

# VCU School of Medicine

Virginia Commonwealth University

## 23<sup>rd</sup> 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

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

# *Faculty Excellence Awards Program*

## *A Livestream Event*

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

### **23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

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

Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate ..... Luan Lawson, M.D.  
Medical Education Senior Associate Dean of Medical Education  
and Student Affairs

- 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  
• The Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award

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

Women in Science, Dentistry and Medicine ..... Kim Isringhausen, B.S.D.H., R.D.H., M.P.H.  
Professional Achievement Award Associate Dean, Risk, Compliance and  
Human Resources, VCU School of Dentistry  
President, WISDM Faculty Organization

MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award ..... Thomas Yackel, M.D., M.P.H., M.S., M.B.A.  
President, MCV Physicians  
Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Practice,  
VCU School of Medicine

VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical ..... Brian Aboff, M.D., M.M.M.  
Education "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

# 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 \$1,469.60 and \$5,878.40 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 \$3,776.

**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, and those who show respect, 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/>.

## 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**

**J. Christian Barrett, M.D.**

Professor of Internal Medicine

**Barry V. Kirkpatrick, M.D., FAAP**

Clinical Professor of Pediatrics

## **Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching**

**Michelle N. Brooks, M.D.**

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine

## **Distinguished Mentor Award**

**Amir A. Toor, M.D.**

Professor of Internal Medicine

## **Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award**

**Megan S. Lemay, M.D.**, Associate Professor of Internal Medicine; **Sara Wilson McKay, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Art Education; and **John E. Nestler, M.D., MACP**, Distinguished Career Professor; Professor of Internal Medicine, OB/GYN, and Pharmacology & Toxicology

## **Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award**

presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

**Kelley M. Dodson, M.D., FACS**

Professor of Otolaryngology

## **Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement Award**

**Vanessa B. Sheppard, Ph.D.**

Professor and Chair of Health Behavior and Policy

## **MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award**

**Todd W. Gehr, M.D.**

Professor of Internal Medicine

# *Faculty Excellence Awards Recipients*

## **VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education “LGME” Award**

"Fellowship Director Award"

**Brandon K. Wills, D.O.**

Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine

"Program Director Award"

**Kelley M. Dodson, M.D., FACS**

Professor of Otolaryngology

"Program Coordinator Award"

**Allison S. Dubinsky, M.Ed.**

Sr. Residency Program Coordinator, Internal Medicine

## **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

# *Enrique Gerszten, M.D. Faculty Teaching Excellence Award*

## **J. Christian Barrett, M.D.**



“An unparalleled commitment to fostering growth in those around him from medical students to faculty colleagues.” This describes J. Christian Barrett, M.D., Professor and Associate Chair of Clinical Affairs, Department of Internal Medicine, Director, Central Virginia Center for Coagulation Disorders, Director of the School of Medicine (SOM) MS2a Marrow Division, and Program Director, Hematology-Oncology Fellowship Training Program. Dr. Barrett was recruited to VCU in the summer of 2005 and has had an enormous impact, not just on a broad spectrum of medical learners, but on the organization of curricula and the methods our faculty in environments from UME, GME, and CME use to teach.

In addition to his current roles, Dr. Barrett has served education over the past 16 years, including past roles as the Associate Program Director and Core Educator for the Internal Medicine Residency, GME Education Committee (voted position), Chair of the SOM Curriculum Committee, and as a member of the Clinical Competency and Program Evaluation Committees. He is a dedicated and highly rated clinical teacher on the inpatient hematology service, including the consult service, the fellows’ clinic and in the ambulatory hematology clinic, directing a rotation for students, resident and fellows.

When our UME curriculum was redesigned, Dr. Barrett was already recognized as an excellent teacher, but embraced change, introducing interactive POGIL-based sessions and additional TBL modules. Dr. Barrett developed a self-reflection exercise for students to share how they had been personally affected by cancer; students have reported this reflection helps them to better understand the impact of the clinical information they are learning. Using digital stories, Dr. Barrett recorded video vignettes by medical students who were affected by cancer or bleeding disorders, helping students to understand the patient’s perspective of experiencing illness.

“ ... [B]oth of my sons are medical students at VCU. Over the dinner table, after telling me how much they enjoyed Dr. Barrett’s lectures, they mentioned that he contacted them after the course was completed to get feedback. ... I doubt I know of any other faculty member who goes to this length – contacting students directly – to solicit input on their performance and who take that feedback to heart as much as Christian does,” attests John E. Nestler, M.D., MACP, Professor of Medicine, Former Chair of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Barrett constantly works to learn more and do more to serve learners. He draws ideas from colleagues worldwide, implementing innovations here to improve our learning environment. He has completed formal programs to strengthen his leadership and teaching skills, including the VCU TiME (Teaching in Medical Education) certificate program and the Grace E Harris Leadership Institute. “He openly acknowledges if he does not know something and will eagerly look for an answer. In doing so, he exemplifies the definition of lifelong learner. Years from now I am certain his example will constantly remind me that becoming a great doctor does not end when training ends ... ” explains former resident and fellow, Zachary Benson, M.D., Division of Hematology, Oncology, and Palliative Care, VCU.

In recognition of his numerous contributions to Internal Medicine educational programs he was awarded the department Innovation in Teaching Award in 2015 and the Jeff Krystal Award for Best Teacher-Mentor in Hem/Onc in 2020. In 2017 he was awarded the SOM Leadership in GME award. Dr. Barrett has received 12 teaching awards spanning the learner spectrum for his teaching, mentoring, and leadership and he is a 2-time winner of the VCU SOM Educational Innovation in Teaching Award.

