

Distinguished Educator Award



The School of Medicine's highest teaching award—recognizing a lifetime of excellence in teaching medical students



Joel W. Hockensmith, PhD
Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

"Joel is an ardent advocate for the education of undergraduates (SRIP), PhD students, MD students (both classroom and research), and faculty." – Colleague

"Joel is a colleague who serves quietly but brings tremendous educational benefit to our institution. His talents touch many individuals and distinguish him as a unique educator." – Colleague

"His establishment of the Student Advisory Committee opened a channel of communication between students and course administrators. The committee has empowered students to become involved with course content and structure [and] the committee has given students a voice." – Student

"[His Biochemistry course is] beautifully run, receives excellent reviews from the students, and his own lectures are skillful and stylishly delivered." – Colleague

"On the first day of class, he invites students to come to him at any time with biochemistry concerns including during his daily walk to the medical school. The only restriction given is that students must be able to keep up with Dr. Hockensmith's speedy pace on his treks to the medical school." – Student

"Dr. Hockensmith has taken on the responsibility for both organizing and teaching in our Ethics Course.... Dr. Hockensmith, so far as the graduate students are concerned, is the Ethics program." – Colleague

"Dr. Hockensmith, as the Assistant Dean, has been the glue that holds together the administrative office for graduate education, and the integration of the BIMS Programs into the coherent educational framework of the Medical School and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences." – Colleague

"He...made me feel as though I belonged at UVa and that my background was more than sufficient to conduct cutting-edge research. Not once did I ever feel that I was not good or smart enough to attend a university where I was the minority." – Student



Robert J. Kadner Award for Outstanding Graduate Teaching

Recognizes outstanding contributions to teaching and mentoring doctoral candidates or postdoctoral fellows pursuing careers in basic or clinical laboratory research

David T. Auble, PhD
Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

"By being a great teacher, David has also set an example for his advisees to become great teachers to other students in the laboratory." – Graduate Students

"David has a long-standing interest in helping not only his own students but all students in their developmental process." – Colleague

"Not content to simply organize the schedule and leave the quality of the lectures up to others, Dr. Auble would often attend the lectures to make sure that those presenting the material were doing so in a manner which was most beneficial to the students." – Graduate Student

"He continually encouraged his students to think outside of the box and be creative in the way we approach our own investigations in the lab." – Graduate Student

"Dr. Auble, without a doubt, has changed the way I look at problems in the biological sciences and has made a lasting impact on my educational and professional development." – Graduate Student



for Excellence in Teaching

Honors faculty who have demonstrated outstanding skills in teaching medical students



Megan J. Bray, MD
Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology

"Dr. Bray plays a pivotal role in the education of every medical student who graduates from UVa...[she] establishes clear...high standards for all students at the outset, and then helps each student to meet these challenges." – Student

"She wrought a teaching revolution amongst our faculty from PowerPoint lectures to providing highly successful learning opportunities that led to...overwhelmingly positive student evaluations..." – Colleagues

"Dr. Bray demonstrated an unwavering dedication to us; she was truly a student's advocate. Even if she wasn't lecturing on a particular day, she attended every class." – Student



Loren D. Erickson, PhD
Associate Professor of Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology

"He is patient and methodical, moving at the pace of the student, adapting to their learning needs, and allowing the student to ask questions, ensuring they fully understand the concept." – Student

"His passion for science is infectious and it is his unwavering enthusiasm that drives students not only to excel under his tutelage but to give them the desire to learn more." – Student

"Dr. Erickson is one of the students' favorites...in both the old and the new curricula... The future of medical education at our institution is bright and our students will be better physicians because of Dr. Erickson." – Colleague



Eric R. Houpt, MD
Professor of Medicine

"He was very inclusive of the medical students on the General Medicine service and treated us like the primary medical providers to our patients." – Student

"These sessions [note-taking, presentations, and physical exam skills]...were the perfect introduction to the medical wards...and were the most helpful sessions...I have ever received on any rotation." – Student

"Dr. Houpt achieves a perfect balance of independence and supervision in his mentorship. He puts great thought toward the mentoring of students and postdoctoral fellows." – Student

"He brings and teaches a fresh and analytical perspective that is rare and memorable." – Colleague

Jeffrey J. Saucerman, PhD
Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering

"I am most impressed by the level of interest that Dr. Saucerman invests in the personal development of all his students." – Student

"His teaching efforts have had a tremendous positive impact on the education mission of our department and in the broader BME discipline at the national level." – Colleague

"Jeff has continually challenged me toward excellence in my professional activities and encouraged me to find and develop my scientific identity." – Student

"He deeply engages students in the subject material, inspires students to question their assumptions, and challenges students to think creatively about how their newly acquired tools can be applied to answer different biological questions." – Colleague



