

Faculty Excellence Awards Program

12:00	WELCOME	Betsy Ripley, M.D., M.S., R.A.C. Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development, SOM Vice Dean, VCU School of Medicine
25TH ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF AWARDS		
	Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award in Health Sciences Education	Arturo P. Saavedra, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A. Dean, VCU School of Medicine Executive VP for Medical Affairs, VCU Health System
	Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education	Luan Lawson, M.D. Senior Associate Dean of Medical Education and Student Affairs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Best Teacher in the Course and Clerkship Awards• Faculty with High Evaluation Awards	
	Teaching Excellence Awards	Arturo P. Saavedra, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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
	MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award.....	Ralph Clark III, M.D. Chief Medical Officer Ambulatory Care Services Interim Chief Medical Officer MCV Physicians
	Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award..... presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation	Christopher Woleben, M.D. Associate Dean for Student Affairs
	Women in Science, Dentistry and Medicine..... Professional Achievement Award	Rita Shiang, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Graduate Program Director, Department of Human and Molecular Genetics Past President, WISDM Faculty Organization
	VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education "LGME" Awards	Brian Aboff, M.D., M.M.M. Senior Associate Dean, Graduate Medical Education
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fellowship Director Award• Program Director Award• Program Coordinator Award	
1:00	CLOSING REMARKS.....	Betsy Ripley, M.D., M.S., R.A.C.

All attendees are invited to lunch in the Lobby, see last page of program for lunch ticket.

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 \$8,707 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 \$4,431.

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 <https://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 <https://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

Sarah Hobgood, M.D.

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine

Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching

Lisa K. Brath, M.D.

Professor of Internal Medicine

Distinguished Mentor Award

Tomasz Kordula, Ph.D.

Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award

Sarika Modi, M.D.

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine

Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award

presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

Clifton C. Lee, M.D., F.A.A.P., S.F.H.M.

Professor of Pediatrics

Women in Science, Dentistry, and Medicine Professional Achievement Award

Karen D. Hendricks-Muñoz, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P.

Professor of Pediatrics

MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award

Anne L. King, M.D.

Professor of Internal Medicine

Faculty Excellence Awards Recipients

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

"Fellowship Director Award"

Lisa K. Brath, M.D.

Professor of Internal Medicine

"Program Director Award"

Josephina Vossen, M.D., Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Radiology

"Program Coordinator Award"

Dawn M. Hunt

Program Coordinator, Medicine-Pediatric Residency Program

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

Sarah Hobgood, M.D.



Sarah Hobgood, M.D., Associate Professor of Medicine, Assistant Dean for Clinical Education, SOM, and Associate Program Director, Geriatrics Fellowship, is an essential member of the educational leadership team and a driving force in innovative programs that serve our students and the community for whom we care. Dr. Hobgood received her medical degree from VCU and completed a combined internal medicine-geriatrics residency and fellowship program at Eastern Virginia Medical School. Since joining the VCU Department of Internal Medicine in 2009, she has increasingly engaged with learners across the entire health campus. She has numerous publications and presentations and has mentored and inspired innumerable students, residents, and fellows.

Dr. Hobgood's development as a clinician educator started early in her career. She served as a key mentor in the Department of Medicine for medical students. She expanded on her role and became a small group leader for the FCM/PCM longitudinal course. Her passion for teaching was evident and led to her role as the co-creator and now director of the longitudinal geriatrics curriculum that spans all four years of medical school. She also developed and runs the M4 geriatrics elective course. In more recent years, she has created the combined internal medicine geriatrics residency track to help recruit and retain students and residents interested in geriatric medicine.

One of Dr. Hobgood's greatest strengths is her ability to create an inclusive and collaborative learning environment. She encourages active participation, fosters open discussions, and provides valuable feedback that empowers her students to take ownership of their learning journey. Her students attest to her teaching excellence: "Dr. Hobgood created a safe environment where the students felt comfortable presenting and asking questions. She made us feel like important members of the team and provided teaching points."

Dr. Hobgood has been key in supporting educational innovation and curriculum development in the SOM. She has served as the assistant director of the competency-based graduation program, which is only offered by 15% of US medical schools and allows students to graduate in three years. The first class graduated in 2021, since followed by four classes of accelerated students. As Assistant Dean for Clinical Medical Education, she has directed important and novel curricular changes including the transitions to M3 curriculum with enhanced anti-bias and self-care emphasis and the transitions to residency course with the novel approach of individualized boot camps designed to ensure students are prepared for their particular residencies. She has created the transitions to M4 course including the summative OSCE to ensure students are ready and have the necessary skills for more intense clinical work required during their Acting Internships. These programs help to support learners through recognized stress points within medical education.

Dr. Hobgood's excellence has been recognized with multiple awards. These include recognition by her students and peers earning her SOM Course Teaching Excellence Awards, Department of Internal Medicine Distinguished Educator Award, and the SOM Excellence in Teaching Award. This year she was honored and inducted into the VCU Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society as a faculty member. All of these educational accomplishments were done while working as an acclaimed clinician who has been named a Richmond "Top Doc" every year since 2011.

A former VCU internal medicine resident expresses appreciation for Dr. Hobgood and shares her impact on those around her, which was echoed in similar fashion throughout her support letters: "Just passing by Dr. Hobgood on a busy clinic day is sure to raise the mood of anyone who has worked with her. Her gregarious attitude is infectious, and she cannot help but imbue her passion for clinic care on those around her. Simply put, she is aspirational. I hope that one day I may be as successful a clinician, educator, and coworker as Dr. Hobgood."

Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching

Lisa K. Brath, M.D.