Former VCU resident and fellow Haeseong Park, M.D., M.P.H., now Associate Professor of Molecular Oncology at Washington University SOM, speaks for so many of Dr. Barrett’s students, “Dr. Barrett simply is the best teacher that I have had in my whole life. Throughout all 7 years of my medical training, Dr. Barrett gave me the right advice at very precise moments, and I cannot thank him enough for leading me to where I am now, where I had only dreamed of being when I first started training as an intern.”

# *Enrique Gerszten, M.D. Faculty Teaching Excellence Award*

## **Barry V. Kirkpatrick, M.D., FAAP**

Over his five decades at VCU, Barry V. Kirkpatrick, M.D., Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, has been an innovator, collaborator, mentor, and role model. He is one of the most impactful teachers in the history of our School, training multiple generations of learners since joining our faculty in 1973. Despite officially “retiring” in 2013, Dr. Kirkpatrick is a constant presence on campus, continuing to guide learners at all levels in multiple disciplines in his calm, insightful, and focused, yet supportive, manner.

Dr. Kirkpatrick completed his M.D. and residency here and only left VCU to complete a Neonatal-Perinatal fellowship at University of Florida. He joined our faculty in 1973 as Director and Founder of the Newborn Intensive Care Unit from 1973-1986. Care of at-risk infants was rapidly evolving at the time, and Dr. Kirkpatrick worked tirelessly to teach VCU and community medical staff how to recognize high-risk pregnancies and stabilize and refer high risk infants for NICU care. He created and directed our Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship Program from 1975-1986.

In 1986, Dr. Kirkpatrick moved to the role of Division Chair, Community Pediatrics, (1986-2004), as primary supervisor for residents rotating in the community, essentially serving as an academic pediatric hospitalist more than two decades before that was a formal specialty. “Year after year, the residents made clear that their time at St. Mary’s under his tutelage was the best part of the residency,” states Harry Rozycki, M.D., Director, Child Health Research Institute, CHoR-VCU. Dr. Kirkpatrick also precepted students in the continuity clinic, a role he continues today.

“I still recall my interaction (as an intern) with Dr. Kirkpatrick more than 25 years ago. ... What struck me the most was his ability to explain “medicine” through story telling. ... He used this technique while talking to anxious parents ... (and) all levels of learners. I still use this technique ... just like Dr. Kirkpatrick,” explains Clifton C. Lee, M.D., FAAP, SFHM, Associate Professor of Pediatric Hospitalist Medicine, CHoR-VCU.

The list of educational “firsts” Dr. Kirkpatrick has introduced at VCU is truly remarkable. In the 1980s his Friday learning sessions already incorporated formal case-based and self-directed learning for clerkship students. His morning report sessions, held every Monday and Friday for the past several decades, are legendary. Residents present their most interesting cases and Dr. Kirkpatrick masterfully moderates, provides insights, and assures that learners understand any difficult concepts in a group that includes learners from 3rd year medical students to faculty colleagues. This is all done in a collegial, supportive environment that buzzes with curiosity and discovery.

In his role as Vice Chair for Educational and Community Affairs (2004-2013) he served as Pediatrics Interest Group advisor, and oversaw planning of all departmental Grand Rounds, while constantly communicating with community teaching sites to meet both learner and community needs. That would seem to be a robust role in itself, but during most of this same time (2004-2010), he was also the Clerkship Director for Pediatrics! As a mentor, his list of formal mentees is in the hundreds, with many more receiving career guidance and personal support. Among a long list of teaching awards, Dr. Kirkpatrick received the 2010 SOM Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching. In tribute to his lasting impact, the Barry V. Kirkpatrick Vice Chair of Education in Pediatrics was funded, in large part, by contributions from his learners over the years.

As N. Romesh Wijesooriya, M.D., Chair and Associate Professor of General Academic Pediatrics, CHoR-VCU summarizes for us, “He is one of those rare physician educators who does much more than just share knowledge with his learners. He inspires a thirst for knowledge and a desire for self-improvement that is born from an uncommon curiosity and a deep humility. This remarkable man has inspired me and hundreds of other physicians over the course of his career, and I cannot think of a more worthy recipient of this prestigious award.”



# *Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching*

## **Michelle N. Brooks, M.D.**



Escape the Patient Safety Room of Horrors. iPad Chalk Talks. The Spaghetti Tower Challenge. Field trips to pathology. @NestlerQODay. #postitpearls.

If these are familiar to you, you have probably had the great fortune to encounter the innovative and impactful teaching of Michelle N. Brooks, M.D., Associate Professor of Internal Medicine and Academic Hospitalist, Associate Program Director for Inpatient Medicine, and Hospitalist Pathway Director. Dr. Brooks completed her internal medicine residency here at VCU and joined our faculty in 2011. An academic hospitalist, Dr. Brooks teaches students and residents in the inpatient clinical environment, a constant innovator and advocate for learners.

A pioneer in the use of social media and other technology for clinical teaching, Dr. Brooks uses these tools to foster intellectual curiosity and increase learner engagement.

“Her @NestlerQODay and #postitpearls are dynamic, modern ways to promote learning in the clinical setting, positively impacting her local as well as a much broader audience,” states Avital Y. O’Glasser, MD, FACP, FHM, Associate Professor of Hospital Medicine and Assistant Program Director for Social Media and Scholarship, Internal Medicine Residency Program, Oregon Health & Science University.

Residents Nicholas Boleman, M.D., Andrew Hanna, M.D., and Joseph D. Lykins, V, M.D. describe their experiences as learners: “Her use of an iPad on rounds for “chalk talks” prepared beforehand, as well as on the fly, to integrate the vast resources of medical literature ... was incalculably valuable, and represents a strategy that we intend to employ. ... She was able to strike the perfect balance between supervision and autonomy ... consistently available but showing us that she had confidence in us by respecting our decisions for patients and providing any corrections when they were necessary. Even when she was offering gentle course correction, Dr. Brooks was respectful of differences in clinical approach and frequently acknowledged the inherent uncertainties, probabilities, and heterogeneity of practice.”

