Harold Alper, MD, Humanitarian Award and Lecture Series

The Harold Alper, MD, Humanitarian Award is presented annually to a resident in his or her last year of training at the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga who has consistently demonstrated exemplary compassion for patients, colleagues, community service, and humanitarian qualities during residency. Congratulations to this year’s fifteen nominees, each of whom exemplify these qualities (complete listing on page 2).

The 2012 recipient, Fernando Windemuller, MD, is a senior (third year) resident in the Pediatrics Program. He entered the program on July 1, 2009, after graduating from the University of Illinois-Champaign. His nomination letter stated that, “The Pediatric Curriculum Committee unanimously nominates Dr. Fernando Windemuller for the Alper Humanitarian Award. There is no doubt that he has demonstrated qualities that make him a perfect recipient for this award. Dr. Windemuller has a big heart for all his patients. His communication skills with children and families are superior. He does not leave any stone unturned to assure that his patients are receiving the best care regardless of race, culture, creed, or socioeconomic status. Dr. Windemuller truly cares about the potential each child has, and he is loved by his continuity patients and appreciated by all who work with him. He is an advocate for the poor, the underserved, Hispanic population and has a special passion for recent immigrants and appreciates the challenges they face. He helps them navigate the systems available to help them in the community and encourages children to maximize the life opportunities they have in this country. Dr. Windemuller is empathetic in all settings and has been known to break from rounds to comfort a frightened child or reassure a worried family. If he can help it, no patient should ever suffer from pain, anxiety or other misery. He asks to be notified if one of his chronic inpatients or continuity patients deteriorates when he is not at work. Recently he came back into the hospital on his own time to visit the family of a chronically ill child who was dying. Dr. Windemuller’s heart and compassion for his patients is exemplary, but his commitment to his own family is also laudable. He shows great balance caring for his wife (a medical student) and three young children. On busy days he is known to leave as soon as patient care is complete so he can spend quality hours with his family, only to return “after bedtime” to complete charts and documentation. The joy on his children’s faces when they visit Daddy at the hospital is proof of his success as a father. Dr. Windemuller truly demonstrates the qualities of integrity, caring, respect, empathy, and compassion--a pediatrician extraordinaire who is deserving of the Alper Award.”

Dr. Jonathan Amiel, Assistant Dean for Curricular Affairs at Columbia University’s College of Physicians Surgeons, was this year’s keynote speaker. His presentation, The Doctor’s Narrative: Reflection as a Means to Maintaining Humanism in Medicine, included several opportunities for interaction within the audience.
Harold Alper, MD, Humanitarian Award Nominees
March 30, 2012, Chattanooga, TN

Jamie Bludsworth, DO
Internal Medicine

Paul Boerema, MD
Family Medicine

Angel Brown, MD
Internal Medicine

Jeremy Bruce, MD
Orthopaedic Surgery

Jeffrey Butler, MD
Surgery

Jennifer Hamm, MD
Pediatrics

Aaron Kline, MD
Transitional Year

Tiundra Love, DO
Internal Medicine

Genevieve Maass, MD
Transitional Year

Hal Parker, MD
Emergency Medicine

Howiada Salim, MD
Internal Medicine

Brandon Smith, MD
Internal Medicine

Gregory Sutton, MD
Internal Medicine

Diana Tamboli, MD
Transitional Year

Fernando Windemuller, MD
Pediatrics

Comments, articles and announcements for the UTCOMmunicator can be submitted in publishable format to Sylvia Friedl, Office of Research Compliance, Sylvia.Friedl@Erlanger.org.
Fourth Annual Gold Humanism Honor Society Induction Ceremony

Induction of the Gold Humanism Honor Society (GHHS) was held on Friday, March 30, 2012. Established in 2002, the GHHS is an international association of individuals and medical school chapters whose members are selected as exemplars of empathy, compassion, altruism, integrity, and service in their relationships with patients and others in the field of medicine. The University of Tennessee Gold Humanism Honor Society Chapter was approved in March 2009 and the first inductees were named on April 17, 2009. This was made possible by an initial grant from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation. The GHHS is dedicated to foster, recognize, and support the values of humanism and professionalism in medicine. The Society commits itself to work within and beyond medical education to inspire, nurture, and sustain lifelong advocates and activists for compassionate patient care.

