2012 Edward D. Harris Professionalism Award

The Board of Directors of Alpha Omega Alpha is pleased to announce the winner of the 2012 Edward D. Harris Professionalism Award. The award emphasizes AΩA’s commitment to its belief that professionalism is a crucial facet of being a physician, a quality that can be both taught and learned. Originally named the AΩA Professionalism Fellowship, the award was renamed in 2010 to honor the late Edward D. Harris, the longtime executive director of the society. Applications were open to medical schools with active AΩA chapters or associations. Faculty who have demonstrated personal dedication to teaching and research in specific aspects of professionalism that could be transferred directly to medical students or resident physicians were encouraged to apply for these funds.

The winner of the 2012 Edward D. Harris Professionalism Award is:

Anthony Back, MD
Professor, Division of Oncology, Department of Medicine, University of Washington School of Medicine

Professionalism is central to training physicians who can meet the challenges of medical care that the United States currently faces. Responding to these challenges, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) has recognized that training programs must develop methods that enable physicians in training to “develop a therapeutic relationship with patients and families,” and “use verbal and non-verbal skills,” while acting with “integrity and honesty,” “accept[ing] responsibility,” and “act[ing] in the best interest of the patient.” The ACGME has recently identified “the ability to run a family meeting” as a milestone for postgraduate residents that requires them to combine communication and professionalism in complex clinical situations that require integration of communication skills with professional integrity, honesty, and nonabandonment. Over the past decade, with funding from the National Cancer Institute, we have developed a small group learning method for trainees that demonstrates behavior change, and developed a faculty train-the-trainer program that improved teaching behaviors by faculty and improved communication outcomes by learners. In this proposal we aim to disseminate this evidence-based train-the-trainer facilitation model by developing a novel video-based train-the-trainer intervention that will improve learner communication behavior by using the family conference as a focal point.

2012 Postgraduate Awards

In 2011, the board of directors of Alpha Omega Alpha established the Postgraduate Award to encourage and support AΩA residents or fellows from programs or institutions with an active AΩA chapter or association to pursue a project in the spirit of the AΩA mission statement. Project applications were accepted in the categories of:

1. Research: Support for clinical investigation, basic laboratory research, epidemiology, or social science/health services research.
2. Service: Local or international service work, focusing on underprivileged or immigrant populations or those in the developing world, as well as patient and population education projects.
3. Teaching and education: Research, development, or implementation of education academic curricula, with the focus on postgraduate education.
4. Leadership: Leadership development.
5. Humanism and professionalism: Projects designed to encourage understanding, development, and retention of traits of humanism and professionalism among physicians, directed to physicians in postgraduate training.

Eight applicants received $2000 awards to support their work. The recipients of the 2012 awards are:

Julie Balch Samora, MD (AΩA, West Virginia University, 2009)
The Ohio State University College of Medicine
Project category: Teaching and education
Microsurgery Instruction in an Orthopaedic Residency
Ryan D. Klinefelter, MD, mentor
Sheryl A. Pfeil, MD, councilor

Steven Bishop, MD (AΩA, University of Virginia, 2010)
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine
Virginia Commonwealth University Health System
Project category: Teaching and education
Team-Based Learning in In-Patient Ward Teams: Does It Improve Resident Learning?
Stephanie A. Call, MD, MSPH, mentor
Gordon L. Archer, councilor
2012 Postgraduate Awards

Michael O’Neill, MD (AΩA, Temple University, 2009)
University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine
Jackson Memorial Hospital/University of Miami, Department of Diagnostic Radiology
Project category: Research
Follow-up Yttrium-90 Internal Pair Production PET/CT Imaging in Patients with Primary or Metastatic Liver Tumors as Compared with Bremsstrahlung Imaging: A Prospective Case Series
Jason Salamendi, MD, mentor
Alex J. Mechaber, MD, councilor
Andrew Ross, MD (AΩA, Oregon Health & Sciences University, 2009)
University of Vermont College of Medicine
University of Vermont, Fletcher Allen Health Care
Project category: Research
Benefits of a Pre-Natal Ultrasound Program in Rural Uganda
Kristen DeStigter, MD, mentor
Jeffrey Klein, MD, councilor
Shawna Ruple, MD (AΩA, Michigan State University, 2010)
University of South Carolina School of Medicine
Greenville University Hospital Systems
Project category: Research
A Pilot Study Comparing the Pregnancy Rate of Clomifene Citrate and Raloxifene in Infertile Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome Patients
Bruce Lessey, MD, PhD, mentor
Joshua T. Thornhill IV, MD, councilor
Mary Temple Sale, MD (AΩA, Marshall University, 2010)
University of New Mexico School of Medicine
Project category: Research
Improvement for Contraceptive Access in Methadone-Using Women
Tony Ogburn, MD, mentor
Tony Ogburn, MD, councilor
Noam VanderWalde, MD (AΩA, University of Maryland, 2009)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
Project category: Research
Utility of the Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment in Predicting Tolerance to Radiation Therapy in Older Adults with Cancer: A Prospective Blinded Study
Bhishamjit S. Chera, MD, mentor
Amelia Drake, MD, councilor
Breelyn Wilky, MD (AΩA, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, 2005)
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Project category: Research
The Role of RNA Helicase DDX3 in Ewing’s Sarcoma
David M. Loeb, MD, PhD, mentor
Peter E. Dans, MD, councilor