When a clinician educator's learners describe her as the "gold standard for how to lead a high functioning teaching service," it comes as no surprise when she is selected to receive an award that recognizes superior teaching in clinical medicine. Learners state that Lisa K. Brath, M.D., Professor of Internal Medicine, VCU SOM, is "wonderful all-around," as a "human, clinician, teacher, program director, you name it"; creates a fun, safe and warm learning environment; "solves the unsolvable problems" while taking her learners along the diagnostic journey; encourages independence while providing non-judgmental and thoughtful critiques; and adheres to the concept of graduated autonomy. When the Teaching Excellence Awards Selection Committee met to discuss the award nominees, a committee member familiar with Dr. Brath said that when making work decisions, they often ask themselves, "What would Lisa Brath do?"

Nikita Chadha, D.O., Chief Resident, VCU DOIM Residency Program states that Dr. Brath "strikes a perfect balance between being approachable and supportive while having high standards that encourage learners to reach their maximum potential." Multiple letters of support for Dr. Brath were received from former VCU medical students, residents and fellows, who recounted the many ways she continues to inspire them. Howard Young, M.D. of Mount Sinai Hospital in Maryland states that during the COVID pandemic, she created a private phone text message group of former fellows from the past 22 years to share knowledge and to have a "safe place to vent," which provided "some degree of sanity in an otherwise insane situation." He said Dr. Brath continues to be a source of information and "always seems to know the answer to the question that seemed too difficult...She was Google before there was Google, UpToDate before there was UpToDate."

Alpha A. Fowler III, M.D., William Taliaferro Thompson Professor of Pulmonary Disease/Critical Care Medicine, DOIM, VCU SOM attests to the ways the VCUHS and SOM benefit from the "presence of such an extraordinary teacher," stating, "Dr. Brath, through her single-handed determination, has been the main architect of the VCU Health's fellowship in Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine (PCCM). Through Dr. Brath's total commitment to teaching excellence, VCU Health's PCCM fellowship is now known nationwide..." with close to 500 annual applications for 5 fellowship slots per year. Dr. Brath has served as the program director of the PCCM fellowship since 2002.

Dr. Brath graduated from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in 1988. She completed her Internal Medicine residency and Pulmonary-Critical Care fellowship at VCU, and as a trainee, served as an Introduction to Clinical Medicine preceptor for M2 medical students. In 1996, she was selected by Internal Medicine residents as the Orhan Muren Best Fellow and joined the faculty the same year. Dr. Brath's excellence as an educator has been consistently recognized. Between 1998-2012, she received a faculty teaching excellence award nine times and the Outstanding Attending Teacher on a Specialty ICU, Ward, and Consult team for four consecutive years between 2019-2022, awards that are selected by the housestaff from the entire DOIM faculty across all divisions. In 2004, she was voted the MCVP Distinguished Clinician, and from 2008 to 2023, was recognized as a Richmond Magazine's "Top Doc" 16 years in a row. Dr. Brath's exceptional teaching was also recognized with the university-wide 2019 VCU Distinguished Term Faculty Award.

Despite these accolades, Dr. Brath is not focused on recognition for herself but on her learners and their success. Her impact lies in her genuine interest in them as individuals, her patient-centered clinical skills and in creating an "inclusive and engaging" learning environment. Dr. Brath has and continues to make a lasting impact on our learners.

Distinguished Mentor Award

Tomasz Kordula, Ph.D.



By every definition, Tomasz Kordula, Ph.D., Professor and Graduate Program Director in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at VCU SOM, epitomizes what it means to be an excellent mentor. Mentors are patient, active listeners who ask and answer questions, share their expertise, provide candid feedback, and guide their mentees towards their own conclusions. The very best mentors are passionate about helping others and encourage their mentees to stretch beyond their comfort zones to reach their potential. According to Dr. Kordula's mentees, he is all of this and more. He demonstrates a genuine interest in their personal and professional development, going above and beyond to provide guidance, resources, and constructive feedback. One former student said, "He pushed me to levels that I didn't think I had in me or were possible and challenged me to think outside of the box."

Sandeep K. Singh, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at VCU SOM, states that Dr. Kordula "possesses a very charming and humorous personality which can always be felt at and around his office and lab adding to a light and fun filled working environment." A former mentee, Dr. Singh continues to seek advice from Dr. Kordula, as do many others. Lauren Thonesen, Ph.D., a forensic scientist at the Virginia Department of Forensic Science Eastern Laboratory, credits Dr. Kordula for the laboratory skills and critical thinking she learned under his tutelage. She describes the experience of working with him: "On any given day in his laboratory, you will see students hard at work, but you will also observe laughter, joy, and camaraderie. He develops a connection with each of his students that endures the years." Dr. Aneta Kasza of Jagiellonian University in Krakow met Dr. Kordula in Poland in the 1990s and he has been her mentor ever since. She describes him as a "very direct, sociable person with a fantastic sense of humor" and said that working in his groups "is always a big and very interesting adventure."

After joining VCU in 2004, Dr. Kordula quickly set up a funded research program on astrocyte-specific gene expression. Dr. Sarah Spiegel, his department chair, states Dr. Kordula "has remained a continuously funded investigator and is one of the international leaders in the study of epigenetic regulation of inflammatory genes in glial cells and their roles in tumor invasion." His work explores how mechanisms that function in astrocytes are altered in glioblastoma multiforme, the most common primary brain tumor. He serves as associate editor for the *Immunobiology and Frontiers in Immunology*; *Cytokines and Soluble Mediators in Immunity*, in addition to being on the grant review committee for four organizations. Dr. Kordula was also an ad-hoc study section member for five groups as well as a study section member for two NIH groups. He has published 76 research articles and 4 book chapters, and he has presented locally, nationally, and abroad on 36 occasions. Dr. Spiegel noted, "In addition to actively engaging in scholarly and professional activities, I have had the opportunity to witness Dr. Kordula's unwavering commitment to nurturing the potential of all his mentees. Dr. Kordula possesses an incredible talent for identifying and cultivating the unique strengths of each individual..."

