2012 Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowships

In 1982, the board of directors of Alpha Omega Alpha established five student research fellowship awards to encourage and support student research. Since then, the awards have grown in number and dollar amount. As many as fifty $5000 awards are made, and $1000 is available for travel to a national meeting to present the research results. In 2004, the name of the fellowship program was changed to the Alpha Omega Alpha Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowship awards in honor of Carolyn L. Kuckein, AΩA’s longtime administrator, who died in January 2004.

Evaluations of the fellowship proposals were made by reviewers: Thomas T. Andersen, PhD; Syamal K. Bhattacharya, PhD, CLD; Sylvia Brice, MD; John C. M. Brust, MD; Paul A. Bunn, MD; Tim Byers, MD, MPH; Richard Byyny, MD; Y. Monique Davis-Smith, MD; Gerald V. Denis, PhD; N. Joseph Espat, MD; Ruth-Marie Fincher, MD; Daniel Foster, MD; Eve J. Higginbotham, SM, MD; Joseph A. Hill, MD, PhD; Marc G. Jeschke, MD, PhD, FACS; James Gamble, MD, PhD; Mary L. Gerend, PhD; Richard B. Gunderman, MD, PhD; Mary McCahey, PhD, HCLD; Mirjana Maletic-Savatic, MD, PhD; Gokhan M. Mutlu, MD; Thoru Pederson, PhD; Suzann Pershing, MD; Sheryl Pfeil, MD; Don W. Powell, MD; Steven P. Ringel, MD; William A. Robinson, MD, PhD; Sarah M. Roddy, MD; Shashikumar K. Salgar, PhD; Alan G. Wasserman, MD; and Gerald Weissmann, MD.

The recipients of the 2012 fellowships are:

Tamara Aghamolla
University of Maryland School of Medicine
Use of High Affinity FcγRIII (CD16) Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR)-Engineered T Cells in Recognition and Destruction of HER2 Breast Cancer Tumor in vivo
Eduardo Davila, PhD, mentor
Donna Parker, MD, Gary D. Plotnick, MD, and Yvette Rooks, MD, councilors

Dianne Bach
Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California
Tear-based Diagnostics for Sjögren’s Syndrome
Sarah Hamm-Alvarez, PhD, and John Irvine, MD, mentors
Paul Holtom, MD, councilor

Travis Boyd
University of Louisville School of Medicine
Development of anatomical landmarks to avoid injury and postoperative development of painful neuromas to critical superficial nerves as well as facilitate anesthetic blocks during abdominal and pelvic operations: An anatomical study of the lateral femoral cutaneous nerve, ilioinguinal and genitofemoral nerves
Bradon V. Wilhelmi, MD, mentor
Daniel Danzl, MD, councilor

Satara Brown
Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine
Effects of Aging on the Cardiac Conduction System
Terrance X. O’Brien, MD, mentor
Christopher G. Pelic, MD, councilor

Puja Chebolu
Medical College of Georgia at Georgia Health Sciences University
Predictors of Bacteremia in Hepatitis C Positive Hemodialysis Patients
N. Stanley Nahman, Jr., MD, mentor
Clarence Joe, DMD, MD, FACR, councilor

Mohsin Chowdhury
Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University
Utilizing Thromboelastograph with Platelet Mapping™ (TEG-PM) to Predict Postoperative Chest Tube Drainage (CTD)
Galina Leyvi, MD, mentor
Charles Nordin, MD, councilor

Alex Cruz
University of South Florida College of Medicine
Assessment of Acute and Late Toxicity from Treatment of Prostate Cancer with External Beam Radiotherapy, Low-Dose Rate Brachytherapy, and/or High-Dose Rate Brachytherapy
Matthew C. Biagioli, MD, and Sarah Hoffe, MD, mentors
Patricia Emmanuel, MD, councilor

Emilie Dore
University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine
Evaluating Protein Interactions with PRICKLE2 in Mouse Models
Alexander G. Bassuk, MD, PhD, mentor
Christopher Cooper, MD, councilor

Gregory Ebersole
Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine
Responsiveness of Patients’ DASH Scores following Ulnar Nerve Transposition for Cubital Tunnel Syndrome
Susan MacKinnon, MD, mentor
Morton E. Smith, MD, councilor

Jacob Eitel
Indiana University School of Medicine
O6-methylguanine-DNA methyltransferase (MGMT) as a Regulator of Angioenesis in Glioblastoma Multiforme (GBM): Potential Implications for Emerging Therapies
Karen E. Pollok, PhD, councilor
Richard B. Gunderman, MD, PhD, councilor

Megan Fracal
Raymond and Ruth Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania
Determining whether Her-2 Pulsed DCI Vaccines in DCIS Patients Induce humoral or Cellular Immune Responses that Prevents Breast Cancer Invasion
Brian J. Czerniecki, MD, PhD, mentor
Jon B. Morris, MD, councilor

