

Medical Student Research Conference Awards

September 20, 2019

Mentor Awards

2019 Summer Research Fellowship Outstanding Mentor in Basic Science Research

Lori Wallrath, PhD - Biochemistry

Nominated by Jose L. Rios-Monterrosa, M2

2019 Summer Research Fellowship Outstanding Mentor in Clinical Research

Erin Shriver, MD - Ophthalmology

Nominated by Charlene Tran, M2

2019 Summer Research Fellowship Outstanding Mentor in Translational Research

Ling Yang, PhD – Anatomy and Cell Biology

Nominated by Mikako Harata, M2

Student Research Awards - Foundation

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

Maddie Mix, M2G

"Description of a novel population of dynorphinergic neurons in the human brainstem that suppress pain and itch"

Mentor: Alexander Bassuk, MD, PhD - Pediatrics

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

Nathen Spitz, M1

"Investigating cortico-limbic-striatal circuit interactions during risky decision-making"

Mentor: Andrew Holmes, PhD - National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, NIH

I.H. Borts Award (U of I Foundation Award)

Kristin Weeks, M4G

"Impact of Rurality on Stage IV Ovarian Cancer at Diagnosis: A Midwest Cancer Registry Cohort Study"

Mentor: Mary Charlton, PhD - Epidemiology

Edward Heath Award (U of I Foundation Award)

Ashley Radig, M2

"Role of DHH1 in insulin secretion and mitochondrial function in pancreatic beta cells"

Mentor: Yumi Imai, MD - Internal Medicine

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

Emily Solsrud, M2

"The Prevalence of Hip Pathology in Male Patients Presenting to a General Urology Clinic for Orchialgia"

Mentor: Timothy Brown, MD - Orthopaedics & Rehabilitation

Global Health Programs Research Award

Olivia Chase, M2

"Human exposure to Anaplasma phagocytophilum and correlation with Leishmania infantum seropositivity in Natal, Brazil"

Mentor: Christine Petersen, DVM, PhD - Epidemiology

Student Research Awards - Departmental

Margaret V. Lunsford Award for Research in Anesthesia

Joe Stearns, M2

"Predicting pain after cesarean section using a 3 question questionnaire, local anesthesia infiltration and observer rating"

Mentor: Unyime Ituk, MBBS, FCARCSI - Anesthesia

Arthur A. Spector Award for Basic Biomedical Research

Jose Rios-Monterrosa, M2

"Analysis of the autophagy chaperone p62 in lamin-associated muscular dystrophy"

Mentor: Lori Wallrath, PhD - Biochemistry

Nicholas P. Rossi Research Award in Surgery

Anna White, M2

"Evaluation of a Communication Skills Curriculum for Surgical Residents"

Mentor: Muneera Kapadia, MD - Surgery

Research Excellence in Dermatology

Sam Palmer, M2

"Endotyping Mucous Membrane Pemphigoid"

Mentor: Janet Fairley, MD - Dermatology

Research Excellence in Emergency Medicine

Nathan Walton, M2

"Regionalization for Time-Critical Conditions: Classifications, Comparisons, and Consideration"

Mentor: Nicholas Mohr, MD - Emergency Medicine

Excellence in Family Medicine Research

Timothy Sevcik, M2

"Nutrition and Exercise Patterns Among Toddlers"

Mentor: David Bedell, MD - Family Medicine

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

Ryan Ward, M1

"Cognitive Function in Relation to Hypertension and Education"

Mentor: Gary Pierce, PhD - Exercise Science

John Stokes Award for Research in Internal Medicine

Kuangda Shan, M4

"Endoscopic Dilation is a Safe and Effective Therapeutic Procedure for Patients with Eosinophilic Esophagitis"

Mentor: Yehudith Assouline-Dayana, MD - Internal Medicine

Excellence in Internal Medicine Research

Jayden Bowen, LOA

"Triggering receptor expressed on myeloid cells-1 regulates many aspects of neutrophil function"

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

Excellence in Internal Medicine Research

Madalyn Rasor, M3

"PEG-Asparaginase Induced Liver Injury: Case Report and Systematic Review of the Literature"

Mentor: Arvind Murali, MBBS - Internal Medicine

William Johnson Award for Research in Microbiology and Immunology

Xavier Tijerina, M1G

"Staphylococcus Aureus Clinical Isolates Induce Pseudomonas Aeruginosa Exploratory Motility"

Mentor: Dominique Limoli, PhD - Microbiology and Immunology

Excellence in Molecular Physiology & Biophysics Research

Joseph Vecchi, LOA

"Exploring the role of CABP1 and Ca²⁺ in neurite growth, alignment, and pathfinding"

Mentor: Amy Lee, PhD - Molecular Physiology & Biophysics

Excellence in Basic Neuroscience Research

Casey Inman, M2

"Finding the brain's internal clock: the role of dopamine in interval-timing behavior"

Mentor: Nandakumar Narayanan, MD, PhD - Neurology

Excellence in Clinical Neuroscience Research

Eli Perez, M2

"Factors Predicting Spinal Cord Stimulator Explantation"