2011/2012 Visiting Professorships

Beginning in 2002, Alpha Omega Alpha’s board of directors offered every chapter and association the opportunity to host a visiting professor. Sixty-seven chapters took advantage of the opportunity during the 2011/2012 academic year to invite eminent persons in American medicine to share their varied perspectives on medicine and its practice.

Following are the participating chapters and their visitors.

ALABAMA
University of Alabama School of Medicine
Stephanie D. Reilly, MD, councilor
Victor Strasburger, BA, MD, University of New Mexico School of Medicine
University of South Alabama College of Medicine
T. J. Hundley, MD, FACP, councilor
Molly Cooke, MD, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

ARKANSAS
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine
C. James Graham, MD, councilor
Kevin Krane, MD, Tulane University School of Medicine

CALIFORNIA
Loma Linda University School of Medicine
Sarah M. Roddy, MD, councilor
Thomas J. Nasca, MD, MACP, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education
University of California, Davis, School of Medicine
Regina Gandour-Edwards, MD, councilor
Jerome Hoffman, MD, FACEP, University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Alan G. Wasserman, MD, councilor
Jonathan Himmelfarb, MD, University of Washington School of Medicine

FLORIDA
University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine
Alex J. Mechaber, MD, FACP, councilor
Michael Krasner, MD, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry

GEORGIA
Emory University School of Medicine
Thomas C. Pearson, MD, DPhil, councilor
Talmadge King, MD, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine

Mary Temple Sale, MD (AΩA, Marshall University, 2010)
University of New Mexico School of Medicine
Project category: Research
Improvement for Contraceptive Access in Methadone-Using Women
Tony Ogburn, MD, mentor
Tony Ogburn, MD, councilor
Noam VanderWalde, MD (AΩA, University of Maryland, 2009)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine
Project category: Research
Utility of the Comprehensive Geriatric Assessment in Predicting Tolerance to Radiation Therapy in Older Adults with Cancer: A Prospective Blinded Study
Bhishamjit S. Chera, MD, mentor
Amelia Drake, MD, councilor
Breelyn Wilky, MD (AΩA, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, 2005)
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Project category: Research
The Role of RNA Helicase DDX3 in Ewing’s Sarcoma
David M. Loeb, MD, PhD, mentor
Peter E. Dans, MD, councilor

University of California, Los Angeles David Geffen School of Medicine
Neil H. Parker, MD, councilor
David Skorton, MD, Weill Cornell Medical College
University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine
Sue Carlisle, MD, councilor
David Irby, PhD, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine
Stanford University School of Medicine
Charles G. Prober, MD, association chair
Bob Kocher, MD, Venrock

George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Alan G. Wasserman, MD, councilor
Jonathan Himmelfarb, MD, University of Washington School of Medicine

University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine
Alex J. Mechaber, MD, FACP, councilor
Michael Krasner, MD, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry

USF Morsani College of Medicine
Patricia J. Emmanuel, MD, councilor

George Karam, MD, Earl K. Long Medical Center

Emory University School of Medicine
Thomas C. Pearson, MD, DPhil, councilor
Talmadge King, MD, University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine
2011/2012 Visiting Professorships

State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine
Douglas R. Lazaro, MD, FACS, FAAO, councilor
Ian Taylor, MD, State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine
State University of New York Upstate Medical University
Lynn M. Cleary, MD, councilor
Rae-Ellen Kavey, MD, MPH, Immediate Past President, AΩA
Board of Directors, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
Stony Brook School of Medicine
Jack Fuhrer, MD, councilor
Ann Bonham, PhD, Association of American Medical Colleges

NORTH CAROLINA
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
K. Patrick Ober, MD, councilor
Mark Kline, MD, Baylor College of Medicine

OHIO
Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine
Gregory Toussaint, MD, councilor
Peter Boling, MD, Virginia Commonwealth University
Northeast Ohio Medical University
Dennis Lunne, MD, councilor
John Pelley, MD, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine

