CONGRATULATIONS 2018 Department of Medicine Innovator Award Recipients

Please join in congratulating the 2018 recipients of the Department of Medicine Innovator Award.

Lilia Cervantes, MD
Amos Bailey, MD
PK Vedanthan, MD
Anna Munoa, MD
Craig Jordan, PhD
Kasey Bowden, NP

Nominated by their peers and selected by a faculty committee, these extraordinary individuals will be honored at the 2018 Department of Medicine Faculty Recognition Event, Friday evening, November 9th. Highlights from their peer nominations are included below.

Ira Flatow, host of Public Radio International’s popular program *Science Friday*, is our keynote speaker. All Department of Medicine faculty, residents and fellows are encouraged to join for the celebration of our collective Department accomplishments and recognition of the truly outstanding achievements of the awardees.

Again, please congratulate the 2018 DOM Innovator Award recipients for this wonderful recognition of their work.

*Lilia Cervantes, MD:* In the area of research and innovation, Dr. Cervantes has moved the needle towards improving health inequities among Latinos on hemodialysis. Her research has been highlighted by several media (e.g. National Public Radio, Denver Post, NBC, 5280 Magazine) and by Chief Health Correspondent Sanjay Gupta. Dr. Cervantes created the Healthcare Interest Program (HIP), a pre-health pipeline program for minority undergraduate students. The HIP has become systemic, sustainable, and expanded its reach through partnerships with Denver Metro area institutions.
**Amos Bailey, MD:** Dr. Bailey envisioned, developed, and implemented the first in the nation Masters Degree program in Palliative Care. This is a completely novel way of addressing a critical workforce shortage in Palliative Care. He is currently working with the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) to use this program as the first model of an alternative route to specialty board certification. This programmatic model would be the first in the nation with the potential to dramatically transform Graduate Medical Education (GME) training.

**Anna Munoa, MD:** Dr. Munoa has worked incredibly hard as the faculty director of the Correctional Care Medical Facility at Denver Health (CCMF). Dr. Munoa began an Morbidity and Mortality (M&M) conference to improve care for those imprisoned and has streamlined care for those who are pregnant and withdrawing from opioids. She has shown great leadership in caring for those who are in custody or incarcerated.

(No photo provided)

**PK Vedanthan, MD:** Dr Vedanthan has committed himself to helping teach clinical allergy & asthma to physicians and allied health providers, as well as rendering these services, to those in need internationally, especially in his native India. He has recruited eminent allergists to travel with him to the under-served areas, giving a good name to the University of Colorado globally. He has set an example for medical academic and humanitarian outreach beyond our borders, and publicizes these endeavors in academic meetings. He continually pushes the Colorado Allergy Asthma Society membership to give unused medicine and Pulmonary Function Test (PFT) equipment to these clinics, raising our awareness to give and help make the world better.
**Kasey Bowden, NP:** Kasey Bowden in her role as Advance Practice Provider (APP) for the Hospital Medicine Division has shown an amazing ability to balance all viewpoints and help make very tough and thoughtful decisions. Because of her leadership she was selected to lead the Gastroenterology (GI) Extended Recovery service that has resulted in improved hospital throughput and more appropriately classified patients. Additionally, Kasey now serves on the Clinical Operations team for her Division and has been tasked with helping to redesign the clinical enterprise to improve flow, provider well-being, and the quality of care patients receive.

**Craig Jordan, PhD:** Dr. Jordan has gone above and beyond expectations in every way possible. He has developed an incredible Hematology/Oncology team, built essential bridges between oncology research and clinical staff, all the while remaining an outstanding mentor to his team. Faculty, staff and trainees are unanimous in praising his research accomplishments as well as his patience and perseverance to make his division a true jewel in Department of Medicine.