Dr. Kordula has mentored 23 Ph.D. and M.S. students as well as 13 Postdoctoral Fellows, and he has served on the graduate advisory committees of more than 80 Ph.D. students at VCU and Cleveland State University. One mentee, Michael Surace, Ph.D., sums up Dr. Kordula's impact: "Dr. Kordula is what one might call a scientist's scientist, meaning his curiosity and dedication to elucidating molecular mechanisms is both infectious and abundantly evident in the way he thinks, moves, speaks, jokes, cajoles, and critiques. He...creates an environment that fosters intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and self-confidence."

Educational Innovation/Educational Research Award

Sarika Modi, M.D.



Sarika Modi, M.D. received her medical degree from the University of Alabama. She first came to VCU for her internal medicine residency and joined the faculty after its completion in 2014. She is an accomplished faculty member contributing in many ways to our missions, but her key contributions have been in the curricula she has developed in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).

Dr. Modi serves as the associate program director for health disparities and DEI in the Internal Medicine residency program. Through these roles she demonstrates how our work to be more inclusive as a profession can foster greater health equity for our community. Dr. Modi has developed a variety of novel community-based and community-engaging learning activities to teach concepts that are often challenging to teach in a way that is acceptable and impactful to residents. Her success has led to subsequent expansion of responsibilities to include medical student educational engagement in the M1 and M3 years, and now includes a leadership role in creating educational content across the VCUHS GME programs. In recognition of her work, she received the outstanding teacher award for best teacher in the internal medicine ambulatory clerkship and the exceptional faculty team excellence award from the Center for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Care at VCU.

Dr. Modi is the clinical lead for health equity across the campus. In this role, she works with representatives from administration, other professions, and the community to devise how VCU and VCU Health should be promoting health equity. She is shaping the future of how our institution and the community will work together to advance health equity and support greater justice for all of us. As an example of her innovative programs, she has designed a crucial part of the resident learner's training with experiences that emphasize the local community and, by extension, the patients of our health system. Her innovations are exceptional in including many experiences that take the learners out of the conference room. Starting with intern orientation, learners complete a scavenger hunt whereby they learn and see the diverse neighborhoods surrounding our downtown campus, learning the history behind the neighborhoods where many of our patients live. In further exploration, they make direct observations and correlations with the community maps related to education, income, food access, mortality, and other factors associated with health outcomes. They go into the community and see first-hand the resources, obstacles, and limitations confronting our diverse community. They rotate in the safety net health clinics serving marginalized members of our community. These lived experiences add context and depth of understanding. As one learner explains, "A lot of great discussions helped me understand the real burden of poverty on our patients."

Dr. Modi also "walks the walk" in her work as an active clinician in hospital medicine while also volunteering at area free and charitable clinics. She has received awards from the institution, statewide professional organizations, and for scholarship. Some of Dr. Modi's insights and appreciation of our learners are summed up in her own words, "In the field of medicine, learners are often self-motivated, dedicated, and hard working. These students are wonderful to teach...to truly encourage critical thinking and change in behavior, I emphasize the application of this knowledge through small group discussions, case-based learning, improv exercises and other forms of active engagement."

Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award

Clifton C. Lee, M.D., F.A.A.P., S.F.H.M.



When the Call for Nominations was announced this past spring, Clifton C. Lee, M.D., F.A.A.P., S.F.H.M., Professor of Pediatrics, VCU SOM, was on the top of many minds as the personification of the Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine award. Compassionate and empathetic? Check. Respectful, approachable, and accessible? Check. Welcomes opportunities to teach, illustrates professional behavior by example and provides one-on-one mentorships with students? Check, check, and check. Dr. Lee's supporters describe him as "incredibly kind," available, and a good role model for how to interact with patients and how to provide ethical and professional care by letting families know they are being heard and well cared for. He is also "the penultimate mentor for compassionate, collaborative care delivery." Although Dr. Lee is a "man of few words, those spoken are well chosen, empathetic, direct and full of concern for the family and patient well-being. He is a skilled communicator who listens and effectively identifies emotional concerns of

patients and their family members; he has been recognized for his expertise in family-centered rounds. Dr. Lee excels at bedside teaching, using the opportunity to educate both the learners, nursing staff and family on the disease-diagnosis and the expected clinical course. On the lighter side, Dr. Lee has been known to dress in costume on Halloween to brighten the day for patients, families, and his learners. "You need a human aspect to medicine instead of talking about tests and medications," Lee says. "Without that, it's not a complete journey to health."

Dr. Lee received his medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia in 1994 and completed his pediatric residency at VCU Health System in 1997, serving as chief resident before leaving VCU. Dr. Lee worked as an office practitioner and a pediatric emergency room physician at CJW Medical Center, and he started the pediatric hospitalist program there in 2007. In September 2011, he became the Director of Pediatric Hospital Medicine at the Children's Hospital of Richmond (CHoR), thus returning to VCU. Dr. Lee serves as the Director of the M3 Pediatric Clerkship and was instrumental in the inception of the pediatric hospital medicine fellowship at CHoR, which is one of two such fellowships in Virginia. In 2015, Dr. Lee received the Senior Fellow in Hospital Medicine (SFHM) designation from the Society of Hospital Medicine, giving him an opportunity to be recognized for not only his work but for his commitment to the practice of hospital medicine and the patients he serves.