OKLAHOMA
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
Craig H. Rabb, MD, councilor
Martin H. Weiss, MD, Keck Hospital of USC

 PENNSYLVANIA
Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University
Clara A. Callahan, MD, councilor
David H. Newman, MD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Temple University School of Medicine
Amy Goldberg, MD, councilor
Myron Weisfeldt, MD, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
Robert G. Atnip, MD, councilor
David Torchiana, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital

PUERTO RICO
University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine
Humberto Guiot, MD, councilor
Claudia Martorelli, MD, Tufts University School of Medicine
Ponce School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Gabriel A. Martinez, MD, councilor
Maruja Santiago, MD, Ponce School of Medicine and Health Sciences

SOUTH CAROLINA
Medical University of South Carolina
Christopher G. Pelic, MD, councilor
Eric Rosenberg, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital
University of South Carolina School of Medicine
Joshua T. Thornhill IV, MD, councilor
Robert Sabalis, PhD, Association of American Medical Colleges

SOUTH DAKOTA
Sanford School of Medicine The University of South Dakota
Timothy Ridgway, MD, councilor
John Prescott, MD, Association of American Medical Colleges

TENNESSEE
University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine
Owen Phillips, MD, councilor
Arthur L. Kellermann, MD, MPH, FACEP, RAND Corporation
Vanderbilt University School of Medicine
John A. Zic, MD, councilor
Antonio M. Gotto, Jr., MD, DPhil, Weill Cornell Medical College
Meharry Medical College
Billy Ray Ballard, MD, DDS, councilor
W. Michael Byrd, Harvard School of Public Health

TEXAS
University of Texas Medical School at Houston
Eugene Boisaubin, MD, councilor
Richard B. Gunderman, Indiana University School of Medicine
Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine
Mark L. Montgomery, MD, councilor
Peter E. Dans, MD, John Hopkins University
University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine
Lisa R. Farmer, MD, councilor
Robert Grossman, MD, The Methodist Hospital

VERMONT
University of Vermont College of Medicine
Jeffrey Klein, MD, councilor
John Niparko, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

VIRGINIA
Eastern Virginia Medical School
Leonard Weirreter, MD, and Rebecca Caperton Britt, MD, councilors
Adriane Fugh-Berman, MD, Georgetown University School of Medicine
University of Virginia
Mark J. Mendelsohn, MD, councilor
Richard B. Gunderman, MD, PhD, Indiana University School of Medicine

WASHINGTON
University of Washington School of Medicine
Douglas S. Paauw, MD, councilor
Jo Shapiro, MD, Brigham and Women's Hospital

WEST VIRGINIA
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Melanie Fisher, MD, MS, councilor
John Prescott, MD, Association of American Medical Colleges

WISCONSIN
Medical College of Wisconsin
James L. Sebastian, MD, councilor
Gary L. Dunnington, MD, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine

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## 2011/2012 Volunteer Clinical Faculty Awards

The Alpha Omega Alpha Volunteer Clinical Faculty Award is presented annually by local chapters or associations to recognize community physicians who have contributed with distinction to the education and training of medical students. AΩA provides a permanent plaque for each chapter’s dean’s office; a plate with the name of each year’s honoree may be added each year that the award is given. Honorees receive framed certificates. The recipients of this award in the 2011/2012 academic year are listed below.

### CALIFORNIA
- University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine  
  **Margaret Chen**, MD

### GEORGIA
- Medical College of Georgia at Georgia Health Sciences University  
  **James Hotz**, MD  
- Morehouse School of Medicine  
  **Douglas S. Ander**, MD, FACEP

### HAWAII
- University of Hawaii, John A. Burns School of Medicine  
  **John Cogan**, MD

### ILLINOIS
- Chicago Medical School at Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine & Science  
  **Barbara Brootine**, MD, FACP  
- University of Illinois College of Medicine  
  **Michael Werckle**, MD

### INDIANA
- Indiana University School of Medicine  
  **Fred Frick**, MD

### KANSAS
- University of Kansas School of Medicine  
  **Michelle Pope**, MD

### KENTUCKY
- University of Louisville School of Medicine  
  **Jeffrey T. Omer**, MD

### LOUISIANA
- Tulane University School of Medicine  
  **Henry Evans, Jr.**, MD  
- Louisiana State University School of Medicine in Shreveport  
  **Charles D. Knight, Jr.**, MD

### MARYLAND
- University of Maryland School of Medicine  
  **Danielle Robertshaw**, MD

### MICHIGAN
- University of Michigan Medical School  
  **Daryl Tanski**, MD

### MINNESOTA
- University of Minnesota Medical School  
  **Megan McEllistrem**, MD

### NEBRASKA
- University of Nebraska College of Medicine  
  **Mark Woodruff**, MD

### NEW JERSEY
- University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—New Jersey Medical School  
  **Roger Brodkin**, MD
- University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey—Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
  **Barbara Marroccoli**, MD