Dr. Jonathan Amiel, Assistant Dean for Clinical Affairs at Columbia University of Physicians and Surgeons and a Board Member of the National Gold Humanism Honor Society, presented the talk, “Fueling and Refueling Your Humanism.”

Congratulations to these inductees to the Class of 2013:

Patrick W. Aldred  Jennifer Lee Gordon  Cayce B. Nawaf  Adam R. Ross
Michelle Roark Bowden  William Edward Gordon  Andrew K. Nielsen  Ah Rim Shin
Darren R. Cullinan  Nickalus R. Khan  Arand R. Patel  Candace Style
Samuel Brandon Edwards  Robert B. Lane  Jordan S. Pyda  William James Tidwell
Charles H. Fraga

Children’s Hospital Joins National Effort to Reverse Obesity

Children’s Hospital at Erlanger has become one of 50 locations across the country participating in a ground breaking program that will bring solutions to the local community and share strategies on a broader scale. The effort is being led by the National Initiative for Children’s Healthcare Quality (NICHQ), in partnership with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). “We are delighted that NICHQ has selected our team from Hamilton County to participate in this initiative based on our solid commitment to achieving healthy weight and health equity in our community,” said team leader Joani Jack, MD, FAAP, Assistant Professor and Medical Director of the Childhood Obesity Program at Children’s Hospital. “We look forward to sharing what we learn in this project with communities in other areas of the country.” Additional team members include Drs. Alan Kohrt, Annamaria Church, Jeanie Dassow, Brian Wakefield, Karla Garcia, Greg Heath, and Ms. Darcy Knowles as data manager.

“Tennessee and Hamilton County have one of the highest levels of childhood obesity in the nation,” said Alan Kohrt, MD, Chair of the Department of Pediatrics and Senior Medical Director of Children’s Hospital. “We are excited to be working with the community and our public health system to address this epidemic.” Along with Children’s Hospital and the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga, the cross-sectoral team also includes representatives from:

- Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department
- Siskin Institute
- The East Chattanooga Improvement, Inc.
- Erlanger’s Southside/Dodson Avenue Community Health Centers-Women’s Health
- La Paz Hispanic Health Advocacy Group
- City of Chattanooga Head Start Program

The 50 teams from across the United States participating in the Collaborate for Healthy Weight initiative will learn from national experts, exchange ideas, and create plans for becoming best practice models for other communities to follow. The project will run through February 2013. Additional information about this initiative is available at www.collaborateforhealthyweight.org, or www.NICHQ.org
Congratulations

James H. Creel, MD, Earns Lifetime Achievement Award

James Creel, MD, Associate Professor and Program Director of Emergency Medicine Residency, received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Georgia Region 1 EMS Office and Northwest Georgia EMS Council.

Mark Rowin, MD Awarded SCCM Presidential Citation

Mark Rowin, MD, was awarded the 2012 Presidential Citation Award from the Society of Critical Care Medicine. Awards were presented in conjunction with SCCM’s 41st Critical Care Congress in Houston, TX on February 6, 2012. The Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) is the largest multiprofessional organization dedicated to ensuring excellence and consistency in the practice of critical care. With nearly 16,000 members in more than 100 countries, SCCM is the only organization that represents all professional components of the critical care team. The Society offers a variety of activities that promote excellence in patient care, education, research, and advocacy.

Hot Shot Award goes to the Vance-Stafford General Pediatric Center

The Vance-Stafford General Pediatric Center has proven itself to be an immunization leader for the state of Tennessee and has been awarded the 2011 “Hot Shot” Award. The clinic consistently demonstrated 100% compliance with all the Vaccine for Children Program (VFC) protocols involving vaccine storage and handling, the screening of patients for program eligibility, documentation of immunizations, and vaccine accountability. Formal recognition and presentation of awards will be made at the statewide immunization educational conference April 17-20, 2012 in Nashville.