Dr. Lee is actively involved with the Academic Pediatric Association (APA), COMSEP, a national organization for pediatric medical educators, and AAP Section on Hospital Medicine. Since 2019, Dr. Lee has been a member of the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) Subboard in Pediatric Hospital Medicine and was instrumental in the creation of the first PHM Board Certification Examination. Also since 2019, he has been a member of the NBME/COMSEP Pediatrics Subject Exam Item Writing and Review Group, responsible for the development of exam questions for the Pediatric Shelf Exam. He is one of 15 pediatric clerkship directors selected from across the US to create and review item writing to generate new content for testing on the third-year medical student's Pediatrics Subject Exam.

As noted in one of the nomination letters for Dr. Lee, there is no better way to support his ongoing career as a pediatric medical educator and researcher than being chosen as this year's Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine award recipient. Additionally, Dr. Lee has been honored with Outstanding Teaching Awards in Pediatric Clerkships (2012 & 2013), Richmond Magazine Top Docs (2012 - present), the Irby-James Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching (2015), and induction into the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society in 2020.

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

Karen D. Hendricks-Muñoz, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P.



Karen D. Hendricks-Muñoz, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.A.P. was selected as this year’s award recipient from a field of 11 outstanding nominations. Her success as a physician, leader, mentor, teacher, and scholar make it difficult to adequately portray her career in a few short paragraphs, but we hope to capture the highlights.

Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz received her medical degree and masters of public health from Yale University Schools of Medicine and Public Health, respectively. She completed her residency at Yale and a neonatal-perinatal fellowship at the University of Rochester. In 1990, Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz became Chief of the Neonatology Division at New York University (NYU) prior to being recruited in 2012 to serve at VCU as the Inaugural William Tate Graham Professor of Neonatal Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital of Richmond (CHoR). Over the ensuing decade, Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz’s academic appointments included Professor with Tenure (Pediatrics, Division of Neonatal Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology); Training Program Director, Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine; Deputy Director and Interim Executive Director, VCU Center on Health Disparities; Interim Chair, Department of Pediatrics; and Interim Division Chair, Division of Gastroenterology.

Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz is known to be passionate about providing care to underserved populations. She founded and directs the Neonatal Continuing Care Follow-up Program at CHoR, created to assure access to needed health care for high risk infants. She also founded and directs the JACKS Neonatology Summer Scholars Program for undergraduate and medical students to work with NICU fellows and staff on quality improvement projects. Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz directs the CHoR neonatology fellowship training program, with many trainees subsequently assuming leadership roles at the NIH and in the fields of neonatology and pediatric medicine.

Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz has received countless scientific, clinical and special awards and honors, such as the VCU Presidential Excellence Award and being inducted into the American Pediatric Society, the highest honor in Pediatrics. As an internationally known leader in neonatal medicine, she has been invited to present at several hundred lectures/symposia across the United States and abroad. Her bibliography includes hundreds of original articles, published abstracts presented at national meetings, book chapters, editorials, and articles. The VCU Center for Health Disparities website succinctly states, Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz “is nationally recognized for her advocacy of maternal-infant skin-to-skin contact, called ‘Kangaroo mother care’ and obtained NIH funding to study the implications of infant stress reduction on early childhood microbiome development.... As a research scientist she has multiple appointments, committee memberships, reviews and advisory activities at the NIH and other national and regional levels.”

While Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz’s professional achievements are extraordinary, her impact on those with whom she interacts is immeasurable. She is known to lead by example with “calm grit and grace” during challenging times. Tiffany Kimbrough, M.D., Associate Professor General Pediatrics and Medical Director Mother Infant Unit, notes that Dr. Hendricks-Muñoz “demonstrates the rare ability of being able to advocate for her convictions while respecting differing opinions and helping groups to develop a shared mental model in order to move forward with singular vision.”

MCV Physicians Distinguished Clinician Award

Anne L. King, M.D.



Throughout her 40 plus years as a nephrologist and leader in the field of transplantation, Anne King, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Surgery, has exemplified the criteria of the MCVP Distinguished Clinician of the Year award: compassion, clinical effectiveness, efficiency, comprehensiveness, professionalism, availability, and responsiveness to patients. Colleague Dr. Todd Gehr recalls, “In the early days of her career, as she looked for her niche in Nephrology, she landed on transplantation as her focus.” As a result, “Anne single handedly organized a new transplant clinic.” She was “dogged in her determination to better care for these patients.” This led to her leadership of the Transplant Laboratory and Renal/Pancreas Transplant program for most of her career. In addition, Dr. King shares her transplant expertise on both the national and international levels and has contributed to numerous clinical trials, continuous positive patient outcomes, and the success of countless students through the Nephrology Fellowship program.

As the Nephrology Fellowship Director for nearly 12 years, her teaching has been recognized and highly regarded by her peers. Dr. Gaurav Gupta notes, “Anne carried an immense desire to teach and an infectious enthusiasm for new learning,” and “her unique teaching style carried with it an everyday practicality and an ease of applicability which a learner could transfer the very next day into direct patient care.” He adds, “Perhaps, the defining characteristic of her medical career is her immense skill as a Clinician par excellence. Hundreds of previous trainees at VCU have gained from her tremendous knowledge base in transplantation.”

Dr. King is exceptionally well-respected by her colleagues and the patients she serves. Dr. Marlon Levy shares, “Anne is truly a doctor’s doctor. I turn to her time and again for help with both complex and simple medical issues. Her clinical acumen, breadth of knowledge, and fearless advocacy are stupendous. Equally impressive has been her personal humility and deliberate shunning of the limelight. For Anne, it has always been about excellence of practice and excellence of patients’ care.” Dr. Gehr adds, “Both in the hospitalized patients and the outpatient clinic, Anne is able to sift through the complexity of disease presentation and land on the best solution for her patients.” He adds, “Anne is simply the best clinician I have ever worked with.”