“One of the things I appreciate most about Dr. Brooks is how perceptive she is of student and resident individual strengths and contributions to care as well as challenges and areas for improvement. In addition to frequent feedback in the moment, Dr. Brooks makes a point to set aside time to meet with everyone individually to discuss goals and later reflect on to what extent they were achieved. ... She takes notice of not only your medical knowledge and communications skills, but also the thoughtfulness you put forth in treating a patient as an individual” recalls Laura Wozneak, M.D., PGY-1 Resident, VCU Department of Psychiatry.

Dr. Brooks has disseminated her work through national presentations, invited talks, and publications. Because of her educational leadership, she was recently invited to join the *Journal of Hospital Medicine* Editorial Fellowship program as a Digital Media Fellow. The first to volunteer to support a new faculty member, Dr. Brooks often joins faculty on rounds to provide structured feedback to improve clinical teaching. She runs twice monthly clinical teaching faculty development sessions for Internal Medicine faculty.

A recognized leader in improving patient safety, Dr. Brooks’ dynamic “Escape the Patient Safety Room of Horrors” simulation exercise allows interns to work as a group to identify safety hazards. Residents who help prevent safety issues are recognized with “Good Catch Awards.” To support safety event reporting, a QI resident visits team rooms offering to help report safety events if the ward resident is short on time. “As a result of Dr. Brooks’ efforts, there has been a significant increase in patient safety event reporting. Dr. Brooks has shared this program nationally with parts of the curriculum now in use at Internal Medicine Residency Programs at 3 other universities” explains Kimberly Pedram, M.D., SFHM, FACP Course Director, Practice of Clinical Medicine, Associate Chair for Education, Division of Hospital Medicine, Assistant Professor of Medicine, VCUHS.

Despite her many accomplishments, Dr. Brooks continues to strive for excellence, always pushing to improve the learner’s educational experience. We honor her as an extraordinary clinical educator.

## *Distinguished Mentor Award*

### **Amir A. Toor, M.D.**



Amir Toor, M.D., is Professor of Medicine in the Division of Hematology, Oncology and Palliative Care, Department of Internal Medicine (DOIM). Dr. Toor joined our faculty in 2007. A busy investigator with more than 10 active grants and contracts, more than 70 peer-reviewed papers, and more than 100 abstracts, Dr. Toor is exceptionally dedicated to paving the way for the next generation of healthcare professionals and scientists.

Undergraduate students, medical students, master's and PhD graduate students, post-graduate trainees, resident and fellowship trainees, healthcare and non-healthcare faculty members, and international faculty – all have benefitted from Dr. Toor's mentorship. In addition to the vital day-to-day support of our learners, these mentoring relationships have been most productive; nearly all of his 47 undergraduate student, medical student, post-graduate, and resident/fellow physician research mentees were authors on abstracts and/or peer-reviewed publications. Two-thirds of these mentees had the opportunity to be first author. Entire academic programs have been created and enhanced because of Dr. Toor's broad scope of mentorship.

Jason Reed, Ph.D. Eminent Scholar, Professor of Physics, VCU College of Humanities and Sciences describes Dr. Toor's interdisciplinary collaborations. "Our physics department views Amir's cross-mentoring of our students as one of the most valuable training assets we have: our work with him and his clinical fellows has led directly to our department launching an undergraduate concentration for physics majors interested in careers in quantitative medicine."

"Shortly after I joined his research group he encouraged me to investigate adaptive clinical trial designs. This was a field I knew nothing about and employed statistical methods I was unskilled in. But Amir not only believed that these designs were the future, but he believed that I could help bring them to his team and to VCU. Through his guidance and encouragement, we have designed many trial proposals ... two of which have been approved and are currently being conducted. Further, this research line has become a methodological specialty of mine, resulting in many peer-reviewed publications, and has been the focus of five PhD dissertations where I have served as primary advisor. None of this would have happened without Amir's mentorship and encouragement," attests Roy T. Sabo, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Biostatistics, VCU SOM.

"He is acutely aware of the educational level of the colleague he is talking to ... No question is stupid with Dr. Toor ... he will explain and re-explain a topic with no inkling of judgment - he will in fact consistently find creative ways to explain the same topic until the mentee is comfortable with it," explains Viktoriya Zelikson, MS4, VCU class of 2022.

Kelly G. Hawks, Pharm.D., BCOP, Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, Cellular Immunotherapies and Transplant Program Director, PGY2 Oncology Pharmacy Residency, Clinical Assistant Professor, VCU School of Pharmacy describes how Dr. Toor's guidance and innovative approaches have impacted pharmacy learners. "Dr. Toor encouraged me to push the traditional boundaries of what our pharmacy residency programs required. Four of these projects produced results presented by a pharmacy trainee at a national level, including two platform presentations at the American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy meeting (1st place-2016) and 2nd place award (2018) in the Transplant Pharmacology category. Dr. Toor set a high standard early on in my career and the careers of my trainees."

Dr. Toor has been recognized for his exceptional contributions to mentorship, research and teaching, receiving the Outstanding Mentor Award from the DOIM in 2017, the Distinguished Scholarship Award from the DOIM in 2016, and a nomination for the prestigious Thames-Kontos Mentorship Award in 2019.

"His genuine care for the welfare of his mentees and their growth as thoughtful physicians and scientists is palpable ... " summarizes Rehan Qayyum, M.D., M.H.S., Chair and Professor of Internal Medicine, EVMS.

