22nd Annual Research Day and Award Winners

The UIC Health Sciences Campus – Rockford hosted its 22nd Annual Research Day on Friday, April 21, 2017. Luisa DiPietro, DDS, PhD, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research Professor of Periodontics, UIC College of Dentistry, provided the Keynote Address, “How to Heal Perfectly: A Blueprint for Skin Regeneration.” Panel Discussion on Regenerative Medicine: Implications for Clinical Practice & Research followed. Panelists included Xue-Jun Li, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford; Benjamin Mathew, MD, Ophthalmic Surgeon, Mercyhealth, Rockford; Louis Mercuri, DDS, Clinical Consultant for TMJ Concepts, Ventura, California, and Visiting Professor, Department of Orthopedic Surgery at Rush University Medical Center, Chicago; and Jalees Rehman, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine and Pharmacology, University of Illinois at Chicago. The panel was moderated by Mathew Mathew, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Biomedical Sciences and Lawrence L. Yen, fourth year medical student, both from University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford.

Student research presentations kicked off the afternoon and included Jenny Schmidt, fourth year medical student in the Rural Medical Education Program at the University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford’s “Assessment of Diabetes Education and Barriers to Self-Management in Chester, IL: A Healthcare Provider and Patient Perspective.” Jordan Sharlin, fourth year medical student and James Scholar at the University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford, spoke on “Incidence and Impact of Post-Operative Hypertension on Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) Outcomes.” “Optimization of Polymeric-Drug Conjugates Containing the HSP90 Inhibitor SNX-5422” was the topic of Jose Antonio Suarez Del Pino’s research. He is a PhD student in the Department of Biopharmaceutical Sciences at the UIC College of Pharmacy at Rockford. Pooja Vinay, student in the Master of Science Biotechnology Program at the
University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford, rounded out the presentations with her research on “Elucidating Novel and Critical Roles for the Inflammatory Mediator Pentraxin 3 in the Pathogenesis of Basal-Like Breast Cancers.”

There were 94 entries submitted for Research Day. Seventeen student awards were given as follows:

**Tsatsral Iderzorig**
“Comparison of Epithelial Mesenchymal Transition Mediated TKI Resistance NSCLC Cells Containing Wild Type EGFR and Mutant EGFR”
Best Basic Science Research Award
ThermoFisher Scientific

**Jenny Tumba**
“Case Report: Helicobactor Pylori and Hepatitis A Virus Coinfection in an Adolescent Refugee”
Best Case Report Award
Rockford Anesthesiologists Associated

**Adam Lake**
“Results of A Community Based, Randomized Study Comparing a Clear Liquid Diet to a Low Residue Diet using a Magnesium Citrate Preparation”
Best Clinical Research Poster Award
Rockford Ambulatory Surgery Center

**Pooja Vinay**
“Elucidating Novel and Critical Roles for the Inflammatory Mediator Pentraxin 3 in the Pathogenesis of Basal-Like Breast Cancers”
Best MBT Student Research Poster Award
Master of Medical Biotechnology Program and Department of Biomedical Sciences

**Daniel Principe**
“KRASG12D and TP53R167H Cooperate to Induce Pancreatic Carcinoma in Sus Sofa Pigs”

**Adam Lake**
“Results of A Community Based, Randomized Study Comparing a Clear Liquid Diet to a Low Residue Diet using a Magnesium Citrate Preparation”
Best Student Technical Poster Award (two awards)
Winnebago County Medical Society

**Robert Freidel**
“Best Practice Alerts in Clinical EHR Workflows to Improve Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates: An Evaluation”
Best Use of Literature in a Student Research Project
Crawford Library of the Health Sciences

**Yongchao Mou**
“Modeling Hereditary Spastic Paraplegias with Patient-Specific Stem Cell-Derived Cortical and Spinal Neuron Co-Cultures”
Biomedical Sciences Best Basic Science Research Poster Award
Department of Biomedical Sciences

**Matthew Gilbertson**
“Characterization of Etoposide Hypersensitive Top2α Mutants”
College of Pharmacy Outstanding Poster Award
UIC College of Pharmacy at Rockford

**Robert Freidel**
“Best Practice Alerts in Clinical EHR Workflows to Improve Colorectal Cancer Screening Rates: An Evaluation”
Dean’s Action Council Award
Dean’s Action Council, University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford

**Abhijit Segu**
“Promising Method for Quick and Total Eradication of Root Canal Infection Based on Electrochemistry”
Innovation in Basic Science Research Award
Office of the Regional Dean
University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford

**Jordan Sharlin**
“Incidence and Impact of Post-Operative Hypertension on Post-Anesthesia Care Unit (PACU) Outcomes”
James Scholar Award
James Scholar Program, Office of Research
University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford

**Ezekiel Hartman**
“Evaluation of Preventative Screening Implementation in Rural Illinois Primary Care Practices”
Brock Phillips and Brandon Barringer
“Increasing Colon Cancer Awareness and Education in Litchfield, IL”
NCRHP Poster Award for Encouraging Excellence in Rural Health
National Center for Rural Health Professions
Dawn Mosher
“Student Perception of Interprofessional Education Competency Change Following an IPE Immersion Day”
Sister Mary Linus Nowak Research Award
Saint Anthony College of Nursing

Ezekiel Hartman
“Evaluation of Preventative Screening Implementation in Rural Illinois Primary Care Practices”
Supporting Model Public Health Practices – Research Award
Winnebago County Department of Public Health and its Board of Health

Closing remarks were provided by Manorama Khare, PhD, Chair of the Campus Research Committee, University of Illinois College of Medicine Rockford.

Research Day is a forum that is open to the public to highlight research conducted at the UIC Health Sciences Campus–Rockford, and researchers from affiliated and regional institutions.

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