Dr. King earned her M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her training here at VCU in both Internal Medicine and Nephrology. She has been a well-funded investigator and has contributed 65 peer-reviewed publications and 90 scientific abstracts. Her leadership as Medical Director of the Clinical Transplant Laboratory, the Kidney and Pancreas Transplant Program, and the Renal Transplant Clinic have earned her praise from those she has guided and mentored along the way. She has been recognized by her peers, receiving awards for excellence as Program Director in the Division of Nephrology and the Department of Internal Medicine Faculty Award for Distinguished Clinical Care, and she has served on numerous committees at the university, hospital, regional, and national levels. In addition to all of her teaching, service, and leadership roles, she maintains a robust research agenda focused on clinical trials to improve patient outcomes and advance the science and the treatment of nephrology related conditions and transplant success.

Dr. King truly exemplifies the criteria for this award. We are proud to recognize her as the MCVP Distinguished Clinician of the Year.

VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education “LGME” Award for Fellowship Program Director
Lisa K. Brath, M.D.

Pulmonary & Critical Care Medicine Fellowship Director



Dr. Lisa K. Brath, a graduate of Texas A&M University and the University of Texas Southwestern, has been a member of the VCU community for 35 years.

She is widely regarded as the consummate clinician and has received recognition in many forms including as a Richmond Magazine Top Doc for 15 consecutive years and as one of Virginia Living’s Best Doctors of Virginia. She is a renowned bedside teacher, having received countless teaching awards from the Internal Medicine housestaff – nearly as many awards as her years on faculty. It is noteworthy that she received this award – the Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award for Fellowship Director 15 years ago in 2008.

Dr. Brath has played many educational leadership roles at VCU, including at the undergraduate and graduate medical education levels. She has served as both a member and graduate medical education levels. She has served as both a member and Vice Chair of the Graduate Medical Education Committee. Most importantly, she has served as the Pulmonary/Critical Care Fellowship Director since 2002. Under her leadership, nearly 80 pulmonary and critical care fellows have been trained and mentored.

In their nomination letter, the fellows write: “...we can personally attest to her devotion to the professional and personal development of each fellow. Whether it be broadening our differential with a disease we’ve never heard of, career coaching us to attain our specific goals, or supporting schedule changes for personal matters, Dr. Brath is unrelenting in her teaching and service.... Dr. Brath strives to not only provide excellent patient care, but also to teach others how to provide the same high quality and valued care to patients. Whether in formalized didactics of respiratory physiology or at the bedside during a family meeting, she is always an excellent example of the patience and determination it takes to be an exceptional physician educator. She is an outstanding role model and mentor.”

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

Josephina Vossen, M.D., Ph.D.

Radiology Residency Program Director



Dr. Josephina Vossen received her medical degree from Maastricht University and Ph.D. from Utrecht University. After completing a radiology residency at Bridgeport Hospital/Yale New Haven Health System and fellowship in musculoskeletal imaging and intervention at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Dr. Vossen joined the VCU faculty in 2015. Dr. Vossen is Associate Professor and Chief of Musculoskeletal Imaging and Intervention, Department of Radiology, and is being honored today for her excellence as the Program Director for the Radiology Residency Program and Associate Program Director for the Integrated Interventional Radiology Residency.

Dr. Vossen is a skilled clinician and educator. An accomplished scholar, she has 50 published peer review articles and book chapters as well as 38 invited podium presentations. What truly distinguishes Dr. Vossen is her unwavering commitment to education. Since her appointment as the Radiology Residency Program Director in 2019, she has ushered in advancements to the program's curriculum and structure, including creating a resident-to-resident mentoring program, praise/concern cards, and starting a book club for senior residents. It's her innate ability to nurture and care for her residents, always prioritizing their well-being, that truly resonates. Her achievements in the realm of education are underscored by numerous teaching awards.

The following are comments from her trainees:

Dr. Vossen reigns as the “King Arthur” of VCU Radiology—an unwavering hero in times of need, a consistently inspiring leader, and a sought-after friend. While her words may be gentle, their impact is substantial... She personifies fairness, wisdom, and foresight. Through leading by example, she wields the sword of leadership when all else falters. A harmonizer of diverse perspectives and backgrounds, she assembles all at a shared table. Both residents and staff hold a deep fondness, respect, and an ardent desire to collaborate under her adept guidance. Truly, she embodies the very essence of VCU radiology residency.

Dr. Vossen also goes out of her way to take time to check in on how we are doing outside of work and that speaks volumes. She knows that although we are residents working hard to learn as much as we can we also have lives outside of work and that we must take care of ourselves and our families. Many of my coresidents and myself have had things come up unexpectedly throughout our training and she has always made sure that we are able to take care of ourselves.

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

Dawn Hunt

Medicine-Pediatrics Residency Program Coordinator



Dawn Hunt first joined VCU 27 years ago where she worked in the Department of Anatomy as a fiscal analyst. Her career progressed with positions in the Admissions Office and later in the School of Graduate Studies. After a hiatus exploring other professional opportunities, Dawn found her calling in medical education. She served as the clerkship program coordinator with the Department of Pediatrics (2013-2016) and she has been the Program Coordinator for the combined Medicine-Pediatrics Residency for the past seven years.

As program coordinator, Dawn regularly goes above and beyond the call of duty. She embodies a growth mindset and is always looking for ways to not only grow as an individual but also as a program. For example, she spearheaded planning monthly resident wellness events including Richmond themed paint nights and game nights, many of which were hosted at her house. Her ideas and focus on resident wellness were so successful and appreciated that a dedicated wellness committee within the Med-Peds Residency Program formed because of her efforts and innovation.