## *Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award*

**Megan S. Lemay, M.D.; Sara Wilson McKay, Ph.D.;**  
**and John E. Nestler, M.D., MACP**



Megan S. Lemay, M.D., Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, and John E. Nestler, M.D., Professor Emeritus and Former Chair of Internal Medicine and inaugural VCUarts physician-scientist in residence, have partnered with Sara Wilson McKay, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Art Education, VCUarts, to help illuminate the humanity in medicine through expression in the arts. The Medicine, Arts and Humanities curriculum was developed in 2019 and has been offered as an interprofessional and cross-community elective in the School of Medicine since that time. Students in the elective course participate in eight, three-hour sessions; for example, students attend a session at Six Points Innovation Center in the historically black Richmond neighborhood of Highland Park led by community leader Free Egunfemi Bangura. Students discuss the history of VCU's racism and violence against Black Richmonders, role-play a scenario of discrimination in medicine based on true events, and discuss intent versus impact using clay sculpture. At another session, Narrative Medicine: Living Histories, students obtain a "living history" from patients and created a narrative about the patient. In a living history, patients are interviewed about their lives and what they wish their medical team to know about them. Art Communication students have also participated in this session, sketching patients during the encounter.

For "Visual Art and Medicine", students meet at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and complete guided dialogic observations of visual art preceded by instruction on cognitive bias in healthcare. Other sessions touch on teamwork, improvisation, reflection, and resilience and mindfulness. Capstone projects allow students to present their creative works reflecting on the questions: "What makes you a better doctor? What makes you a more resilient person?" using dance, painting, original music, poetry, embroidery, and other arts.

The results of the curriculum are already impressive. After engaging in the curriculum, students experienced a decrease in implicit racial bias and reported an awareness of course impact on implicit bias. All students reported that they would recommend the course to others. This work has been presented at the VCU Health Sciences Education Symposium and at the National Society of General Internal Medicine.

Among other projects, working with Dr. Catherine Grossman (VCU SOM), and Dr. Aaron Anderson (VCUarts), Dr. Lemay and Dr. Nestler helped create an improvisational theater workshop for students entering their third year of medical school. Participants in the workshop demonstrated improved empathy with standardized patients. Dr. Nestler, in collaboration with Professor Stephen Alcorn of VCUarts, has also created an elective in the Communication Arts Department of VCUarts to expose art students to examples of illness, healing and death. The objective of the elective is to heighten the art students' appreciation of the human condition to which few have been exposed. The art students visit MCV Hospitals, a retirement home, a maternity ward, a cemetery, interview a patient with Stage 4 cancer, and create art based on those experiences.

"(This) ongoing work is a large part of why VCU is now internationally recognized as a leading institution for Arts + Healthcare collaborations," states Aaron D. Anderson, Ph.D., Associate Chair and Professor, VCUarts, Health Liaison, School of Arts/School of Medicine, Founding Director, Standardized Patient Program, VCU.

The students who participate agree:

"This course helped illuminate some implicit biases I hold by bringing up what ideas I connect subconsciously in our appreciation of art and what assumptions I make about people based on diagnosis, etc."

"Reminded us to practice mindful listening and accept that as we come from different backgrounds, we have to continually think about cultural humility when approaching different individuals."

"Every session pushed me out of my comfort zone and challenged my preconceived notions about what it means to be a good physician."

*Faculty Excellence Awards*

## *Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award*

### **Kelley M. Dodson, M.D., FACS**



“She talks to her pediatric patients like the humans they are. She is full of energy and extremely kind and patient with her patients and families.” This is how Rajanya S. Petersson, M.S., M.D., FACS, Associate Professor of Otolaryngology, and Section Director, Pediatric Otolaryngology, CHOR describes Kelley M. Dodson, M.D. FACS, this year’s Tow Humanism Award recipient.

Dr. Dodson serves as Professor and Residency Program Director, VCU Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery (HNS), joining the faculty in 2005 after completing medical school and residency at VCU. A respected clinician, she has shared her grant-funded scholarly work through dozens of presentations and 35 peer-reviewed publications. Dr. Dodson has also received numerous recognitions for her teaching, clinical care, and bedside manner. Her residents can often be heard commenting, “Dr. Dodson knows everything!” As residency Program Director, she has taken a special interest in helping learners who need some extra mentoring and assistance, collaborating to carefully construct a path to success. Her students and colleagues admire not only her accomplishments, but the manner in which she accomplishes them – thoughtfully, with compassion and patience.

Richard Costanzo, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Physiology and Biophysics and Otolaryngology/HNS recalls, “When I first met Kelley during her residency I could tell from the start that she was a very special person. She was not only very smart but also quiet and humble. . . . As I observed her over the years as she interacted with residents and with patients my initial impressions were confirmed over and over again. I expect anyone who knows Kelley most likely has had the same impression, she is an amazing physician, a kind and compassionate human being and a role model for those around her.”

“I look up to Dr. Dodson as a model for both academic achievement and clinical excellence. How she is able to do this - maintain a thriving practice, produce rigorous scholarly output, oversee the entire educational program of our residents, all while running a busy and loving family life – simply defies understanding,” declares Daniel H. Coelho, M.D., Hayden Professor, Otolologic & Neurologic Surgery, VCU Department of Otolaryngology/HNS.

Evan R. Reiter, M.D., Professor and Vice Chairman of Otolaryngology/HNS, shares his personal experience. “Having observed her directly caring for multiple patients including my own family members, I have consistently been struck with her earnest compassion. She recognizes the combination of perceived vulnerability, uncertainty, and anxiety of separation from parents in her patients, and strives to mitigate these fears. She generally stays at the patients’ side from the time they leave the parent to when they are induced under anesthesia, consoling them, holding them, and trying to entertain them by showing their favorite videos on her phone. These seemingly small things are by no means standard among even pediatric physicians and show a true compassion many would do well to emulate.”

