nomination package of no more than 20 pages total, single-sided, including nomination form.**

Criteria and Detailed Descriptions: Detailed descriptions and criteria for the teaching awards are located at <https://medschool.vcu.edu/about/deans-office/faculty-affairs/awards/#d.en.628404>

What to include in the Nomination Package

1. This Nomination Form
2. A total of 20 single-sided pages, including the Nomination Form (even for resubmitted packages)
3. An up-to-date curriculum vitae, separate from the 20-page limit on nomination materials

Nomination materials may include, but are not limited to, letters of support (addressed to Stephen Kates, M.D., Interim Dean, SOM) stating why your nominee should be chosen for the award, as well as student evaluations, educational activities, examples, innovations, outcomes (please be judicious, succinct, and creative).

Submit Nomination Packages by Filelocker: <https://filelocker.vcu.edu/>. Upload your file, then “Share this File,” select Jody Hedstrom or hedstromj@vcu.edu

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
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
Frank Fulco, M.D., RPh, 2019
John W. Bigbee, Ph.D., 2020
J. Christian Barrett, M.D., 2021
Barry V. Kilpatrick, M.D., FAAP, 2021
Mark Parker, M.D., FACR, 2022
Sarah Hobgood, M.D., 2023
Edmond P. Wickham III, M.D., M.P.H. 2024
Kimberly S. Pedram, M.D., 2025

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
Rahul J. Anand, M.D., 2015
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
Josephina Vossen, M.D., Ph.D., 2019
Jason M. Kidd, M.D., 2020
Michelle N. Brooks, M.D., 2021
Danielle Noreika, M.D., 2022
Lisa K. Brath, M.D., 2023
Amanda George, M.D., Ph.D., 2024
John D. Grizzard, M.D., 2025

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. 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
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
Steven Crossman, M.D., 2019
Michael Miles, M.D., Ph.D., 2019
Ananda B. Amstadter, Ph.D., 2020
Kenneth A. Ellenbogen, M.D., 2020
Amir A. Toor, M.D., 2021
S. Stevens Negus III, Ph.D., 2022
Tomasz Kordula, Ph.D., 2023
Huiping Zhou, Ph.D., 2024
Jayson A. Carlyon, Ph.D., 2025
Richard K. Sterling, Ph.D., 2025

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
Alan Dow, M.D., M.S.H.A., and Team, 2008
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
Lelia E. Brinegar, M.Ed., and Christopher M. Woleben,
M.D., 2012
Ellen L. Brock, M.D., M.P.H., and Staff of the Center
for Human Simulation and Patient Safety, 2013
John (Christian) Barrett, M.D.; Gonzalo, M. L.
Bearman, M.D., M.P.H.; Michael P. Stevens, M.D.,
M.P.H., 2014
Peter A. Boling, M.D., Alan W. Dow, III, M.D.,
M.S.H.A., Joel D. Browning, B.S., Christopher L.
Stephens, M.S., and the Reynolds Interprofessional
Team, 2015
Michael S. Ryan, M.D., M.E.H.P., 2016
Michael Joyce, M.D., and Sammy Pedram, M.D., 2017
Steven Bishop, M.D., 2018
Peter Haar, M.D., Ph.D., Marvin "Alex" Meredith,
Ph.D.; Gross Anatomy Teaching Faculty; VCU
Radiology Residency Program; VCU CT
Technologists, 2019
Megan S. Lemay, M.D., Sara Wilson McKay, Ph.D.,
and John E. Nestler, M.D., MACP, 2021
Kimberly Pedram, M.D., 2022
Sarika Modi, M.D., 2023
Pete D. Meliagros, M.D., 2024
Adam Garber, M.D., Patrick Fadden, M.D., Moshe
Feldman, Ph.D., Cana Curtis, B.S., 2025