2012 Research Week Schedule and Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/15/12 - 3/19/12</td>
<td>Presenters meet by appointment with graphic artist to submit a PowerPoint file with all text and graphic images for layout of posters, proofing, etc. (NOTE: The presenter must submit a completed Computer Graphics Request Form (available on the UTCOMC website))</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/19/12 Mon</td>
<td>Final proof approvals from authors/departments so printing can begin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/9/12 - 4/13/12 Mon - Fri</td>
<td>Posters on display in the Medical Mall. All poster authors, residency staff and/or research coordinators will take posters to the Medical Mall at 9:30 am on Monday, 4/11 to assist in setting up the displays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/12/12 Thurs</td>
<td>Probasco Auditorium available for practice presentations. Contact Liz Jones (778-6956) to reserve a time. POWERPOINT SLIDES OF ORAL PRESENTATIONS TO SYLVIA FRIEDL OR STACEY HENDRICKS BY NOON.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/13/12 Fri</td>
<td>Poster presentations are in the morning. Oral presentations are in the afternoon. Awards dinner at The Walden Club in the evening.</td>
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This year’s poster and oral presentations will be held on **Friday, April 13th at the Probasco Auditorium**. All interested faculty and staff are encouraged to attend. However, we would like to remind attendees that this is a juried event. As a courtesy to the speaker, please do not enter or exit during the presentation and switch your pagers to silent.

### Poster Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Poster Title</th>
<th>Dept.</th>
<th>CR/R</th>
<th>Resident Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Use of CT perfusion imagining and CT angiography in the selection of hyperacute stroke patients to undergo emergent carotid endarterectomy</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>CR/R</td>
<td>G. Ralston Major, II, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:14 am</td>
<td>Expanding the phenotype of Perrault Syndrome with total anomalous pulmonary venous return and new orthopaedic abnormalities</td>
<td>Pediatrics Ortho Surg</td>
<td>Case report</td>
<td>Colleen Forsyth, DO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:28 am</td>
<td>Medical child abuse: a father’s role</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>Case report</td>
<td>Jennifer Hamm, MD Vanessa Slots, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:42 am</td>
<td>First report of biopsy-proven acute interstitial nephritis associated with escitalopram</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>Case report</td>
<td>Fernando Windemuller, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:56 am</td>
<td>First reported case of Dent’s disease with X-linked ichthyosis in two male siblings</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>Case report</td>
<td>Colleen Forsyth, DO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:10 am</td>
<td>The cat is out of the bag</td>
<td>Transition Yr Internal Med</td>
<td>Case report</td>
<td>Diana Tamboli, MD Seth Wagner, DO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:24 am</td>
<td>Diabetes prevention through community health workers: a pilot study</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Ramya Embar Srinivasan, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:38 am</td>
<td>An assessment of internal medicine resident and medical student knowledge of addiction medicine</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Angel Brown, MD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BREAK**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Oral Presentation Title</th>
<th>Dept.</th>
<th>CR/R</th>
<th>Resident Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Feasibility of prehospital transmission of the 12-lead ECG utilizing a camera capable cellular phone for the identification of ST-segment elevation acute myocardial infarction</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Hal Parker, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:19 pm</td>
<td>Improving risk stratification in chest pain patients: The Erlanger HEARTS score</td>
<td>Emergency Medicine</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Erik Martin, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:38 pm</td>
<td>Use of high flow high humidity nasal cannula therapy for infants with bronchiolitis</td>
<td>Pediatrics</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Richa Sood, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:57 pm</td>
<td>Non-operative management of retrocalcaneal pain with AFO and stretching regimen</td>
<td>Orthopaedics</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Michael Johnson, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:16 pm</td>
<td>Wingspan stent for symptomatic intracranial stenosis: a single center review</td>
<td>Transition Yr Transition Yr</td>
<td>Transition Yr Internal Med</td>
<td>John Hungerford, MD Aaron Kline, MD Genevieve Maass, MD Xiangke Huang, MD</td>
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</tbody>
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**Closing remarks and adjourn**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Awards banquet reception at the Walden Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Dinner and awards presentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Publications and Presentations

Burns P. The future of general surgery. Presented at The American College of Surgeons (as Vice President Elect), Southwestern Surgical Congress Annual Scientific Meeting in Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, March 25, 2012.


