

2020 Honors Convocation Awardees

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN J. REILLY JR., MD

*Richard Krugman Endowed Chair
Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs
Dean of University of Colorado School of Medicine*

Congratulations to all of the recipients of awards and recognition at the 2020 Honors Convocation, and a special thanks to all of the donors and sponsors who make these awards possible every year. While we could not physically be together for this ceremony, you have the best wishes and congratulations of the entire CU medical community for your accomplishments in clinical care, teaching, research and community service. These awards represent recognition for outstanding contributions in our core missions. As you embark upon the next phase of your medical education, thank you for all the time and effort that these honors celebrate. .

A MESSAGE FROM BRIAN DWINNELL, MD

Associate Dean, Student Life

Congratulations to the University of Colorado School of Medicine Class of 2020 and the Honors Convocation awardees. In addition to recognizing the recipients of these awards, we would also like to thank the CU Foundation, Office of Advancement, our generous benefactors, the clinical and basic science leaders determining the awards, and the staff of the Office of Student Life who help make these awards possible.

We are saddened by missing the opportunity to present these awards in person. We are honoring some truly remarkable students and faculty, who deserve to be recognized in a formal ceremony, with peers, family and friends. While we know this online recognition is not an adequate substitute, we sincerely appreciate the understanding of our awardees and those close to them. The response from our students and faculty to the COVID-19 pandemic has been nothing short of inspirational and will serve as an example for generations to come.

You are all aware how challenging the medical school experience can be. There isn't a practicing physician who doesn't recall this overwhelming journey, and it is clearly more difficult now than it ever has been. The amount of material has dramatically expanded and society has become so much more complicated, which equates to added to pressure. This makes the accomplishments of those we are honoring even more extraordinary.

CONGRATULATIONS!

DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

Robert W. Virtue Award: Erin Wylie

For a medical student in Anesthesia who has exhibited the most concern for patients

C. Walter Metz Award: Azin Kheirandish Pishkenari

For excellence in performance in Anesthesiology

Cynthia Hampson Award/Class of 1991: Kelsey Repine and Mario Hernandez

For excellence in Anesthesia with the intent to pursue a career in Anesthesiology

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

Pisacano Award: Nicholas Arlas and Halea Meese

For the senior entering Family Medicine who best models the characteristics of Dr. Nicholas Pisacano: scholarship, leadership, and service

Felix Martinez, MD Memorial Award: Karlie Urbach, Darin Sisneros, Drake Sisneros, Nicholas Stephanus, Megan Perez, Kristina Hulen, Rachel Carroll, Shannon Shaw, Jessica Smith, and Heidi Yen

For the senior(s) entering Family Medicine who best models the qualities, character, and service of the late Dr. Felix Martinez

Colorado AHEC System Rural Healthcare Outstanding Achievement: Kaitlin VanderKolk

For outstanding achievement by an individual who is committed to serving to improve the healthcare for the rural population of Colorado

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

John Ryan Award: Mallory Myers

For outstanding work in Internal Medicine

Gold Headed Cane Award: Oliver Bawmann

For a senior student who shows exemplary promise as an outstanding physician

Thomas Neff Award: Jacob Fox

For the senior student who has demonstrated unique humanitarian concerns toward the total health and well-being of patients with unrelenting patience and compassion

American College of Physicians Award: Catherine Waymel

For exemplary performance and outstanding promise in medicine

James Waring Award: Katherine Jankousky

Diligent scholarship and devotion to duty in the field of Internal Medicine

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY

Stuart Schneck, MD Endowed Award: Amanda Ellgen

For a senior student who has demonstrated academic excellence and outstanding performance in Neurology with exceptional humanism in all interactions.

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

University of Colorado Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology Award: Megan Kalata

For excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology

Advocacy in Reproductive Access Award: Abigail C. Kaye

For the senior student who promotes advocacy in reproductive access

Dr. Harold and Mrs. Judy Kaye Award: Margaret Harrison

Demonstrated stellar academic performance to students who will pursue specialty training in Obstetrics and Gynecology

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Department of Ophthalmology Award: Blake M. Snyder

For demonstrated academic excellence and outstanding performance in Ophthalmology.

DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPEDICS

Frank Scott, MD Excellence in Orthopedics Endowed Award: Weston Ryan and Alexander Vasconcellos

For academic excellence, professionalism, and outstanding performance in Orthopedics.