Her patients agree:

*Dr. Dodson is a fantastic person and doctor. Her vibrant personality brings joy to a trip to the doctor. She has been an advocate for my son and educational needs due to hearing loss. I cannot say enough good things.*

*Dr. Dodson has a great caring attitude combined with the knowledge and professionalism that every MD should adopt. I am sure that her attitude has a positive effect on everybody around her.*

*If you are looking for a provider face from VCU Health that says "We really care about you", you do not have to look any further than Dr. Kelley Dodson.*

As Dr. Petersson summarizes: “She exemplifies what a physician should be through her compassion, rapport, intelligence, communication, professionalism, and moral compass.” We are so fortunate to have Dr. Dodson among us.

# *Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement “WISDM” Award*

## **Vanessa B. Sheppard, Ph.D.**



Vanessa Sheppard, Ph.D., holds dual appointments in the VCU School of Medicine and VCU Massey Cancer Center (MCC). She serves as Theresa A. Thomas Memorial Chair in Cancer Prevention; Control Associate Director, Community Outreach Engagement and Health Disparities, MCC; and Department Chair and Professor, Health Behavior and Policy. She is Founding Director, Office of Health Equity and Disparities Research, and Co-leader of the MCC Cancer Prevention Control Program. Dr. Sheppard came to VCU in 2016 from Georgetown University because of the opportunities here to focus on health inequity research and work with our Minority Underserved NCI Community Oncology Program.

Dr. Sheppard’s research focus is cancer disparities with an emphasis on breast cancer, cancer care delivery, behavioral trials and longitudinal cohorts. Her approach embeds clinical research in the community to achieve equity, using community navigators to educate and support people through their cancer care and to improve access to treatments and clinical trials. Dr. Sheppard recently discussed her commitment to eliminating cancer disparities with Dr. Jill Biden during her February 24, 2021, visit to MCC.

“While I agree that it is critical that she be valued as a scientist, I feel it is only to our good fortune that she is valued for her ability to convey the importance of healthcare for all to the broader community,” states Barbara D. Boyan, Ph.D., Alice T. and William H. Goodwin, Jr. Dean, VCU College of Engineering.

Dr. Sheppard’s research has earned steady and robust funding and is currently funded through six American Cancer Society, NCI/NIH/DHHS, and National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences grants. She has overseen an over 43% increase in health disparities funding at MCC. She has over 110 peer-reviewed publications which have been cited over 1,800 times.

Mentoring students and junior colleagues is a passion of Dr. Sheppard’s. As Megan C. Edmonds, M.P.H., Ph.D., explains, working with Dr. Sheppard “... has resulted in numerous learning opportunities that have fueled my professional development. ... I have been able to build my publication record, with a 7 published articles to date; and ... submission of a funded NIH grant pilot award and presentations at several national conferences. I also received numerous postdoctoral fellowships offers from top research one institutions.”

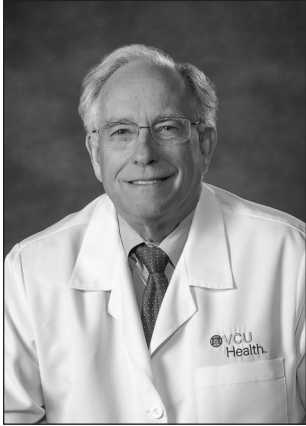
Another mentee, Arnethea L. Sutton, Ph.D. Postdoctoral Fellow, VCU Health Behavior and Policy, agrees, “When I started as her postdoc, I had no publications and no funding. Guided by her very intense, yet strategic mentoring style, I was able to publish over 20 manuscripts in the past 4 years, secure pilot funding and was recently awarded a prestigious K99/R00 grant from the NCI.

Dr. Sheppard serves as Grant Reviewer, NCI Subcommittee F, NIH, and has served as an American Association for Cancer Education Board Member since 2016 and an external advisor for the Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modeling Network (CISNET) and as a Permanent Member of Nursing Related Clinical Services, Study Section, NIH-NINR. She serves as a reviewer for many high-impact journals. Dr. Sheppard was honored with the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Health Sciences, Old Dominion University, and received the 2001 AAMC Herbert W. Nickens, M.D., Junior Faculty Achievement Award and was recognized by AAMC for her subsequent accomplishments.

As Kathy Tossas, Ph.D., M.S., Assistant Professor, Health Behavior & Policy; Affiliate Assistant Professor, Family Medicine & Population Health; Harrison Endowed Scholar in Cancer Research & MCC Member summarizes: “Dr. Sheppard is a change agent, who is a catalyst of social justice and champion of health equity. Her steadfast leadership and unwavering dedication to excellence have not only carried her through, but have inspired others to do, and be better. ... I am honored to have her as a mentor, chair and role model.”

# *MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award*

## **Todd Gehr, M.D.**



This year marks 34 years of extraordinary service at VCU for Todd W. B. Gehr, M.D., tenured professor of medicine. Since 2010 he has served as vice chair of the Department of Internal Medicine and since 2004 as the division chair of Nephrology. He is revered for his decades-long record of clinical leadership and passion for extraordinary direct patient care. Despite his substantial administrative responsibilities, Dr. Gehr is described as the “most active clinician in our division.” He has served as medical director of multiple dialysis units and has provided expertise on many expert panels and committees. He volunteers his time to free clinics, homeless shelters, and organizations supporting those with kidney disease. In all settings, he is valued for his kindness, expansive knowledge, and calm, common-sense approach to challenging situations.