Hall M. Bringing ultrasound to the bedside in pediatric critical care. Presented at the 41st Critical Care Congress of the Society of Critical Care Medicine in Houston, TX, February 4-8, 2012.

Hartmann EH, Creel N, Lepard J, Maxwell RA. Mass casualty outcomes following tornadic events in the Southeast: unprecedented natural disaster at our Level 1 trauma center. Presented at the Southeastern Surgical Congress, Birmingham, AL, February 11-14, 2012.


Publications and Presentations--cont.


Kolade VO. Predicting recurrent depression using vitamin D levels? Mayo Clinic Proceedings. April 2012;87(4):413.


Rowin M. SuperBugs--Hypervirulent clostridium difficile. Presented at the Society of Critical Care Annual Congress, Houston, TX, 1 February 2012.


Rudolph C. What hat am I wearing today, or this minute. Three site visits with three program directors in one year. Presented at the Association of Coordinators in Surgery, San Diego, CA, March 19, 2012.


Vishwanath VA, Miller LM. What is the right dose of lacosamide in pediatric patients with intractable epilepsy? Epilepsy & Behavior. 23(2012);396-397.
Dear Colleagues,

Carlos Bustamante, molecular biologist at UC-Berkeley and Howard Hughes Medical Investigator is quoted as saying, “Being a scientist means living on the borderline between your competence and your incompetence. If you always feel competent, you aren’t doing your job.” In the same vein is Isaac Asimov’s comment, “The most exciting phrase to hear in science, the one that heralds new discoveries, is not, “Eureka!” (“I found it”) but rather, “Hmmm ... that’s funny ...” To state the obvious, science is hard. And, it got considerably harder with the tightening in extramural funding pay lines. We lived through the single digit pay lines of the early 1990’s, but it seems worse this time. This is not great insight on my part. It is the daily conversations in darkened microscopy suites, journal clubs at lunch time, and at every lab bench at UTHSC.

What is not so freely discussed is how extraordinarily disheartening our jobs as academic scientists can be. Perhaps five years back I was at an NIH study section when we were told one of our members had committed suicide since our last meeting. I caught myself wondering if his grant had gotten triaged. It was a wake-up call to realize just how discouraging research had become for me. Although I now see how distorted my thoughts were, in lesser ways, I can still hear it in frustrated tones when we talk about bridge funding, the demise of the A2 NIH grant application opportunity, shortened applications, or low pay lines. I see it now in the faces of young investigators when they ask me, “Now what?” after they have poured themselves into their first independent application and the score stinks. I don’t have definitive solutions to such gnawing frustrations, but I do think we can help each other.

Step one is to be open about how defeating it feels to put your best ideas and best pilot data into a grant that you cannot seem to get funded. Step two might be to: a) form new collaborations, inside your department, outside your department, or even outside UTHSC to strengthen your ideas, b) use the multiple PI or co-PI mechanism, author, and/or, c) let colleagues vigorously debate your intended response to the proposal critique.

I asked some of our most successful grant writers what they thought was important for competitive grant applications. Here are extracts from their feedback:

Dr. Bob Klesges: *It used to be that if we would submit something on smoking cessation, all three [NIH] reviewers would be an expert in smoking cessation. Now that there are shorter applications and more streamlined reviews, the study sections are getting smaller and smaller to save money. This increases the probability that people who will review your proposal actually do not know much about the topic. As such, we have learned to never assume that the reviewer is aware of the cutting edge issues. The pragmatic part of this is we spend less time on the research plan and more space on significance and innovativeness.*

Dr. Gadiparthi Rao: *Never write a proposal in an area where there is too much competition, in other words, find your own niche.*

Dr. Rob Williams: *Collaborate! Collaborations allow you to add new dimensions to a research program and to improve the likelihood of submitting an innovative proposal. Collaborate even if you do not need to!*

(continued on following page)
The Division of Pediatric Oncology had a Children’s Oncology Group (COG) research clinical trials audit in March. This was a very thorough audit; pediatric oncology reviews are generally more vigorous than adult studies due to high risk interventions in minors.