Dawn is greatly admired by the residents. Below are a few of the many comments that we received in support of her nomination:

Her dedication and hard work have made a remarkable impact on our program leadership and is a pivotal role in ensuring optimal communication as well as keeping us on track on our endeavors whether they are recreational or professional. Her meticulous planning, efficient execution, and unwavering support have been instrumental in our successes as residents. Her ability to navigate challenges that our program presents with such poise and composed demeanor is truly inspiring.

If you ask any Med-Peds resident who's gone through VCU, they will agree that Dawn is the backbone of this program. Through my 3 years of training at VCU, she has been there for me and my co-residents since day 1, even when I was lost wandering around the hospital campus trying to find where to have my ID badge made. I started my training here during the height of Covid-19, and she took on the great task of hosting and organizing events and helping to build our community even during the strictest of pandemic restrictions (all while complying with distancing and hygiene guidelines).

... She is the Med-Peds mom. She genuinely cares for each resident. Whether it was matters related to residency vs our personal life, Dawn always showed us the utmost support. Residency is challenging to say the least, and personally having Dawn as a program coordinator and as a friend meant the world to me. I will always be grateful that our Med-Peds program was lucky enough to have her as our advocate.

*Outstanding Departmental Teacher Award in
Health Sciences Education*

Jeffrey Dupree, Ph.D.

Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology

Carmen Sato-Bigbee, Ph.D.

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Le Kang, Ph.D.

Department of Biostatistics

Juan Lu, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.D.

Division of Epidemiology

Department of Family Medicine and Population Health

Dina Garcia, Ph.D.

Department of Health Behavior and Policy

Rita Shiang, Ph.D.

Department of Human and Molecular Genetics

Rebecca Martin, Ph.D.

Department of Microbiology and Immunology

S. Stevens Negus III, Ph.D.

Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology

Jose M. Eltit, 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 2026 Scientific Foundations of Medicine

Chelsea Kidd, M.D.	Foundations of Disease
Kimberly Jefferson, Ph.D.	Immunity and Infection
Colleen Jackson-Cook, Ph.D.	Molecular Basis of Health and Disease
S. Stevens Negus III, Ph.D.	Principles of Autonomics and Pharmacology
Srinivasa Karnam, Ph.D.	Principles of Physiology

Class of 2026 Applied Medical Sciences A

Grace Prince, M.D.	Endocrine
Scott Matherly, M.D.	GI
Marie Do, M.D.	Marrow
Allison Cinats, M.D.	Movement
Alex Meredith, Ph.D.	Movement
Sarah Milton, M.D., M.S.	Reproduction

Class of 2025 Applied Medical Sciences B

Kelly Harrell, Ph.D., M.P.T.	Anatomy
Krishnasree Rao, M.D.	Cardiovascular
John Bigbee, Ph.D.	Histology
Neel Dixit, M.D.	Neuroscience
Raghavendra Pillappa, M.D.	Pathology
Sammy Pedram, M.D.	Pulmonary
Anna Vinnikova, M.D.	Renal
Bushra Shah, M.D.	Behavioral Sciences

Class of 2025 Applied Medical Sciences C

Michael Joyce, M.D.	Longitudinal Curriculum
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Class of 2025 and 2026 Practice of Clinical Medicine

Ajin John, M.D.	Class of 2025 PCM Preceptor
Kirby Southall, M.D.	Class of 2025 PCM Preceptor (Family Medicine)
William Phipps Jr., M.D.	Class of 2025 PCM Preceptor (Family Medicine)
Nina Vitto, M.D.	Class of 2025 PCM Small Group Leader
Lety Flores, M.D.	Class of 2026 PCM Small Group Leader

Class of 2024 M-III Clerkships

Victoria Kuester, M.D.	Ambulatory
Jelisa Timmons, M.D.	Family Medicine
Imran Fatani, M.D.	Internal Medicine
Ken Ono, D.O.	Neurology
Myrlene Jeudy, M.D.	Ob-Gyn
Adel Abdallah, M.D.	Pediatrics
Eric Trinh, M.D.	Psychiatry
William Timmerman, M.D.	Surgery

Outstanding Teacher Awards in Undergraduate Medical Education

Faculty with High Evaluation Awards

Class of 2024 M-III Clerkships

Susan DiGiovanni, M.D.	Ambulatory
John Le, M.D.	Ambulatory
Ian Giles, M.D.	Family Medicine
Kevin Mutch, D.O.	Family Medicine
Chris Achilli, M.D.	Internal Medicine
Grace Prince, M.D.	Internal Medicine
Pearce Korb, M.D.	Neurology
Karissa Arthur, M.D.	Neurology
Katherine Czyszczonek, M.D.	Ob-Gyn
Norma Jones-Ives, M.D.	Ob-Gyn
Richard Bennett, M.D.	Pediatrics
Sean McKenna, M.D.	Pediatrics
Hillary O'Boyle, M.D.	Pediatrics
Kinsey Bise, M.D.	Psychiatry
Gregory Golladay, M.D.	Surgery

Excellence in Learning Environment Response Team

Mitigating Mistreatment and Promoting Excellence

At VCU School of Medicine, we strive to foster an equitable, inclusive environment that is free from bias, discrimination and harassment, where our students can safely learn and thrive. We hold our students, trainees and faculty to high standards, and expect professionalism and mutual respect among all learners and educators. The following faculty members have been recognized as Professionalism Exemplars via medical student nominations:

Clifton C. Lee, M.D., F.A.A.P., S.F.H.M.	Pediatrics
Mathula Thangarajh, M.D., Ph.D.	Neurology
Alok Baral, M.D.	Internal Medicine
Arianna Sjamsu, D.O.	PGY3 Pediatric Resident

Congratulations, Faculty Graduates on Completing the Certificate in Medical Education

The Graduate Certificate in Medical Education program continues to be instrumental in enhancing the preparedness of SOM faculty to promote active and engaged learning in classroom and clinical settings. As of June 2023, 77 faculty have completed this certificate program.

