

American College of Surgeons Owen H Wangenstein Forum on Fundamental Surgical Problems: Excellence in Research Awards 2014

For the 12th consecutive year the American College of Surgeons' Owen H Wangenstein Forum on Fundamental Surgical Problems presents the Excellence in Research Awards. The major objectives of this ongoing program are to recognize excellence in research performed by surgical residents and fellows, increase the visibility of the Surgical Forum as a setting for resident research presentations, facilitate and encourage the attendance of residents and fellows at the Forum sessions, encourage residents and fellows to participate in research during their training, and, finally, contribute to the overall quality of the annual Clinical Congress. Selection criteria for the award were based on originality of concept, quality of methodology, and impact of the science. This year 15 awards of \$800.00 each will be distributed before the scientific presentations in the Neurosurgery/Obstetrics and Gynecology/Orthopaedic Surgery session on Tuesday, October 28, 2014, 2:30-4:00 pm. All surgical investigators and their mentors are invited to attend the award distribution, as well as attend the sessions in which the award recipients are presenting.



Christa Grant, MD

Resident at: Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA

Award category: **Alimentary Tract**

Abstract: *Human small intestine stem cells respond to withdrawal of luminal nutrients by decreasing proliferation and increasing self-renewal in the crypt*

Co-authors: Salvador Garcia, MS, Ryan G Spurrier, MD, Tracy C Grikscheit, MD, FACS

Dr Christa Grant grew up in a large family in Jamaica. With the goal of becoming the first doctor in the family, she moved to New York after high school. After graduating medical school at SUNY Downstate Medical Center in 2009, she started residency in general surgery at Georgetown University Hospital. She spent two years in the lab of Dr. Tracy Grikscheit at Children's Hospital Los Angeles investigating tissue-engineered small intestine as a potential treatment for short bowel syndrome. Currently a PGY4, Dr Grant is passionate about the translational potential of stem cell therapies and plans to pursue academic pediatric surgery.



Christopher Holley

Resident at: University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Award category: **Cardiothoracic Surgery**

Abstract: *Myocardial Inflammation is Reduced by CoQ10 Supplementation Following CABG in a Swine Model of Hibernating Myocardium*

Co-authors: Eric K Long, PhD, Melanie Crampton, Edward O McFalls, MD, PhD, Rosemary F Kelly, MD, FACS

Christopher T Holley was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska. He graduated from Creighton University Medical School and has completed three years of his general surgery residency at the University of Minnesota. Currently, he works as a research fellow in the laboratory of his mentors, Dr. Rosemary Kelly and Dr Ranjit John, at the University of Minnesota and Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Medical Center. His research interests include mitochondrial adaptations to chronic ischemia in hibernating myocardium, as well as thoracic transplant and LVAD outcomes. After completion of his general surgery residency, Chris plans to apply for a fellowship in cardiothoracic surgery.



Bardiya Zangbar, MD

Resident at: The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Award category: **Geriatric Surgery/Palliative Care**

Abstract: *Emergency General Surgery in the Elderly: Too Old or Too Frail?*

Co-authors: Bellal Joseph, MD, FACS, Viraj Pandit, MD, Narong Kulvatunyou, MD, FACS, Andrew L Tang, MD, FACS, Terence O'Keeffe, MBChB, FACS, Donald J Green, MD, FACS, Mindy J Fain, MD, Randall S Friese, MD, FACS, Peter M Rhee, MD, FACS

Bardiya Zangbar, MD was born and raised in Oroumeh, Iran and received his MD from Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz Iran. As a trauma research fellow at the University of Arizona, Division of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, Bardiya conducted his research under the mentorship and direction of Bellal Joseph, MD. His Research and career interests lie in the aging population and its impact within surgery. The current focus of his research is defining frailty in geriatric emergency general surgery patients. His future plan is to continue to peruse an academic surgical career.



Johanna Riesel, MD

Resident at: Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA

Award category: **Global Surgery**

Abstract: *Utilizing Social Media to Disseminate Information and Engage Feedback: Experiences from the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery*

Co-authors: Sarah L M Greenberg, MD, MPH, Hampus Holmer, BSc, John G Meara, MD, FACS

Johanna Riesel was born and raised in New York City. She graduated from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine where she was able to nurture her interests in surgery and global health. Following graduation, Johanna joined the Massachusetts General Hospital for her general surgery residency. After completing three years of clinical training, Johanna is spending her research time as a Paul Farmer Global Surgery Fellow with the Program in Global Surgery and Social Change at Harvard Medical School. She is interested in surgical education and improving surgical systems in low-resource settings. Her research has focused on training the surgical workforce in low-income countries as a part of the Lancet Commission on Global Surgery as well as improving health systems using electronic databases in Uganda. Her mentor, Dr John Meara, has been instrumental in these projects. Johanna is also passionate about improving surgical care and outcomes for pediatric patients around the world.

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