

Fellows Honored at Recent NACGF Conference

Four receive Distinguished Achievement Awards

A total of 30 fellows attended the North American Conference of Gastroenterology Fellows held April 30 through May 3 at the Hyatt Grand Cypress in Orlando, Florida. At the three-day conference, participants presented their research, networked with other fellows from across the U.S. and Canada, and participated in a variety of lectures from a distinguished faculty of gastroenterologists. Led by Program Chair, Sunanda V. Kane, MD, MSPH, FACP, along with co-chairs David A. Johnson, MD, FACP, and Philip O. Katz, MD, FACP, the fellows also received coaching on presentation skills.

In late 2008, all gastroenterology fellows in the U.S. and Canada were invited to submit up to three abstracts for NACGF, and well over 100 abstracts were submitted for this year's program. Fellows whose abstracts were selected for oral presentation were invited to attend NACGF and had their travel expenses covered by the ACG.

Four fellows were also recognized with Distinguished Achievement Awards, which include a \$1,000 travel award to attend ACG 2009 in San Diego, California on October 23-28. The winners were: Elie Aoun, MD, of University of Pittsburgh Medical Center ("The Diagnostic Accuracy of

Fellows honored at NACGF — Elie Aoun, University of Pittsburgh • Gil Ascunce, University of Miami • Natalie Bachir, UT Southwestern • Chad Best, University of Minnesota • Nayantara Coelho-Prabhu, Mayo Clinic Rochester • Jason Dranove, Indiana University • Xinqing Fan, University of Texas Medical Branch • Paul Feuerstadt, Montefiore Medical Center • Donald Garrow, Medical University of South Carolina • Kanwar Gill, Mayo Clinic Jacksonville • Katarina Greer, Case Medical Center • John Kim, University of Southern California • Somashekar Krishna, University of Arkansas • Tercio Lopes, University of Alabama at Birmingham • Fouad Moawad, Walter Reed Army Medical Center • Maria Moschandrew, Mayo Clinic Rochester • Sanjay Murthy, University of Toronto • Hashim Nemat, Columbia University • Vishal Patel, University of Western Ontario • Jason Roberts, Medical University of South Carolina • Niloy Samadder, University of Michigan • Narendra Siddaiah, University of Mississippi • Jessica Trevino, University of Alabama Birmingham • Prateek Wali, Thomas Jefferson University • Sachin Wani, Kansas University • Julie Yang, University of Miami • Roy Yen, University of Colorado • Andrew Yen, University of California Irvine • Stacey Zavala, Albert Einstein Medical Center • Timothy Zisman, University of Chicago

Interleukins 6 and 8 in Predicting Severe Acute Pancreatitis: A Meta-Analysis"); Katarina Greer, MD, of Case Medical Center ("Insulin Like Growth Factor Signaling Pathway in Barrett's Esophagus"); Fouad Moawad, MD, of Walter Reed Army Medical Center ("The Correlation Between Eosinophilic Esophagitis and Aeroallergens") and Sanjay Murthy, MD, from University of Toronto ("The Impact

of Cirrhosis or Prior Liver Transplant on Obstetrical Outcomes: A National Study").

ACG is proud to offer this exceptional learning opportunity for fellows. The program, in its 18th year, is sponsored by the ACG, endorsed by the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology, and has been supported from its inception by an educational grant from Procter & Gamble. [ACIG](#)

WGO

continued from page 6

hosting a TTT program in the United States and held an outstanding program in South Florida in September of 2008. It was after acting as a host society that ACG gained a true appreciation for this one-of-a-kind international training program.

The impact these programs have on clinical gastroenterology across the globe is deeply appreciated by the ACG. As a result, ACG wanted to explore ways to support future TTTs. Therefore, during the term of the agreement, ACG will provide annual financial support for the Train the Trainers programs as well as support of ACG faculty and attendees. ACG will be recognized as a

main co-sponsor of TTT with the WGO and will be recognized at each event as well as in promotional activities.

International training centers

Through this collaboration agreement, ACG and the WGO have also pledged to explore opportunities to work together in support of the WGO's initiative to develop and support Training Centers around the world. Among the possible areas for collaboration are sponsoring trainee scholarships to support travel to the centers; support educational programs at the centers; provide faculty and teaching materials to the centers; and assist with networking opportunities amongst the existing centers.

The ACG and WGO very much look forward to this new phase in their longstanding partnership and expect that the benefits of working together on issues critical to the future advancement of clinical gastroenterology and improving patient outcomes will flow across the United States and the entire world. The ACG recognizes the important contribution of Dr. Eamonn Quigley to the cultivation of this opportunity to partner with WGO. As current President of the College, and in light of his role in WGO, Dr. Quigley is well-positioned to see the tremendous potential for successful collaboration from the perspective of both organizations—and to represent their mutual interests. [ACIG](#)