Fall 2022 Graduates

Katherine Donowitz, M.D.
Department of Pediatrics

Hannah Miller, M.D.
Department of Pediatrics

Hillary O'Boyle, M.D.
Department of Pediatrics

Kimberly Pedram, M.D.
Department of Internal Medicine

Jason Sulkowski, M.D.
Department of Surgery

Tiffany Williams, D.D.S., M.S.D.
Department of Pediatric Dentistry

Congratulations Faculty Inductees to the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society *"Worthy to Serve the Suffering"*

Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) is the only medical school honor society in the world. It seeks to recognize and perpetuate excellence in the medical profession by promoting scholarship and research in medical schools; encouraging a high standard of character and conduct among medical students and graduates; and recognizing high attainment in medical science, practice and related fields. The VCU Chapter is the Brown Sequard Chapter. Nominations are made by members and voted on once a year in the spring.

2023 Inductees

David Chelmow, M.D.
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Grace Hickam, M.D.
Department of Emergency Medicine

Sarah Hobgood, M.D.
Department of Internal Medicine

Kathryn Jones, M.D.
Department of Psychiatry

Caitlin Martin, M.D., M.P.H.
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

2023 Teaching Excellence Awards Nominees

Neel Dixit, M.D., Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine

Kelly Gwathmey, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurology

Jennifer Haynes, M.D., Assistant Professor of Neurology

José L. Muñoz, M.D., F.A.A.P., Professor of Pediatrics

Levi D. Procter, M.D., F.A.C.S., Associate Professor of Surgery

Edgar Rodas, M.D., F.A.C.S., Associate Professor of Surgery

Richard Sterling, M.D., M.Sc., F.A.C.P., F.A.C.G., F.A.A.S.I.D., A.G.A.F., Professor of Internal Medicine

Michelle Troendle, M.D., F.A.C.E.P., Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine

Michelle Whitehurst-Cook, M.D., Associate Professor of Family Medicine

Congratulations to our Nominees!

Clerkship Leadership Teams

Ambulatory Medicine: Bennett Lee, Megan Lemay, Hayley Mathews

Family Medicine: Denee Moore, Briana Lowery

Internal Medicine: Nate Warner, Patrick Fadden, Thomas Bryan

Neurology: Neel Dixit

Obstetrics and Gynecology: Fidelma Rigby, Marta Vicente

Pediatrics: Cliff Lee, Kyle Towbridge, Risham Qureshi

Psychiatry: Kathryn Jones, Ryan Chiarella, Crystal Adamcheck

Surgery: Eric Nelson, Jonathan Bennett, Autumn Griffin

Special Thanks

Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development

Jean Bailey, Ph.D., Associate Dean, Faculty Development

Kathy Kreutzer, M.Ed., Writer

Jody Hedstrom, Faculty Affairs and Development Coordinator

Office of Medical Education

Lelia Brinegar, Ed.D.

Amanda Ennis, M.A.

Photographers

Jay Paul, Jay Paul Photo, Teaching Excellence Award Portraits

Cindy Blanchard, Cynthia Newmark Photography, Faculty Excellence Awards Program

Previous Teaching Award Winners

ENRIQUE GERSZTEN, M.D. FACULTY TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Linda S. Costanzo, Ph.D., 1999
James L. Levenson, M.D., 2000
R. Paul Fairman, M.D., 2001
Isaac Keith Wood, M.D., 2002
Robert L. Balster, Ph.D., 2003
Richard M. Costanzo, Ph.D., 2003
Suzanne E. Barbour, Ph.D., 2004
Robert F. Diegelmann, Ph.D., 2005
David F. Gardner, M.D., 2006
Leslie S. Satin, Ph.D., 2007
Enrique Gerszten, M.D., 2008
Tomasz Kordula, Ph.D., 2009
Raphael J. Witorsch, Ph.D., 2009
Alan Dow, M.D., M.S.H.A., 2010
Craig E. Cheifetz, M.D., 2011
Margaret M. Grimes, M.D., M.Ed., 2012
Clive M. Baumgarten, Ph.D., 2013
Fidelma B. Rigby, M.D., 2013
Susan D. Roseff, M.D., 2014
Diane M. Biskobing, M.D., 2015
Beth K. Rubinstein, M.D., 2016
Kimberly W. Sanford, M.D., 2017
Stephanie Call, M.D., M.S.P.H., 2018
Virginia Pallante, M.S., 2018
Frank Fulco, M.D., RPh, 2019
John W. Bigbee, Ph.D., 2020
J. Christian Barrett, M.D., 2021
Barry V. Kilpatrick, M.D., FAAP, 2021
Mark Parker, M.D., 2022

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
Michelle N. Brooks, M.D., 2021
Danielle Noreika, M.D., 2022

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
Amir A. Toor, M.D., 2021
S. Stevens Negus III, Ph.D., 2022