Mentor: Matthew Howard, MD - Neurosurgery

Excellence in Translational Neuroscience Research

Carlos Osorno-Cruz, M2

"Continuous IV tirofiban in Acute Aneurysmal Subarachnoid Hemorrhage is Associated with a Reduced Risk of Clinical Vasospasm"

Mentor: David Hasan, MD - Neurosurgery

Excellence for Clinical Research in Obstetrics and Gynecology

Laurel Smeins, M2

"Effect of Labor & Delivery Unit Closures on Access to Obstetrical Care in Rural Iowa"

Mentor: Stephanie Radke, MD - Obstetrics & Gynecology

Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology Research

Emily Capper, M2

"Clinical Factors that Affect the Cumulative Live Birth Rate from an IVF Cycle"

Mentor: Brad Van Voorhis, MD - Obstetrics & Gynecology

Thomas A. Weingeist Award for Ophthalmology Research

Benjamin Walker, M2

"The Effect of a Video Game Warm-Up on Surgical Simulator Performance"

Mentor: Erin Shriver, MD - Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

William E. Scott Award for Ophthalmology Research

Rose McGlaufflin, M2

"Visually evoked potentials in children with inherited retinal disease"

Mentor: Arlene Drack, MD - Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences

Hansjoerg E. Kolder Award for Ophthalmology Research

Josh Hagedorn, M1

"A novel MYRF mutation linked to Nanophthalmos"

Mentor: John Fingert, MD, PhD - Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences

Ignasio V. Ponseti Prize in Orthopedic Research

Anthony Schneider, M2

"Activity Level and Sport Type in Adolescents Correlates with Development of Cam Morphology"

Mentor: Natalie Glass, PhD - Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation

Research Excellence in Orthopedics

Matt Meyer, M2

"Lumbosacral Morphology, Mobility, and the Relationship with Instability Following Total Hip Arthroplasty"

Mentor: Timothy Brown, MD - Orthopaedics and Rehabilitation

Excellence in Otolaryngology Research

Ryan Sabotin, M1

"Development of Chimeric Helper-Dependent Adenovirus Vectors for Inner Ear Gene Delivery"

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

Richard G. Lynch Research Award in Pathology

Paige Noble, M1

"Trends in National Institutes of Health Funding to US Allopathic Medical Schools"

Mentor: Brooks Jackson, MD - Pathology

Richard G. Lynch Research Award in Pathology

Heather Greene, M2

"Evaluation of Osmolal Gap to Estimate Concentrations of Toxic Alcohols and Glycols in Patients at an Academic Medical Center"

Mentor: Matthew Krasowski, MD, PhD - Pathology

Excellence in Pediatric Basic Science Research

Anna Greenwood, M1

"Differential effects of gram-negative bacteria in Paneth cell disruption-induced necrotizing enterocolitis"

Mentor: Steven McElroy, MD - Pediatrics

Excellence in Pediatric Clinical Research

Velarchana Santhana, M2

"Assessment of central venous catheter repair procedure success in pediatric intestinal failure"

Mentor: Riad Rahhal, MD - Pediatrics

Excellence in Neuroscience and Pharmacology Research

Hassan Ahamed, M2G

"The Effects of Chronic Sleep Deprivation on Hippocampal Gene Expression"

Mentor: Ted Abel, PhD - Molecular Physiology & Biophysics

George Winokur Research Award in Psychiatry

Bryn Myers, M1

"Cav1.2 as a therapeutic target for psychiatric disease: the role of the voltage-gated calcium channel Cav1.2 on cerebellum-associated behavior in mice"

Mentor: Aislinn Williams, MD, PhD - Psychiatry

Robert G. Robinson Research Award in Psychiatry

Natalie Ross, M2

"Implementing a Crisis Stabilization Unit: Impacts on Emergency Behavioral Health Patients"

Mentor: Elaine Himadi, MD - Psychiatry

Lauretta Bender Research Award in Psychiatry

Hannah Van Ert, M2G

"Evaluation of maternal prenatal stress and its effects on placental redox processes – a neurodevelopmental perspective"

Mentor: Hanna Stevens, MD, PhD - Psychiatry

Jason Martin, MD, Medical Student Research Award in Radiology

Joseph Carmody, M1

"Evaluation of secondary bone contusion patterns by pre-operative MRI in the ACL competent patient that may predict the presence of an MRI occult meniscal tear"

Mentor: D. Lee Bennett, MD - Radiology

Larry W. Oberley Research Award in Radiation Oncology

Ryan Lavering, M2

"Investigating the Relationship Between the Labile Iron Pool and Proliferation in Glioma Cells"

Mentor: Bryan Allen, MD, PhD - Radiation Oncology

Kimberly Ephgrave Medical Student Research Award in Surgery

Stephanie Baldwin, M4

"Support for Burn Survivors: Influential Factors in the Recovery Process"

Mentor: Lucy Wibbenmeyer, MD - Surgery

Excellence in Urology Research

Katie Christel, M2

"A Safe and Effective Approach to Clinical Scrotal Orchiectomy for Transgender Women Using Local Anesthesia"

Mentor: Bradley Erickson, MD - Urology