Hirschmann Prize for Teaching Excellence

Students at the college of medicine get a chance to grade their teachers with the Hirschmann Prize for Teaching Excellence, an award that puts students in charge of choosing two faculty recipients each year, one from the pre-clinical faculty and one from the clinical faculty.

The College of Medicine Class of 2015 chose Adam Reinhardt, M.D. as the clinical faculty recipient this year. He was given the award at the Hooding Ceremony on May 8, 2015.

The Hirschmann prize was established in 2000 with a gift from College of Medicine graduates Jerome Hirschmann, a retired cardiologist, and his son, Richard Hirschmann, a pediatric anesthesiologist, both of the Chicago area. The gift fills an important need on campus by giving students an opportunity to recognize faculty for their devotion to teaching and innovation in teaching methods.

Wiltse Excellence in Medical Education Award

The Hobart E. Wiltse, M.D., Ph.D. Excellence in Medical Education Award was presented at the Pediatric Residency Banquet, June 5, 2015. Faculty are nominated for this award and have to write a narrative summarizing their teaching, research, and patient care activities. Additionally, letters of support are submitted by residents and students. A committee then reviews nominees’ applications.

We are pleased to announce that Robert Spicer, M.D., Division of Pediatric Cardiology, received the award this year.

During Dr. Wiltse's tenure at UNMC, he became known as one of the outstanding educators on campus, influencing many students to pursue pediatrics as a career. His Socratic
approach to medical education, combined with a zest for analyzing clinical problems by re-introducing relevant basic science concepts, impacted not only medical students but also house officers. This approach to medical education has been modeled by many educators on this campus - many of whom learned this style from Dr. Wiltse.

Dr. Wiltse worked with Dr. Gary Beck to develop an award in his honor. The first awards were given in 2007, which Dr. Wiltse was able to select prior to passing from lung cancer.

**Teaching Awards**

The UNMC medical students complete evaluations on the faculty and house officers during the year. The medical student education team reviews the evaluations and determines who receives recognition each year. The following were recognized on May 15, 2015 for their excellence in teaching:

- Faculty: **Eric Rush, M.D.**
- Community Faculty: **Terry Wooldridge, M.D. and Tina Scott-Mordhorst, M.D.**
- House Officer: **Joshua Bies, M.D.**

The house officers also select outstanding educators each year. These awards were given at the annual banquet on June 5, 2015.

- Outstanding Academic Faculty: **Howard Hsu, M.D.**
- Gilbert C. Schreiner, M.D. Outstanding Community Faculty Member Teaching Award: **Monica Vargas, M.D.**

This year they also recognized **Dr. Patrick Doherty** for his support and dedication to the residency program.

**Resident Awards**

At the Pediatric Residency Banquet on June 5, 2015, the following residents were recognized:

- George Miyazaki Research Award: **Aswathy K. Vaikom House, MBBS**
- Deborah Munson Barger Award: **Chelsea Bloom Anderson, M.D.**
- Children's Hospital Resident Service Excellence Award: **Nathan Goodrich, M.D.**

**Graduating House Officers**

The house officers will be heading off to go into practice or further their training in fellowships. Congratulations to all of them on their future endeavors!

- **Muhammed Banday** will be moving to Kansas City, Missouri and will be a hospitalist at St. Joseph Medical Center.
Chelsea Bloom Anderson will be staying in Omaha to join the Pediatric Hospitalist group at Children's Hospital & Medical Center.

Rochelle Boote will be moving to Sioux Falls, South Dakota will join the Avera McGreevy Pediatrics Group to practice General Pediatrics.

Abram Collard will be moving to Rexburg, Idaho to join the Seasons Pediatric Group to practice General Pediatrics.

Kimberly Cunningham will be staying in Omaha to join the Pediatric Faculty and will be one of the Co-Chief Residents.

Melissa England will be staying in Omaha to join the Pediatric Hospitalist group at Children's Hospital & Medical Center.

Heidi Johnson will be staying in Omaha and will join Boys Town Pediatrics group to practice General Pediatrics.

Rima Khasawneh will be moving to Boston, Massachusetts and will begin a Pediatric Rheumatology Fellowship at Tufts.

Danielle Kuzela will be staying in Omaha to join the Pediatric Faculty and will be one of the Co-Chief Residents.

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Lehn will be staying in Omaha and will join One World Community Health Center to practice general pediatrics.

Robert Marshall will be moving to Minneapolis, Minnesota to join the Allina Health Maple Grove Clinic to practice General Pediatrics.

Jennifer Pham will be moving to Little Rock, Arkansas and will begin her fellowship in Pediatric Intensive Care at the University of Arkansas.

Emille Reyes will be moving to Atlanta, Georgia and will begin her Fellowship in Hepatology at Emory University.

Connie Rossini will be moving to Chicago, Illinois to practice Pediatric Surgery at the University of Illinois Chicago.

Leslie Ruybal will be moving to Salt Lake City, Utah and will begin her fellowship in Neonatology at the University of Utah.

Andrea Talukdar will be moving to Madison, Wisconsin and will begin her fellowship in Pediatric Intensive Care at the University of Wisconsin.

Aswathy Vaikom House will be staying in Omaha and will begin her fellowship in Pediatric Cardiology at the University of Nebraska Children's Hospital & Medical Center.

Joel Van De Graaff will be moving to Iowa City, Iowa and will begin his fellowship in Allergy at the University of Iowa.