Neeral Shah, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine

"As system leader, Dr. Shah designed one of the most popular and effective systems of the NxGen curriculum." – Students

"Perhaps the most striking characteristic of Dr. Shah's teaching is that he has an intuitive understanding of human learning." – Colleague

"He has created personal relationships with his students beyond the GI System and has followed them through their training, always eager to see them succeed." – Colleague

"Dr. Shah's lectures were always well organized, informative and, dare I say, fun. He used all of the space in the learning studio as he walked around...and interacted with students." – Student



2012 SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AWARDS

for

Clinical Excellence

Honors faculty who have demonstrated exemplary service to patients and a high level of clinical skill



Todd W. Bauer, MD
Associate Professor of Surgery

"I can offer no better endorsement than to say what I tell my patients when I make a referral to Todd: Not only would I let him operate on me in a heartbeat, but I would let him care for any one of my family members, at any time." – Colleague

"Dr. Bauer does not avoid patients with complex medical problems or those that might require challenging surgeries. He is an indispensable resource..." – Colleague

"It is a privilege to share patients with him...he is an excellent surgeon and certainly a major incentive to continue our collaborative efforts." – Referring Physician

"He is...very thoughtful and innovative clinically but well versed medically and surgically." – Colleague

"He is compassionate, efficient, accessible, and thorough. He is respectful toward his colleagues and patients, and dedicated to their well-being." – Colleague



Amir A. Jazaeri, MD
Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology

"He is the 'go to person' even when expert surgeons need gynecologic assistance." – Colleague

"He is never too busy to bring help and does so enthusiastically... While his technical help is critical to my success, it is his judgment and camaraderie in these difficult cases that I value most." – Colleague

"His patients love him...and for good reason. He takes his time, answers their questions, and provides them with comfort as he discusses very difficult problems." – Colleague

"His interpersonal skills are exceptional. Patients routinely return from their visits to him saying they were ecstatic to have been on 'Team Jazaeri.'" – Colleague

"I recently sent him a very young patient with a rare and virulent cancer...[and he saw] beyond the technical aspects of the case and was clearly touched by her circumstances. In addition to performing her surgery, he coordinated a treatment plan that allowed her the best possible social support... She is forever grateful." – Colleague

Saher Sabri, MD
Assistant Professor of Radiology and Medical Imaging

"Dr. Sabri is one of those rare physicians who remembers months or years later the name, the home city, and treatment course of all his more complex patients." – Colleague

"He is always his patient's advocate in making sure that our service, referring services, and our University Hospital provide the best possible care." – Colleague

"My patients rave about the professionalism, compassion, and care of Dr. Sabri and his team." – Colleague

"He is exceptionally calm in tense situations and always manages a way to positively contribute to the well-being of any patient under his care." – Colleague

"It is quite interesting that interventional radiology is often viewed as a non-patient-oriented specialty, and yet at 8:00, 9:00 or 10:00 at night I will see Dr. Sabri with the IR fellows and residents up rounding on the floor." – Colleague



Andrew Y. Wang, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine

"I share clinic space with Andy and can attest to his caring and compassionate demeanor and the respectful and effective way he communicates with his patients." – Colleague

"Dr. Wang is a major clinical innovator at UVa and nationally, bringing new procedures and technologies to UVa." – Colleague

"Dr. Wang has been overwhelmed this past year...being the only therapeutic endoscopist at UVa, [yet] he has remained accessible to referring physicians in this very busy time. He has remained approachable, has given advice, and then managed the patient when needed." – Referring Physician

"Dr. Wang is a truly masterful clinician and his contributions over the last several years have been nothing short of extraordinary." – Colleague

"Andy is a great collaborator...which...really sets him apart from other physicians, ensuring his patients a superior level of care." – Colleague



2012

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

AWARDS

for Graduate
 Medical Education

The Medical Center's top award—recognizing excellence in graduate medical education



Mark J. Mendelsohn, MD
 Associate Professor of Pediatrics

“Dr. Mendelsohn is my son’s pediatrician – Dr. Mendelsohn taught me how to be a pediatrician, so I can’t imagine anyone else taking care of my son.” – Resident

“As future pediatricians, we will never forget the cases we saw with Dr. Mendelsohn. He lets us take the lead and work our way to the diagnosis with careful, subtle guidance.” – Resident

“I found that Mark Mendelsohn’s [student and resident evaluation] scores were so far to the right of any of his peers that there had to be some error. There wasn’t. Mark’s written evaluations and the superlatives used to describe him clearly put him at the top level of medical educators I have ever encountered in my career.” – Colleague

“Mark is the pediatrician who recharged the passion in the worn out intern, the inspiration to always read more from the newly minted senior resident, and the ‘Jedi Master’ that every graduate resident aspired to emulate.” – Colleague