As Patricia Sime, M.D., FRCP, chair, Department of Internal Medicine William Branch Porter Professor of Medicine attests, “His influence has grown far beyond his own patient population as he has excelled in providing substantial clinical administrative service to VCU. As chair of nephrology, he has established multiple dialysis centers to optimize high quality care to patients near their homes (currently dialyzing over 400 patients), and has played a major role in growing kidney transplants. Thanks in part to his work, VCU is now highly ranked on the East Coast and nationally, growing from 100 to over 300 transplants per year. More importantly, he has recruited and grown a talented cadre of nephrology faculty who deliver outstanding care.”

No less important is Dr. Gehr’s influence on his colleagues and students. Faculty member and mentee Jason Kidd, M.D., associate professor of Nephrology, states, “Dr. Gehr exemplifies the joy of the practice of medicine. His excitement is infectious and contributes greatly to the care of our patients and the education of the future physicians in our health system.”

Dr. Gehr has been awarded multiple Internal Medicine Best Faculty Awards and is a yearly Nephrology top voter recipient in Richmond Magazine’s Top Docs list. He served as chair of the Clinical Competency Committee for Internal Medicine Residency program for 11 years. In 2003 he was elected by his students into Alpha Omega Alpha. A distinguished scholar and recognized global expert in nephrology, he has disseminated over 100 publications, sharing important discoveries in the pharmacokinetics of key medications — including loop diuretics, metolazone and fosinopril.

Despite all of these accomplishments, you might most often hear people comment on Dr. Gehr’s steady congeniality, empathy, and support for all those around him. Anna Vinnikova, M.D., associate professor of Nephrology, states, “Dr. Gehr’s charisma is legendary. His infectious laugh and ultimate friendly demeanor has a way of comforting patients, inspiring trainees, and turning all colleagues into dedicated allies.”

We have shared exceptional highlights of Dr. Gehr’s outstanding career. To close, we want to leave you with some defining comments from our most important evaluators, Dr. Gehr’s patients:

*“I think that Dr. Gehr is the ideal doctor! He is highly knowledgeable and skilled, but also friendly, caring and helpful. He always is patient with all of my questions and answers them thoroughly.”*

*“Dr. Gehr is the ideal physician! I feel very fortunate that he is my nephrologist. He is kind, thoughtful, skilled and friendly. He’s always concerned about my concerns. I’ve referred several friends to him.”*

*“I always feel that this doctor knows me and cares about me. He talks freely and shows me graphs and charts to keep me completely updated. I am a 26-year project in progress! Under his care, I expect to continue!”*

*VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education "LGME" Award for Fellowship Program Director*

**Brandon K. Wills, D.O.**  
**Medical Toxicology Fellowship**



Fellowship Directors have the unique role of taking a physician who has completed residency training and turning him/her into a highly specialized expert. Like residency program directors, they are responsible for recruiting applicants, overseeing the curriculum, safeguarding the wellbeing of the fellows, ensuring the quality learning and work environment, and continuously improving the program. Fellowship directors make sure that the vision and mission of the program come to fruition.

Dr. Wills received his bachelor's degree in kinesiology and master's degree in exercise physiology from the University of Colorado and medical degree from the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine. After completing an emergency medicine residency, including Chief Resident year, at the Akron General Medical Center, he did a fellowship in medical toxicology at the Cook County Hospital/Toxikon Consortium in Chicago, IL. Dr. Wills joined the VCU faculty in 2009 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine. He was appointed Director of the Medical Toxicology Fellowship in 2011 and was promoted to Associate Professor the following year.

In his role as Fellowship Director, Dr. Wills has mentored many fellows over the past 11 years who have gone on to take leadership positions in clinical toxicology at other academic centers. He consistently receives the highest evaluations from fellows and residents alike for his teaching style and dedication. He has received numerous department teaching awards including the Distinguished Faculty Award, the Tim Evans faculty teaching award, and the Golden Apple Award. In addition to his work within the toxicology fellowship, Dr. Wills also serves as the Chair of the Clinical Competency Committee for the Emergency Medicine Residency Program. His academic scholarship is impressive with authorship on numerous peer reviewed publications, book chapters, as well as having given many local, regional, and national presentations. He is a member of the Board of Trustees for the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology and serves as a member of the Medical Toxicology Milestones 2.0 Work Group for the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

Dr. Wills is a regional and national leader in medical toxicology. His commitment and dedication to his fellows is remarkable.

# *VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education “LGME” Award for Program Director*

## **Kelley M. Dodson, M.D., FACS** **Otolaryngology Residency Program**



Program Directors are critical to the overall success of the institution’s education mission, ensuring the quality of housestaff education and graduating highly competent clinicians who are well prepared to care for our neighbors, friends, and family. Program directors are responsible for recruiting applicants, overseeing the curriculum, safeguarding the wellbeing of the residents, ensuring the quality learning and work environment, and continuously improving the program. Program directors make sure that the vision and mission of the program come to fruition.

Dr. Dodson received her bachelor’s degree in Biology and Spanish from the University of Virginia and medical degree from the George Washington University School of Medicine. After completing a general surgery internship and otolaryngology residency at VCU Health System, she joined the VCU faculty in 2005 as an Assistant Professor. She quickly rose through the ranks becoming Associate Program Director in 2008 and Program Director in

2013. In 2019, she was awarded the academic rank of full Professor. Dr. Dodson has been the recipient of many special awards and honors including the Outstanding Teacher Award from the VCU medical school class of 2021 in ambulatory clerkships, the Resident Teaching Award, and has been listed among Richmond Magazine’s “Top Docs” list in pediatric otolaryngology.

Dr. Dodson is known for increasing the quality and rigor of the otolaryngology residency program while fostering an environment of collegiality between the residents and faculty that provides an outstanding learning environment. She made substantial and innovative changes to the program including starting a faculty mentorship program for the residents and a resident mentorship program for medical students. She opened lines of communication with the residents and re-worked the curriculum and rotations to improve their exposure to the breadth of the field of otolaryngology. Dr. Dodson is a tireless advocate for diversity within the residency program. The results speak for themselves with a high number of women and underrepresented minority graduates.