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

Sara D. Winter, MD Award: Joshua Wheeler

For academic achievement with an outstanding commitment to medicine, fellow students, and society

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

Franklin Gengenbach Award: Kathryn Kalata

For outstanding performance in Pediatrics by a senior student

Lange/McGraw Hill Award: Erin Aldag

For outstanding performance in Pediatrics by a senior student

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Franklin Ebaugh Award: Zoe Panchal

For outstanding performance in Psychiatry by a senior student

DEPARTMENT OF RADIOLOGY

Excellence in Radiology Award: Robert L. Meller
For outstanding performance in Radiology by a senior student

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

Alden Harken Basic Science Research Award: Alexander Schulick and Davis Aasen
For outstanding research in Surgery

George Packard Award: Alexander Schulick and Jaclyn DeRieux
For outstanding performance in Surgery

Owens-Swan Award: Adam Carroll
For outstanding promise in Surgery

CENTER FOR BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES

Henry N. Claman, MD Medical Humanities Award: Carolyn Ho AND Priya Krishnan
For outstanding contributions to the Medical Humanities in healthcare programs

Narrative Medicine Award: Carolyn Ho AND Priya Krishnan
For support of the practice and publication of writing

RESEARCH & PRESENTATION AWARDS

Adler Awards

Oliver Bawmann
Kathryn Kalata
Jessica Smith

Priya Chopra
Zoe Panchal
Margaret Tashjian

Deanna Claus
Kelsey Repine
Molly Thayer

Taylor Davis
Darin Sisneros
Heidi Yen

MSA Awards

Phase I - Student Choice

Student Name	Thematic Area	Project Title	Mentor
Steven Lai	Basic Science	Mechanisms of Radiation-Induced Brain Edema Alone and in Combination with T-DM1 in Her2+ Brain Metastases	Diana Cittelly
Zachary Wuthrich	Basic Science	Analysis of Stress Riser Effects of the Posterior Metaglene Screw in a Reverse Total Shoulder Replacement	Vikas Patel
Kelsey Repine	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts,	Facing Burnout: The Gift of Gratitude	Steven Lowenstein

	and Education		
Oliver Bawmann	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts, and Education	The Relationship Between Experiencing Gratitude and Psychological Distress in University of Colorado Medical Students	Katherine Morrison
Brittan Sutphin	Clinical Science	Return to sport following lateral ankle ligament repair is under-reported: a systematic review	Kenneth Hunt
Catherine Waymel	Clinical Science	Searching for the Antigen: A Case of Recurring Hypoxia	Juan Lessing
Scott Powers	Clinical Science	Outcomes comparing autograft quadriceps tendon and hamstring tendon in ACL reconstructive surgery	John Tentler
Stephanie Fukui	Clinical Science	Inflammation Strikes Again: Frailty and HIV	Kristine Erlandson
Alexander Vasconcellos	Global Health	Use of a Simple Survey to Elicit Predictors of Maternal Complications in Rural Uganda	Madiha Abdel-Maksoud
Vishnupriya Krishnan	Global Health	A Cross-Sectional Study of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Surrounding Exclusive-Breastfeeding at Dhulikhel Hospital, Nepal	Jennifer Whitfield
Kathryn Kalata	Public Health and Epidemiology	Community Perspectives on the Racial Disparity in Infant Mortality	Janet Meredith
Taylor Davis	Public Health and Epidemiology	Community Perspectives on the Racial Disparity in Infant Mortality	Janet Meredith

Phase IV - Student Choice

Student Name	Thematic Area	Project Title	Mentor
Pierce Lewien	Basic Science	Investigation of Nicotinamide Riboside Use in Diabetic Mice in the Prevention of Kidney Disease	Moshe Levi
Samuel Carpentier	Basic Science	The signaling adaptor BCAP inhibits NLRP3 and NLRC4 inflammasome activation in macrophages through interactions with Flightless-1.	Thomas Morrison
Weston Ryan	Basic Science	Pre-contoured Quadrilateral Surface Acetabular Plate Fixation Demonstrates Increased Stability When Compared to Pelvic Reconstruction Plates: A Biomechanical Study	Todd Baldini Cyril Mauffrey
Kaitlin VanderKolk	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts, and Education	An Evaluation of the Current Curricula Regarding Reproductive Health Topics and Methods of Family Planning at United States Medical Schools	Wendy Madigosky Marguerite Duane
Lindsay Welton	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts, and Education	Women's preferences for sexual health support following gynecologic and breast cancer. A qualitative survey and art exhibit.	Saketh Guntupalli
Travis Hays	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts, and Education	Upgrading Multiple-Choice Question Items in Cardiovascular, Pulmonary, Renal Block to Meet National Board of Medical Examiners	Daniel Goldberg William Sather