Brian Freniere
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Cutaneous Perfusion Response to Varying Doses of Ionizing Radiation
Janice F. Lalikos, MD, mentor
David A. Drachman, MD, councilor

Wendy Fujioka
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School
Effects of p75 and TrkB Signaling on Cognitive and Motor Function Following Traumatic Brain Injury
Janet Adler, PhD, mentor
Geza Kiss, MD, and Michael E. Goldberg, MD, councilors

Tanner Fullmer
Medical College of Wisconsin
Harmonic Manipulation and Timbre Perception in Cochlear Implant Users
David R. Friedland, MD, PhD, and Christina Runge, PhD, mentors
James L. Sebastian, MD, councilor

The recipients of the 2012 fellowships are:
Alevtina Gall  
University of Washington School of Medicine  
*Defining the protective role of Helicobacter pylori colonization in the development of esophageal adenocarcinoma*  
Nina R. Salama, PhD, mentor

Douglas S. Paauw, MD

Clare Griffis  
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine  
*Validity of Computed Tomography in Predicting Scaphoid Screw Prominence: A Cadaveric Study*  
Patricia L. McKay, MD, mentor

Robert E. Goldstein, MD, councilor

Parth Khade  
Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine  
*High Resolution Manometry to Analyze Esophageal Motility and GERD in Bariatric Patients*  
Joseph Kuhn, MD, FACS, mentor

Mark L. Montgomery, MD

Sattar Khoshkhoo  
University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine  
*Internal Representations Underlying How Sounds Become Speech in Human Auditory Cortex*  
Edward F. Chang, MD, mentor

Sue Carlisle, MD, councilor

Ahmed Toufic Kurdi  
American University of Beirut School of Medicine  
*Exosomal microRNAs in multiple sclerosis: Reconciling expression signatures with disease relapse, remission, and response to treatment*  
Samia J. Khoury, MD, mentor

Ibrahim S. Salti, MD, councilor

Joseph Lamplot  
University of Chicago Division of the Biological Sciences The Pritzker School of Medicine  
*The Role of Recombinant Human IGFBP (rhIGFBP5) in Osteoblastic Differentiation of Osteoprogenitor Cells and Osteosarcoma*  
Hue H. Luu, MD, mentor

Adam Cifu, MD, councilor

Sarah Lee  
Northwestern University The Feinberg School of Medicine  
*Oligonucleotide-nanoparticle conjugates to accelerate diabetic wound closure through ganglioside depletion: Mechanistic analyses*  
Amy S. Paller, MD, mentor

John P. Fliherty, MD, councilor

Christen Lennon  
Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons  
*Detection of disruption in the PT3K/AKT pathway in patients with ileal carcinoids*  
Gloria H. Su, PhD, mentor

John C.M. Brust, MD, councilor

Ting Li  
The University of Toledo College of Medicine  
*Protein-protein interactions in the isoprenoid biosynthesis pathway of human malaria parasites*  
Audrey R. Odum, MD, PhD, mentor

Donna Woodson, MD, FAAP, councilor

James Lin  
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—New Jersey Medical School  
*The Novel Use of Urinary Exosomes to Detect Biomarkers in Castration Resistant Prostate Cancer*  
Daniel P. Petrylak, MD, and Leileata M. Russo, PhD, mentors

Robert Schwartz, MD, and Clark Lambert, MD, PhD, councilors

Ryan Lippell  
New York Medical College  
*A novel tetanus toxin subfragment as a neurotrophic vector for GM2 gangliosidosis therapy*  
Kostantin Dobrenis, PhD, mentor

William H. Frishman, MD, councilor

Ian-James Malm  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
*Combinatorial Immunotherapy for Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma*  
Young J. Kim, MD, PhD, mentor

Peter E. Duns, MD, councilor

Spyridon Mastroyannis  
George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
*Are Mutations in Succinate Dehydrogenase complex II (SDHx) involved in pituitary tumorigenesis?*  
Constantine Stratakis, MD, d. (med.) Sci, mentor

Alan G. Wasserman, MD, councilor

Emily McIntosh  
Emory University School of Medicine  
*Effect of Raltegravir on Bone Homeostasis in WT Female Mice and Osteoblast Cell Line*  
Igho Ofotokun, MD, MSc, and N. Neale Weitzmann, PhD, mentors

Thomas C. Pearson, MD, DPhil, councilor

Jennifer Ornelas  
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine  
*Effects of Phytochemicals on Toll-like Receptor 2 Expression and Function in Sebocytes*  
R. Rivkah Isseroff, MD, mentor

Regina Gandour-Edwards, MD, councilor

John Pham  
University of Texas Medical School at Houston  
*Characterization of focal adhesions in myofibroblasts harboring TGFBR2 and SMAD3 mutations*  
Dianna Milewicz, MD, PhD, mentor

Eugene Boisaubin, MD, councilor

Sujoy Phookan  
Albany Medical College  
*Suppression of Gap Junctional Activity Attenuates Pathological Beta Oscillations in the Basal Ganglia of the Parkinsonian Rat*  
Damien S. Shin, MSc, PhD, mentor