The letter of support from the residents was incredibly complimentary. They describe a compassionate, innovative leader that is always looking out for their best interests. She is an “exemplary” advocate for the housestaff and takes resident wellbeing seriously, implementing several measures including weekly recognition of residents’ exceptional work at the department’s Grand Rounds, establishing an anonymous forum for resident feedback, leading the department’s wellness committee, hosting and planning social gatherings, and starting a quarterly town hall meeting with residents.

Dr. Dodson is a leader, innovator, role model. She epitomizes the ideals of a residency program director.



# *VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education “LGME” Award for Program Coordinator*

## **Allison S. Dubinsky, M.Ed. Internal Medicine Residency**



Program Coordinators are leaders. They are the cement that holds the many parts of a program together and the oil that makes sure everything flows smoothly. A good program coordinator ensures that schedules are made and followed, that interview season is successful, and that residents get the evaluations and feedback that they need. Great program coordinators are problem solvers, mentors, innovators, and motivators.

Ms. Dubinsky received her bachelor's degree in religious studies from Gettysburg College and Masters of Education degree in Adult Learning, Teaching and Learning with Technology track from Virginia Commonwealth University. She originally joined the VCU Health community in 2009 as a student worker in the Office of Graduate Medical Education and then moved into the GME Curriculum Coordinator position a few years later. In 2016, she joined the Department of Medicine where she worked as the M3 Clerkship Coordinator and since 2017 has served as the Residency Program Coordinator Senior.

She is a leader, mentor, and innovator. Ms. Dubinsky is an integral part of the program's leadership team and widely respected by the housestaff and department's fellowship program coordinators as a valued resource. She has a tremendous breadth of GME knowledge and has an expertise in assessment and evaluation. She works closely with an Associate Program Director to run the program's evaluation system and Clinical Competency Committee. She regularly shares her expertise with program coordinators throughout VCU Health System and nationally at ACGME and Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine conferences. She has formal training as an executive coach and uses those skills to support the program's core educator mentorship program as well as serve as a coach herself for trainees on learning plans requiring special attention to support their growth.

Allison's creativity and enthusiasm for bringing people together show up in other unique and valued ways. For instance, in Spring 2020, she created and ran a nine-week virtual “Internal Medicine Idol” singing competition among the residents, fellows, and faculty. The endeavor served as a much-needed morale boost in the early phase of the pandemic and helped the department connect virtually when many people were feeling isolated. Participants and audience members both noted how it contributed to their wellbeing.

Ms. Dubinsky is the Program Coordinator's Coordinator. She is a star in the Department of Medicine, within the GME community, and at VCU Health.

*Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award in  
Health Sciences Education*

**Kelly M. Harrell, Ph.D., M.T.T.**

Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology

**William A. Barton, Ph.D.**

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

**Yongyun Shin, Ph.D.**

Department of Biostatistics

**Lisa S. Anderson, M.P.H.**

Division of Epidemiology

Department of Family Medicine and Population Health

**Anika L. Hines, Ph.D.**

Department of Health Behavior and Policy

**Dana Lapato, Ph.D.**

Department of Human and Molecular Genetics

**Eun D. Lee, Ph.D.**

Department of Microbiology and Immunology

**Dana E. Selley, Ph.D.**

**Laura Sim Selley, Ph.D.**

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

**Charles D. Anderson, Jr., 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 2024 Scientific Foundations of Medicine

Charles Clevenger, M.D., Ph.D.	Foundations of Disease
Kimberly Jefferson, Ph.D.	Immunity and Infection
Carmen Sato-Bigbee, Ph.D.	Molecular Basis of Health and Disease
Kirk Cumpston, D.O.	Principles of Autonomics and Pharmacology
Srinivasa Karnam, Ph.D.	Principles of Physiology

### Class of 2024 Applied Medical Sciences A

Melissa McGinn-Greer, Ph.D.	Anatomy
Trey Wickham, M.D., M.P.H.	Endocrine
Scott Matherly, M.D.	GI
Sandra Colello, Ph.D.	Histology
Gary Simmons, D.O.	Marrow
Nirav Patel, M.D.	Movement
Valentina Robila, M.D., Ph.D.	Pathology
Sarah Milton, M.D., M.S.	Reproduction

### Class of 2023 Applied Medical Sciences B

Charles Anderson, Ph.D.	Cardiovascular
Melissa McGinn Greer, Ph.D.	Mind, Brain and Behavior
Marjolein de Wit, M.D., M.S.	Pulmonary
Niraj Kothari, M.D.	Renal

### Class of 2023 Applied Medical Sciences C

Meera Pahuja, M.D.	Longitudinal Curriculum
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### Class of 2023 and 2024 Practice of Clinical Medicine

Meredith Berger, M.D.	Class of 2023 PCM Preceptor
Alger Southall, M.D.	Class of 2023 PCM Preceptor (Family Medicine)
Rex Harkrader, M.D.	Class of 2023 PCM Preceptor (Family Medicine)
Peter Moffett, M.D.	Class of 2023 PCM Small Group Leader
Evan Ritter, M.D.	Class of 2024 PCM Small Group Leader

### Class of 2022 M-III Clerkships

Georgia McIntosh, M.D.	Ambulatory
Mitchell Miller, M.D.	Family Medicine
Gustave Weiland, M.D.	Internal Medicine
Sam Sullivan, M.D.	Internal Medicine
Kenichiro Ono, M.D.	Neurology
Katherine Czyszczon, M.D.	Ob-Gyn
Clifton Lee, M.D.	Pediatrics
Melissa Bui, M.D.	Psychiatry
Brian Kaplan, M.D.	Surgery