### NEW YORK
- Mount Sinai School of Medicine  
  **Danielle Milano**, MD  
- New York Medical College  
  **Danny Hirsch-Kaufmann Jokl**, MD  
- New York University School of Medicine  
  **Bruce Raphael**, MD  
- State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine  
  **Alla Shapiro**, MD  
- State University of New York Upstate Medical University  
  **Patsy Iannolo**, MD  
- University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry  
  **Peter Van Brunt**, MD  
- Weill Cornell Medical College  
  **Patricia Yarberry-Allen**, MD

### NORTH DAKOTA
- University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
  **Mathew Iwamoto**, MD

### OHIO
- University of Cincinnati College of Medicine  
  **Ronna Schneider**, MD

### PENNSYLVANIA
- Drexel University College of Medicine  
  **Robert Massaro**, MD  
- Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University  
  **Matthew J. Burday**, DO, FACP  
- University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine  
  **Deborah Gilboa**, MD

### SOUTH CAROLINA
- University of South Carolina School of Medicine  
  **Ada D. Stewart**, MD

### TENNESSEE
- Vanderbilt University School of Medicine  
  **Timothy Eidson**, MD

### TEXAS
- University of Texas Medical School at Houston  
  **Fernando Levaro Pano**, MD  
- University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas  
  **Stephen W. Lacey**, MD

### VERMONT
- University of Vermont College of Medicine  
  **Jennie Lowell**, MD

### VIRGINIA
- Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine  
  **Mitchell Miller**, MD, FAAP

### WASHINGTON
- University of Washington School of Medicine  
  **Emily Transue**, MD
2011/2012 Administrative Recognition Awards

This award recognizes the AΩA chapter administrators who are so important to the functioning of the chapter or association. The nomination is made by the councilor or other officer of the chapter. A gift check is awarded to the individual, as well as a framed Certificate of Appreciation.

The following awards were made in 2011/2012:

ARIZONA
University of Arizona College of Medicine
Bonnie Marshall

CALIFORNIA
University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine
Sara Campillo

MINNESOTA
Mayo Medical School
Judith Kaur, MD

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Pauline Moran

NEW YORK
State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine
Carol Wolintz

PENNSYLVANIA
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
Erika Miller

PUERTO RICO
Universidad Central del Caribe
Liza Cintron

SOUTH DAKOTA
Sanford School of Medicine The University of South Dakota
Mary Sutter

TEXAS
University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine
Elisabeth Sanders
University of Texas Medical School at Houston
Patricia Caver
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas
Southwestern Medical School
Holli Holbert

WASHINGTON
University of Washington School of Medicine
Trish Zander

Help us support student research

What my student research fellowship meant to me

As a first year medical student, I was interested in not only learning the basics of medicine in the classroom but also exploring the many factors that play into health care delivery and access.

The fellowship let me pursue that opportunity to be a "student-researcher," to examine medicine and health care both in and outside the classroom. It funded research supplies that I used in the field for data collection as well as preparation of numerous abstracts and posters. It funded my travel to both regional and national conferences where I was able to present, defend, and distribute my findings as poster and oral presentations, something I had never done before. The conferences were especially exciting because I could not only share my work with like-minded colleagues, but also meet many people in the field of research, medicine, and global health who I very much admire. Lastly, I was able to fund a submission and therefore publish a first-authored manuscript of my work in the International Journal of Family Medicine.

Together, those experiences inspired, challenged, and shaped me profoundly as a student. They gave me skills and confidence to continue to pursue research through my career. In fact, the project I started with the help of the fellowship is still ongoing. We presented my findings to the local government in Yoro, Honduras, which helped inform changes to our mission that will better target the community health needs. How inspiring to see my research make change in a community's access to health care! I am planning my next trip to Honduras for this January, to continue expanding on our findings from my last project. This work has shaped my experience in medical school tremendously. I have no doubt it will continue to shape my education and future profession in a positive way, as well.

Kate Pearson
Class of 2014
Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine

Feedback from students like Ms. Pearson shows us how important it is to support programs like the AΩA Carolyn L. Kuckein Student Research Fellowships. Besides the financial support of your dues, we need volunteers to help us review the dozens of applications we receive each year for the program. If you are qualified to review applications for student research fellowships, please send us an e-mail to info@alphaomegaalpha.org. Include a paragraph about yourself and your research interests, and attach your NIH biosketch or equivalent. The fellowship applications are sent to reviewers in February, with a deadline of mid-March.