“In our chief resident office we posted a sign: ‘WWMD.’ In difficult situations, we always try to remind ourselves, ‘What would Mendelsohn do?’ [He would] take a step back and focus on providing the best patient care you can while optimizing the residents’ education. Dr. Mendelsohn never forgets that.” – Resident

“Several times throughout the week you will find him giving counsel to young physicians-in-training regarding their future career goals, family life, and highly sought out pediatric advice.” – Colleague



William A. Woods, MD
 Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine

“He spurs those around him, both residents and faculty, to step-up their quality of work and pushes faculty to teach in ways that fit with competency-based learning.” – Residents

“His knowledge of literature is extensive and inspiring, and he constantly challenges residents to expand their own working knowledge within the clinical and classroom settings.” – Resident

“He has refashioned our resident evaluation system in a substantive way. Rather than the traditional method of filling out retrospective evaluations of trainees at the end of a rotation or a couple of times per year, he has been guiding the faculty toward a culture of active coaching and mentoring...[making] the residents more comfortable with constructive feedback – both positive and negative – because they are much more accustomed to receiving it regularly.” – Colleague

“He is a constant teacher, inspiring residents to be life-long learners, expanding and improving the Emergency Medicine Residency curriculum, and encouraging other educators in the department to do the same.” – Resident

“The in-depth knowledge and experiences he shares regarding both the adult and pediatric populations provide an invaluable resource to residents and medical students.” – Resident

“He gives residents wide latitude to manage patients on their own, prompting [them] through his own questions to change their management when necessary. In even the most ordinary of patient encounters, he is able to find a teaching point.” – Resident



2012
 MEDICAL CENTER
 AWARDS

for Excellence in Research

Honors faculty who have demonstrated outstanding research at both the individual and team level



Christopher R. McCartney, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine

“Remarkably, Dr. McCartney obtained his R01 on his first attempt in an extremely difficult funding environment.” – Colleague

“I have had the opportunity to observe his excellent research presentations and his development into a respected faculty colleague and important contributor to our division, department, and the field of medicine and endocrinology.” – Colleague

“His studies are the first to carefully and systematically explore the link between weight, metabolism and reproductive hormones, notably androgens, in young girls with the potential risk for PCOS.” – Colleague

“Chris observed something novel that other investigators, including myself, had missed for years. ... This work completely transforms the future landscape for both clinical and basic reproductive research.” – Colleague

Vesna Jevtovic-Todorovic, MD, PhD
Professor of Anesthesiology

“Her research launched the important field of anesthesia-induced developmental neurotoxicity.” – Colleague

“Her ...landmark study...has led to the sobering acceptance that general anesthetics are perhaps not innocuous pharmacological agents with only desirable characteristics, but also are potentially detrimental to developing neurons. This launched a new scientific field that was no doubt spearheaded by her intriguing discovery.” – Colleague

“Her generous philanthropic activities have resulted in the establishment of the Vesna J. Todorovic Award that is designed to encourage and support research endeavors of our residents and fellows on an annual basis.” – Colleague

“Her...work has a high degree of scientific and clinical impact, and is extremely important from a public health perspective. This work has fundamentally changed how we think about the use of anesthetics in infants and children.” – Colleague



Team Science Awards



Daniel G. Gioeli, PhD
Associate Professor of Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology

Bryce M. Paschal, PhD
Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

Anindya Dutta, MBBS, PhD
Professor and Chair of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

Henry F. Frierson, Jr., MD
Professor of Pathology

David Wotton, PhD
Associate Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

Mark R. Conaway, PhD
Professor of Public Health Sciences

“What better example of interdisciplinary collaborative team science is there at UVa SOM? This team includes geneticists and molecular and cell biologists working in concert with a biostatistician and a pathologist on innovative animal models of human disease.” – Colleague

“By virtue of [their Program Project] award we can be assured that they have been judged by experts in the field to be one of the premier research teams in the country.” – Colleague

“This team brings together basic and clinical scientists with complementary expertise, a track record of collaboration, and a shared vision of defining mechanisms of prostate cancer progression. This P01 project will have a major impact on the prostate cancer field....” – Colleague



Craig L. Slingluff, Jr., MD, FACS
Professor of Surgery

Donald F. Hunt, PhD
Professor of Chemistry and Pathology

Victor H. Engelhard, PhD
Professor of Microbiology, Immunology, and Cancer Biology

“This is a real ‘Dream Team’ that should be an exemplar for future UVa research teams to emulate.” – Colleague

“Together, they have created a world-recognized center for utilizing the immune system to treat cancer, which in turn has served as the foundation for a Cancer Center Program that has consistently been among the most highly regarded elements of the University of Virginia’s Cancer Center Support Grant from NCI.” – Colleague

“This is a group that you at UVa should be extremely proud to have fostered. It is one that many institutional leaders can only wish to have developed at their universities.” – Colleague

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