*Outstanding Teacher Awards in  
Undergraduate Medical Education*

**Faculty with High Evaluation Awards**

**Class of 2022 M-III Clerkships**

<b>Olga Suarez-Winowiski, M.D.</b>	Ambulatory
<b>Wei Zhao, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Ambulatory
<b>Rishika Kaundal, M.D.</b>	Family Medicine
<b>Michael Brady, M.D.</b>	Internal Medicine
<b>Patrick Fadden, M.D.</b>	Internal Medicine
<b>Leslie Cloud, M.D., M.Sc.</b>	Neurology
<b>Jon Snider, M.D.</b>	Neurology
<b>Lindsey Pflugner, M.D.</b>	Ob-Gyn
<b>Barbara Simpson, M.D.</b>	Ob-Gyn
<b>Marieka Helou, M.D.</b>	Pediatrics
<b>Romesh Wijesooriya, M.D.</b>	Pediatrics
<b>Adel Abdallah, M.D.</b>	Pediatrics
<b>Kathryn Jones, M.D.</b>	Psychiatry
<b>Susan Waller, M.D.</b>	Psychiatry
<b>Greg Golladay, M.D.</b>	Surgery
<b>Georgi Guruli, M.D., Ph.D.</b>	Surgery

# *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!

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/>.

## **Fall 2020 Graduates**

**Scott T. Armistead, M.D.**  
**Department of Family Medicine and Population Health**

**Benjamin D. Chopski, D.O.**  
**Department of Internal Medicine**

## **Spring 2021 Graduates**

**Carly Croft, B.S.**  
**Department of Ophthalmology**

**Eun D. Lee, Ph.D.**  
**Department of Microbiology and Immunology**

**Lindsay A. Taylor, M.D.**  
**Department of Emergency Medicine**

## *2021 Teaching Excellence Awards Nominees*

Yasir Al-Khalili, M.D., M.S.Ed., Assistant Professor of Neurology

Brian Kaplan, M.D., Professor of Surgery

Emily Mullet, M.D., Associate Clinical Professor of Family Medicine and Population Health

Mark Parker, M.D., Professor of Radiology

Alex Krist, M.D., Professor of Family Medicine and Population Health

### Clerkship Leadership Teams

Ambulatory Medicine: Bennett Lee, Megan Lemay, Summer Pearce

Family Medicine: Melissa Bradner, Denee Moore, Erin Van Vleet-Jester

Internal Medicine: Phoebe Ashley, Nathaniel Warner, Thomas Bryan

Neurology: Alicia Zukas, Miranda Cox

Obstetrics and Gynecology: Fidelma Rigby, Marta Vicente

Pediatrics: Marieka Helou, Clifton Lee, Risham Qureshi

Psychiatry: Alexandru Trutia, Casey Manguin

Surgery: Gretchen Aquilina, Laura Porter

***\*Congratulations to our Nominees!\****

###

### *Special Thanks*

#### **Office of Faculty Affairs**

Kathy Kreutzer, M.Ed., Writer

Deborah Stewart, Program Coordinator

#### **University Marketing**

Tom Kocjsich

#### **Curriculum Office**

Lelia Brinegar, Ed.D.

Kathy Naneyshvili

#### **Student Affairs**

Audrey Manley

## *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  
Frank Fulco, M.D., RPh, 2019  
John W. Bigbee, Ph.D., 2020

### **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

### **IRBY-JAMES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL TEACHING (CONTINUED)**

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

### **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

# *Previous Teaching Award Winners*

## **DISTINGUISHED MENTOR AWARD (CONTINUED)**

Steven Crossman, M.D., 2019

Michael Miles, M.D., Ph.D., 2019

Ananda B. Amstadter, Ph.D., 2020

Kenneth A. Ellenbogen, M.D., 2020

## **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



# 2021 Awards Selection Committees

## **Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards**

### Teaching Awards Selection Committee

Saba Ali, M-IV Student Representative  
John Bigbee, Ph.D., Anatomy and Neurobiology  
Clare Diester, Pharmacology and Toxicology, Graduate Student  
Jose Eltit, Ph.D., Physiology and Biophysics  
Frank Fulco, M.D., Internal Medicine, VAMC  
Kathy Kreutzer, M.Ed., Chair, Office of Faculty Affairs (non-voting)  
Georgia McIntosh, M.D., Internal Medicine  
Kevin Quinn, M.D., Otolaryngology, Housestaff  
Lucas Rizkalla, M-IV Student Representative  
Debbie Stewart, B.I.S., Program Coordinator, Office of Faculty Affairs (non-voting)  
Ashlie Tseng, M.D., Pediatrics  
Brian “Binks” Wattenberg, Ph.D., Biochemistry/Molecular Biology

## **Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education**

### Pre-Clinical Curriculum Committee

Diane Biskobing, M.D., Office of Medical Education  
Lelia Brinegar, Ed.D., Office of Medical Education  
Joshua Kang, Class of 2023 Curriculum Representative  
Annapoorani Narayanan, Class of 2023 Curriculum Representative  
Kevin Parham, Class of 2023 Curriculum Representative  
Daniel Walden, Class of 2023 Curriculum Representative  
Joshua David, Class of 2024 Curriculum Representative  
Nadine El Fawal, Class of 2024 Curriculum Representative  
Manjari Sriparna, Class of 2024 Curriculum Representative  
T"keyah Vaughan, Class of 2024 Curriculum Representative

### M-III Clinical Education

Ambulatory Clerkship Committee  
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**

Graduate Medical Education Committee

*We hope you enjoyed the awards program. We look forward to seeing you next year!*

