About Dr. Harold Alper
Dr. Harold Alper began practicing in 1947 and was named to the UT College of Medicine faculty as Clinical Associate Professor of Surgery in 1976. He was instrumental in founding the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Speech and Hearing Center in the early 1950’s, and he pioneered microscopic surgery and laser surgery in Chattanooga. Dr. Alper’s community service included work as the president of the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Medical Society, the Chattanooga Jewish Welfare Foundation and the Jewish Community Center.

About the Award Ceremony
The UT College of Medicine Chattanooga, in conjunction with the Baroness Foundation at Erlanger Health System and an endowment from the family of the late Dr. Harold Alper, has established the yearly ceremony and Grand Round lecture.
About the Alper Humanitarian Award

The Dr. Harold Alper Humanitarian Award is presented to a graduating Resident at the UT College of Medicine Chattanooga who has consistently demonstrated during residency the humanistic qualities for which the late Dr. Harold Alper was known: integrity, compassion, and community service.

The 2020 Alper Humanitarian Award Nominees

This year’s Alper Humanitarian Award nominees include 4 Residents from 4 UT College of Medicine residency programs:

Jamie Jones, MD
*Internal Medicine*

Laura Sherwood, MD
*Family Medicine*

Meredith Stroud, DO
*Pediatrics*

Veronica Zachry, MD
*Surgery*

About the Lecture

The Alper Humanitarian Award ceremony includes a lecture that highlights the importance and role of humanism in medicine. This year’s lecture title is:

“Compassionomics: The Revolutionary Scientific Evidence that Caring Makes a Difference”

Learning Objectives

1) Cite the evidence for a compassion crisis in health care.
2) Discuss the evidence that compassionate care can have benefit effects for patients.
3) Discuss the evidence that compassionate care can have beneficial effects for healthcare providers.

Keynote Speaker:

Stephen Trzeciak, MD, MPH
*Chief of Medicine, Cooper University Health Care*
*Professor & Chair of Medicine, Cooper Medical School of Rowan University*

Stephen Trzeciak, MD, MPH is a physician scientist, Chief of Medicine at Cooper University Health Care, and Professor and Chair of Medicine at Cooper Medical School of Rowan University in Camden, New Jersey. Dr. Trzeciak is a practicing intensivist (specialist in intensive care medicine), and a National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded clinical researcher with more than 100 publications in the scientific literature, primarily in the field of resuscitation science. Dr. Trzeciak’s publications have been featured in prominent medical journals, such as: Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), Circulation, and The New England Journal of Medicine. His scientific program has been supported by research grants from the American Heart Association, the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, with Dr. Trzeciak serving in the role of Principal Investigator.

Currently, Dr. Trzeciak’s research is focused on a new field called “Compassionomics”, in which he is studying the scientific effects of compassion on patients, patient care, and those who care for patients. He is an author of the best-selling book: Compassionomics: The Revolutionary Scientific Evidence that Caring Makes a Difference, which has been featured in numerous media outlets such as CNN, NPR, and The Washington Post. For this work, Dr. Trzeciak was awarded the 2019 Influencers of Healthcare Award by The Philadelphia Inquirer. Broadly, Dr. Trzeciak’s mission is to make health care more compassionate through science.

Dr. Trzeciak is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame. He earned his medical degree at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and his Master’s of Public Health at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He completed his residency training at the University of Illinois at Chicago, and his fellowship in critical care medicine at Rush University Medical Center. He is board certified in internal medicine, critical care medicine, emergency medicine, and neurocritical care.