Second Annual Poster Day Spotlights Class of 2020’s Research and Collaboration Skills

“The quality of the work and professionalism displayed during the delivery was truly exceptional,” is how Michael J. Trepal, DPM (’81), FACFAS, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean, summed up the 20 posters presented in the Class of 2020 Research Poster Day on May 28.

Poster Day at NYCPM was initially launched by a suggestion from a CPME reviewer, and Dr. Trepal asked Eileen Chusid, PhD, Dean and Associate Professor of Pre-Clinical Sciences and Director of Research to make it happen. She and Dr. Trepal agreed to model the College’s Poster Day after that in medical schools, and Dr. Trepal suggested D. Scot Malay, DPM, MSCE, FACFAS, Director of Podiatric Research at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center in Philadelphia, editor of the Journal of Foot & Ankle Surgery to be the keynote speaker. The first Poster Day was 2018.

Poster research, preparation and presentation is now an annual part of second-years’ studies; it is included in the Research Methodology course. The posters reflect students’ third-year studies, which are clinical. The goals of the projects are to expose students to clinical podiatric research and to encourage them to continue pursuing research after they graduate.

Dr. Chusid is Chair of the Research Poster Steering Committee, which also included Kenneth H. Astrin, PhD, Robert Eckles, DPM, Alain Silverio, EdM, and Maeve Corcoran, BSc (hons) MSc MChSI, from the National University of Ireland, Dublin.

The 2020 posters formed an impressive ring around the Bruce Frankel Conference Center for Poster Day’s kick-off display. Presentations by each research group in a lecture hall followed, made to faculty, students and Dr. Malay, who was again the day’s guest speaker and judge. His lecture emphasized complete literature searches including international publications, and the importance of knowing statistics. He urged several groups to continue their projects with an eye to writing a manuscript for publication.

Afterward, Dr. Malay listened intently to each presentation, commented succinctly on each one, and selected the four winners*. Dr. Astrin noted that Dr. Malay had had a tough time selecting the winners due to the high quality of the posters, and congratulated all of the participants.

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*The winners were:

First Place: Poster #2: “Indicative Risk Factors of Ankle Equinus in Diabetics,” Emily Lewson, Ronald Lowe, Frederick Kaestel, Elizabeth Franger, mentor: Samuel Adegboyega, DPM (not pictured).

Second Place: Poster #17: “Effect of pH on Rate of Chronic Wound Healing: A Single Center Non-Randomized Prospective Study,” Mentor: Ronald Soave, DPM, Karla De La Mata, Arthur Tarricone, Joseph S. Coppola, Samantha Landau (not pictured)
Third Place: Poster #20: “Prevalence of Pediatric Foot and Ankle Deformities presenting to Specialty Foot Clinics,” Kevin Buczkowski, Hayley Goodall, Milad Adloo, mentor: Russell Volpe, DPM.

Fourth Place: Poster #5: “The Validity of the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT) in Predicting Academic Performance in Podiatric Medical School,” Ereny Mousa, mentor: Marie-Christine Bergeron, DPM, Emma Otieno, Amir Baharloo, Zab’di Sanchez Prada and Thanh Thao T Nguyen (not pictured) and mentor: Fortunato Battaglia, MD, PhD (not pictured)