The Children’s Hospital at Erlanger Pediatric Oncology/Hematology Program was found to have no major deficiencies. This is rare for COG audits. Review of Management Quality involved reading through all clinical notes, laboratory reports, imaging, operative and pathology reports. They found the data management and patient care were superior. An exit interview was held and the entire staff was complimented for a job well done. Areas focused during the audit included:

- Informed Consent
- Eligibility
- Treatment
- Disease Outcome
- Response
- Adverse Events
- General Data
- Management Quality

Congratulations to the entire Pediatric Oncology Team. Please note that Dr. Bhakta, chair of the UT/EHS Institutional Review Board and Pediatric Oncologist, will be presenting at the April Coordinator Forum.

A Letter from Dr. Polly Hofmann, continued

Dr. Ed Chaum: *Multidisciplinary teams of researchers are more likely to get funded. Cross discipline research is also valued (biology and engineering). Anticipate the evolving trends and position your work there. Important new areas include genomics, epigenetics, systems biology, nanotechnology.*

Dr. Jon Jaggar: *Continually reinvent yourself. Apply as many techniques as possible to answer the problem. Always incorporate the latest techniques.*

You should also know that the Office of Research is dedicated to doing its best to reduce frustrations and facilitate research at UTHSC. I know you’ve heard it before in many different forms. I am committed to making it happen. The major areas of focus this year are: a) publicize and improve access to research support services, b) right-size and add new services, and c) foster, at all levels, an investigator-supportive attitude. To this end, we will be creating a single webpage, “Research Prime Link,” that will be an organized index of links to everything research at UTHSC. This is similar to the student webpage OSLEN (Only Link Students Ever Need) that is so helpful. Further, we are starting to review infrastructure and resources. Finally, we’ll be working internally to further improve attitude, speed, and effectiveness of the service we provide to individuals.

Always feel free to email me (phofmann@uthsc.edu) with research problems and/or ideas on how we can better help each other do research. I want to hear from you.
**SPECIAL EVENTS**

April 10, 2012, Tuesday • 12:00-1:00 pm  
*Medical Staff Membership: What Are Your Responsibilities?*  
Probasco Auditorium, Erlanger Baroness campus

April 27, 2012, Friday • 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
*Faculty Development Retreat*  
Location: TBA

May 8, 2012, Tuesday • 12:00-1:00 pm  
*Medical Marriages*  
Probasco Auditorium, Erlanger Baroness campus

May 9, 2012, Wednesday • 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
*Erlanger Trauma Symposium*  
Chattanooga Convention Center

June 12, 2012, Tuesday • 12:00-1:00 pm  
*Ethics Quarterly: Domestic Violence Awareness*  
Probasco Auditorium, Erlanger Baroness campus

June 13 - June 16, 2012 (Wednesday-Saturday)  
*27th Annual Family Medicine Update*  
The Chattanoogaan Hotel, Chattanooga, TN

August 24, 2012, Friday • 8:00 am-4:00 pm  
*Nuts & Bolts Research Symposium*  
UTC University Center, Chattanooga, TN

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**ERLANGER GRAND ROUNDS**

*General and Pediatrics Tumor Board Conference*  
Fridays, 12:00 - 1:00 pm  
Contact: Kim Wicks, (423) 778-6357

*Gynecology Tumor Board Conference*  
3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 - 8:30 am  
Contact: Kim Wicks, (423) 778-6357

*Internal Medicine Grand Rounds*  
2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, 8:00 am  
Probasco Auditorium  
Contact: Becky Swanson, (423) 778-2611

*Pediatrics*  
Wednesdays, 8:00 - 9:00 am  
Children’s Massoud Building, Room 140  
Contact: Annette DeVilbiss, (423) 778-8074

*Surgery*  
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:00 am  
Probasco Auditorium  
Contact: Gwen Fryar, (423) 778-7695

*Surgery, Morbidity & Mortality*  
Thursdays, 7:00 - 8:00 am  
Probasco Auditorium  
Contact: Gwen Fryar, (423) 778-7695

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