		Standards	
Angela Shimoda	Clinical Science	Long-term visual outcomes following abusive head trauma with retinal hemorrhage	Jasleen Singh Daniel Frank Megan Kelsey
Beza Jobira	Clinical Science	Exploring the relationship between the gut microbiome and puberty in youth girls at risk for type 2 diabetes (T2D).	Melanie Cree-Green
Colleen Long	Clinical Science	Pediatric Obesity and Exposure to Environmental Adversity	Ayelet Talmi
Derek George	Clinical Science	What Does Fatigue Mean to Persons Living with Parkinson's Disease? A Qualitative Investigation including Validation of Proposed Case Definition Criteria	Benzi Kluger
Dillon Riebel	Clinical Science	Decreasing Hospital Readmissions for Preeclampsia in the Postpartum Period	Katlynn Adkins Jonathan Steller
Elliott Antman	Clinical Science	A Rare Case of Hypocalcemia Complicating Pregnancy	Michel Chonchol John Carlson
Eric Montgomery	Clinical Science	Review of the Pathophysiology of Primary/Hereditary Heterotopic Ossification in the Context of a Surgical Case	Brian Shaw
Tamara Lhungay	Clinical Science	Evaluating Outcomes of a Three-Tiered Orientation System in Matching Surgical Technicians to Cases Based on Skill	Shandra Wilson
Zachary Pfeifer	Clinical Science	Metabolomic Fingerprinting of Infants Undergoing Cardiopulmonary Bypass: Changes in Metabolic Pathways and Association With Mortality and Cardiac Intensive Care Unit Length of Stay	Jelena Klawitter

Neil and Catherine Hamilton Award: Bailey Loving
For excellence in research by a senior student

Joseph and Regina Glaser Research Prize: Weston Ryan
For superior research by a senior medical student

Paul Ruskin, MD Memorial Travel Award: Beza Jobira, Subada Soti, Meha Semwal, and Paul Eigenberger
To recognize Denver Health LIC students who present exceptional work at a national meeting

TEACHING AWARDS

KAISER PERMANENTE TEACHING AWARDS
Selection by Medical Student Council

Outstanding basic science teacher: Dr. Dan Bessesen
Outstanding clinical teacher: Dr. Jennifer Adams

SERVICE AWARDS

Excellence in Public Health Award: Josten Overall

In recognition of demonstrated commitment to public health and public health practice.

Alex Rodriguez-Prieto Endowed Memorial Award: Erika Baird

For a student who has exceptional motivation and has encouraged and helped their classmates achieve the goal of becoming a physician. “Though Alex is no longer with us physically, his spirit and memory encourage us each day to strive to be kind and compassionate physicians. The character and friendship he demonstrated set an example for us all, and there is no other student more deserving of this award.” (2013).

Kenneth Atkinson, MD Endowed Memorial Scholarship: Nicholas Arlas & Halea Mease

For a fourth-year medical student pursuing a career in Primary Care with the expressed interest in providing medical care to historically underserved or marginalized communities.

Joseph W. St. Geme Jr., MD Award: Hailey Herman

For exceptional ability in promoting the overall mission of the School of Medicine

Medical School Admissions Committee Award: Alex Torres

For dedication and service to the Admissions Committee

Honor Council Award: Eric Montgomery

For excellence in furthering the precepts of the Honor Code

Nelson Award: Miles Viseur

For a student entering a primary care residency who has demonstrated academic achievement and a commitment to primary care.

Richard D. Krugman Award: Jessica Smith

Richard D. Krugman, MD served as Dean of the University of Colorado School Of Medicine for 25 years. Fondly known as the “Dean of deans” across the nation, Dr. Krugman established this award for a student who portrays the spirit of service, fosters caring for all people, is compassionate, creates connection, and values innovation.

Robert J. Glaser, MD Award: Erin Aldag

For exceptional leadership and service to the senior class; selected by the graduating class of

Hippocrates Award: Derek George

For a future physician who most completely epitomizes the ideals and noble traditions of the Profession of medicine as set forth by Hippocrates; selected by the graduating class