Neil Lempert, MD, councilor

I. Jonathan Pomeraniec  
University of Virginia School of Medicine  
*The framing effect and social cognition in individuals with autism spectrum disorder*  
Andrew James Gerber, MD, PhD, mentor

Mark J. Mendelsohn, MD, councilor
Jordan Pyda
University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine
Increasing Access to Health Care in the Central Plateau of Haiti: The Petit Montagne Dispensary Project
Theresa M. Waters, PhD, mentor
Owen Phillips, MD, councilor

Ma Khin Pyi Son
Mayo Medical School
Effect of Correcting Refractive Errors on Emmetropization in Infants within the First Year of Age
Brian G. Mohney, MD, mentor
Carola Arndt, MD, and Judith Kaur, MD, association chairs

Nabijah Rehman
Wayne State University School of Medicine
Enhanced Cytotoxicity Directed at CD33-Expressing Acute Leukemia Cell Lines by Activated T Cells (ATC) Armed with Anti-CD3/ Anti-CD33 Bispecific Antibodies
Abhinav Deol, MD, mentor
Michael T. White, MD, councilor

Chen Shi
New York University School of Medicine
Volumetric analysis to predict an atrophy risk for chronic subdural hematoma
Uzma Samadani, MD, PhD, and Henry Rusinek, PhD, mentors
Steven Abramson, MD, councilor

Jeremy Song
University of California, Irvine, School of Medicine
Regeneration of functional human myocardium based upon perfusion-decelularized heart scaffolds and patient-derived pluripotent stem cells
Harald C. Ott, MD, mentor
Michael L. Berman, MD, and Ranjan Gupta, MD, councilors

Jeff SoRelle
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
Searching for Genes for Host Defense
Bruce Beutler, MD, mentor
Kevin Klein, MD, councilor

Marko Spasic
University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine
Gp100 Vault Nanoparticles for the Treatment of Glioblastoma Multiforme
Isaac Yang, MD, mentor
Neil H. Parker, MD, councilor

Prashanth Swamy
The Ohio State University College of Medicine
Role of NKT cells in Posttransplant Alloantibody Production
Ginny L. Bumgardner, MD, PhD, mentor
Sheryl Pfeil, MD, councilor

Julian Tokarev
University of Minnesota Medical School
A novel model of focal ischemic stroke in rats using an endovascular angiographic approach to MCA occlusion
Afshin A. Divani, PhD, FAHA, mentor
Charles Billington, MD, councilor

Voranaddha Vacharathit
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
Animating Interdisciplinary Concepts in Lung Function and Pathophysiology: A Novel Platform for the Integration of Core Content for Medical Students
John H. Newman, MD, and Cathleen C. Pettepher, PhD, mentors
John A. Zic, MD, councilor

Amanda Velazquez
Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
Effects of a mobile phone application intervention on medical student weight loss and perceived patient counseling ability
Laura Q. Rogers, MD, MPH, mentor
Andrew J. Varney, MD, councilor

Nicholas Will
Loma Linda University School of Medicine
The role of microglial Fractalkine signaling in complement-mediated vascular fragility of cerebral amyloid angiopathy
Wolf M. Kirsch, MD, FACS, mentor
Sarah M. Roddy, MD, councilor

Frank Yuk
Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Synaptic Mechanisms of Age-related Cognitive Decline in Monkey Neocortex
John H. Morrison, PhD, mentor
Carrie Ernst, MD, councilor

2012 Helen H. Glaser Student Essay Awards

The thirtieth annual Alpha Omega Alpha Helen H. Glaser Student Essay Awards were made in May. This year’s winners are:

Second prize: Lisa Babin of the Class of 2015 at the University of Maryland for her essay, “Dancing: A Fifteen-Year-Old’s Descent into Madness.”

Honorable mention: Linda Drozdowicz of the Class of 2014 at Mayo Medical School for her essay, “Chicken Fried.”

Honorable mention: Mark Salhanick of the Class of 2013 at the University of Texas School of Medicine at San Antonio for his essay, “Ethical Considerations for NIH-Funded Highly Transmissible H5N1.”

Winning essays will be published in future issues of The Pharos.

Website extra: A Medical Crossword

Earlier this year, AΩA member Dr. Peter Koetters proposed a crossword puzzle for members. He wrote us, “I think it might be fun to construct a puzzle designed to be solved by other physicians. In fact, it opens up a whole host of terminology and thematic ideas that are otherwise taboo in the world of puzzlemaking for the general public.”

We were intrigued and asked him to send us a sample. A number of editorial board members who are crossword fans tried it out and declared it satisfactory. We present it on our website for your enjoyment: http://alphaomegaalpha.org/news_cardio_workout. Dr. Koetters is a pediatrician in Pasadena, California. His puzzles have been published in the Los Angeles Times.