EDUCATIONAL INNOVATION/EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD

Joann N. Bodurtha, M.D., M.P.H., 1999
Michelle Whitehurst-Cook, M.D., and Rita Willett, M.D., 1999
Carol L. Hampton, M.M.S., 2000
Alice S. "Dolly" Pakurar, Ph.D., 2001
Thomas M. Kerkering, M.D., 2002
Charles O. Frazier, M.D., 2003
Edward J.N. Ishac, Ph.D., 2004
J. Dennis Hoban, Ed.D., 2005
Isaac K. Wood, M.D., 2006
Leanne M. Yanni, M.D., and Team, 2007
Alan Dow, M.D., M.S.H.A., and Team, 2008
Curtis N. Sessler, M.D., and Team, 2008
Thomas Palliative Care Program, VCU Massey Cancer Center, 2009
Molecular Diagnostics Practicum Academic Unit, 2010
Pawan Suri, M.D., 2011
Lelia E. Brinegar, M.Ed., and Christopher M. Woleben, M.D., 2012
Ellen L. Brock, M.D., M.P.H., and Staff of the Center for Human Simulation and Patient Safety, 2013
John (Christian) Barrett, M.D.; Gonzalo, M. L. Bearman, M.D., M.P.H.;
Michael P. Stevens, M.D., M.P.H., 2014
Peter A. Boling, M.D., Alan W. Dow, III, M.D., M.S.H.A.,
Joel D. Browning, B.S., Christopher L. Stephens, M.S., and
the Reynolds Interprofessional Team, 2015
Michael S. Ryan, M.D., M.E.H.P., 2016
Michael Joyce, M.D., and Sammy Pedram, M.D., 2017
Steven Bishop, M.D., 2018
Peter Haar, M.D., Ph.D., Marvin "Alex" Meredith, Ph.D.;
Gross Anatomy Teaching Faculty; VCU Radiology Residency
Program; VCU CT Technologists, 2019
Megan S. Lemay, M.D., Sara Wilson McKay, Ph.D., and
John E. Nestler, M.D., MACP, 2021
Kimberly Pedram, M.D., 2022

SOM alumni, students, faculty
and staff congratulate

Michelle Y. Whitehurst-Cook, M.D. (SOM '79, '82)

on the occasion of her retirement after 30 years of service and distinguished leadership at the VCU School of Medicine!



- Senior Associate Dean for Admissions (2006-2023) recruiting and mentoring generations of compassionate community caregivers.
- 15 years leading students at the annual Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinic in Wise County, the nation's largest free pop-up clinic
- Created the pre-med Summer Academic and Enrichment Pre-Health Program (SAEP), providing free health screenings to the city's homeless population
- Founded the International Inner-City Rural Preceptorship (I2CRP), providing experiential learning for the care of the underserved

"A physician servant-leader" – SOM Dean Arturo P. Saavedra, M.D., Ph.D., MBA



2023 Awards Selection Committees

Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards

Teaching Awards Selection Committee

Jean Bailey, Ph.D., Chair, Associate Dean for Faculty Development
J. Christian Barrett, M.D., Internal Medicine
John Bigbee, Ph.D., Anatomy and Neurobiology
Jody Hedstrom, B.A., Faculty Affairs and Development Coordinator (non-voting)
Kathy Kreutzer, M.Ed., Office of Faculty Affairs (non-voting)
Eun Lee, Ph.D., Microbiology and Immunology
Samia Liaquat, M.D., Pathology, Housestaff
Gaël Muanamputu, M-III/M-IV Student Representative
Georgia McIntosh, M.D., Internal Medicine
Katherine Nicholson, Ph.D., DVM, Pharmacology and Toxicology
Danielle Noreika, M.D., Internal Medicine
Diem-Phuong Dao, M-III/M-IV Student Representative
John Urbach, M.D., Psychiatry
Emily Zboril, Graduate Student Representative

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
Loiuza Azzouz, Class of 2025 Curriculum Representative
Megan Daniels, Class of 2025 Curriculum Representative
Ogechi Gbujie, Class of 2025 Curriculum Representative
Divya Shan, Class of 2025 Curriculum Representative
Lindsay Irwin, Class of 2026 Curriculum Representative
Monica Jinsi, Class of 2026 Curriculum Representative
Kiana Rahimi, Class of 2026 Curriculum Representative
Hari Ramaraju, Class of 2026 Curriculum Representative

M-III Clinical Education

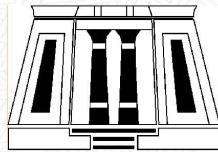
Ambulatory Clerkship Committee
Family Medicine Clerkship Committee
Internal Medicine Clerkship Committee
Neurology Clerkship Committee
Obstetrics and Gynecology Clerkship Committee
Pediatrics Clerkship Committee
Psychiatry Clerkship Committee
Surgery Clerkship Committee

VCU/VCUHS Leadership in Graduate Medical Education Award

Graduate Medical Education Committee

2024 VCU Health Sciences Education Symposium 03-21-24

Mark your calendars for *Innovations in Health Sciences Education: Bridging Research and Practice*. This immersive day-long event will showcase educational research from the entire MCV campus. The proposal submission period kicks off in late October. Keep an eye out for further details on the symposium and opportunities to participate!



VCU School of Medicine, Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development

The Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty Development (OFAFD) serves two functions for the School of Medicine. It is the central location for oversight of School of Medicine faculty-related policies and guidelines governing appointments, promotions, and tenure. It is also responsible for the design, development, and delivery of activities that enhance the roles, work-life, and professional development of faculty at VCU School of Medicine. The Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs promotes a culture of faculty success and excellence and provides leadership and counsel to faculty in the School's 26 basic health science and clinical departments, as well as 13 affiliated institutes and centers on issues related to work goals, performance, recruitment, compensation, recognition, and advancement. The Associate Dean for Faculty Development leads efforts to ensure scientists, clinicians, and educators are engaged in opportunities that develop their skill sets in evidence-based teaching, scholarship and innovation, and advance their career. The office also coordinates a 12-credit graduate certificate focusing on teaching and scholarship in medical education. The office addresses professionalism, wellness, and CME.

A list of calendar events can be found on our website at: <https://medschool.vcu.edu/about/deans-office/facultyaffairs/>.

**The Office of Faculty Affairs and Faculty
Development thanks you for your
participation in the awards program. We look
forward to seeing you next year!**

**This page is also your ticket for lunch in the Lobby.
Enjoy!**