Chad Weaver Receives Darnell Medical Student Geriatrics Achievement Award

Chad H. Weaver, MD, a recent IU School of Medicine graduate, has received the Dr. Jeffrey C. Darnell Medical Student Geriatrics Achievement Award for 2009. The award recognizes a medical student for outstanding service and leadership in the care of older adults and was created in 2006 to honor the founding father of geriatrics at IU, Dr. Darnell, for his dedication and 31 years of service to his patients and to IU Geriatrics.

Dr. Weaver worked on multiple research projects from 2007 to 2009 with mentors in geriatrics and dermatology including Drs. Jeffrey Travers, Stephen Wolverton, Margaret Gaffney and Douglas K. Miller. His projects involved a literature review of geriatric dermatology, a study of access to care for the elderly in dermatology, and a comparison of prices in topical medications over time.

In addition, Dr. Weaver assisted multiple elderly and homebound individuals with transportation to physician appointments, matched patients with social organizations to improve their well-being and aided multiple nursing homes in communication with Spanish-speaking patients.

Dr. Weaver received an engraved crystal keepsake, and his name will join other honored recipients listed on a Darnell Award perpetual plaque located in the Medical Science Building.

Following the completion of a residency in dermatology at the Mayo Clinic-Rochester, Dr. Weaver will develop a one-year fellowship to pursue his interest in geriatric dermatology through the Mayo Clinic.

The presentation was made on June 5 and coincided with the IU Department of Medicine Grand Rounds lecture, "Innovative Models of Providing and Coordinating Care for Older Australians," by Steven Counsell, MD, director of IU Geriatrics.

Center for Aging Research Website Moves to medicine.iupui.edu/IUCAR/

Renovate, refurbish, repair, refit — together they describe a major overhaul of the IU Center for Aging Research website.

IU-CAR Program Manager for Communications Nancy Buchanan, MA, updated the content and added new information to highlight the Center’s research activities and investigators. Department of Medicine Manager of Systems Development Donald Smith, Christopher Kellams and department programmers moved the center’s site into the IU School of Medicine visual fold.

Web pages describing the Center’s research innovations, investigators’ extramural research, and the Indianapolis Interventions and Practice Research Infrastructure Program are among the features Ms. Buchanan added to the new site.

Visitors will find old favorites such as a list of the center’s publications, a description of pilot projects funded by the IU-Roybal Center, and an archive of IU Geriatrics e-news issues.

A new section that’s in the works will describe the Center’s leadership and professional development program. Updated content will be added to the Geroinformatics Program pages.

Visit the IU-CAR site, bookmark the URL and return to see what’s new. We welcome your comments and suggestions via email.
Presentations and Professional Activities

Steve Counsell, MD was invited to Washington, DC on March 13, 2009, to participate in a health policy workgroup on “Building Consumer and Physician Consensus Around Physician Payment Reform” co-sponsored by the Institute of Medicine, American Board of Internal Medicine, and AARP. Dr. Counsell provided insights about physician payment for care coordination and geriatric assessment that were gleaned from his studies in Australia as a Packer Policy Fellow.

Malaz Boustani, MD, MPH, was a featured panelist at the 8th Annual Indiana Cultural Competency Conference for Behavioral Healthcare in Indianapolis on May 28, 2009. Consistent with the conference theme of Embracing Cultural Competency: Best Practices, Dr. Boustani described Wishard’s Healthy Aging Brain Center, its collaborative care model, and the steps used to translate research discovery into real world health care delivery. The Center’s model promotes partnering with the community to improve the recognition and treatment of dementia in older adults.

The conference was sponsored by the Indiana Minority Health Coalition, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration and the Indiana State Department of Health.

Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, was senior author on an oral abstract presented at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine held in May in Miami Beach, Florida. First author and 2008-2009 Geriatrics Fellow Mohamed Homsi, MD, presented “Implementation of geriatrics consultants’ recommendations about patients hospitalized on a general medicine service.” Local co-authors were Stephanie Munger, MPH, Bridget Fultz, MA, Chris Callahan, MD, and Ella Bowman, MD, PhD.

Michael Weiner, MD, MPH, was a co-author on a poster, “Physical function and the concomitant use of anticholinergic antihistamines and cholinesterase inhibitors among Medicaid recipients with dementia,” presented at the 14th Annual International Meeting of the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research held in May 2009 in Orlando, Florida. The meeting attracted over 2,000 attendees and featured a record number of over 1,400 presentations.

Alexia M. Torke, MD, MS, presented a poster, “Hospice and palliative care services for patients with dementia: a national survey,” at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine held in May in Miami Beach, Florida. The senior author was Greg Sachs, MD, with local co-authors Laura Holtz, BS, Siu Hui, PhD, and Pete Castelluccio, MS.

Dr. Torke served on the medical humanities and ethics workshop review and abstract review committees for the annual meeting. She also chaired a breakfast meeting of the Ethics and Humanities Interest Group.

Steve Counsell, MD as first author presented an oral abstract entitled, “Cost Analysis of the Geriatric Resources for Assessment and Care of Elders (GRACE) Model of Primary Care”, on May 15 in the Health Policy Abstract Session at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Society of General Internal Medicine held in Miami Beach, Florida. Local co-authors were Chris Callahan, MD, Wanzhu Tu, PhD, Tim Stump, MS, and Greg Arling, PhD.

Tamilyn Bakas, DNS, RN, made an oral presentation of “Does Stroke Caregiver Psychosocial Distress Vary Across Cultures?” at the 2009 American Stroke Association International Stroke Conference held in San Diego, California in February. She also presented an oral “Stroke Advocacy Update” at the Nursing and Rehabilitation Professions Roundtable held at the Stroke Conference.

Tamilyn Bakas, DNS, RN and Linda Williams, MD were co-authors of “Relationship of Threat Appraisal to Post-stroke Depressive Symptoms,” an oral presentation made at the 2009 American Stroke Association International Stroke Conference in San Diego in February.

IU Geriatrics Conferences Summer Schedule

WHAT: Systematic Evidence Reviews of an Aging Research Topic presented by Residents
WHEN: Wednesdays, July 22 and August 19, 7:30 - 8:30 am
WHERE: Wishard T2008A/B
Publications

Congratulations to Robin Beck, MD, on her first publication as the lead author. Dr. Beck is medical director of Senior Care at Wishard and its House Calls for Seniors program. In this photo, she joins the publication’s senior author, Chris Callahan, MD, as they plan the next House Calls manuscript.


