



PASSOR Legacy Award and Lectureship

Established in 2008 to preserve the legacy and namesake of the *Physiatric Association of Spine, Sports, and Occupational Rehabilitation (PASSOR)*, this award is meant to recognize an individual in mid-career who has advanced musculoskeletal physiatry through clinical care, education, service or scholarship (research).



Sheila A. Dugan
MD, FAAPMR

Sheila A. Dugan, MD, FAAPMR is a professor in the Departments of Preventive Medicine and Neurosurgery and chief of the division of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PM&R) at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago. Dr. Dugan is chair of the Rush Women's Leadership Council, member of the Rush Diversity Leadership Council and ADA Task Force, medical director for Rush PM&R, and co-director of the Rush Program for Abdominal and Pelvic Health.

Dr. Dugan is a co-investigator on the SWAN study, the ALIVE! project and WISHFIT study. She served as the Career Development and Training Core Director for the Rush Center for Urban Health Equity. Her research interests include health disparities, the benefits of physical activity in girls/women, pain, function, pelvic pain, and trauma. She has published numerous book chapters and articles, and lectures locally and nationally.

Dr. Dugan has been an active member of AAPM&R. She served on the Board of the Women's Health Foundation and on the Americans with Disability Fund of the Foundation for PM&R. Past positions include president of the Physiatric Association of Spine, Sports and Occupational Rehabilitation (PASSOR), formerly the musculoskeletal section of AAPM&R, and board member of the American College of Sports Medicine.

She received her medical degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago, with an internship at the University of Chicago in Internal Medicine and residency at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago in PM&R (now known as the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab). Prior to coming to Rush, she was a faculty member at the Harvard Medical School and worked for Partners Healthcare.

Thank You for Nominating

Thank you to all members who participated in this year's awards nominations. 2020 Nominations are now open, visit www.phyzforum.aapmr.org for details.

Nominate Yourself or Your Peers for an AAPM&R Award

Each year, AAPM&R takes time to honor pioneering physiatrists, clinicians, researchers, and public servants who have made significant contributions to both the specialty and to people with disabilities. These awards are presented during the AAPM&R Annual Assembly.

2020 nominations are now open. Visit the Volunteer Center on physforum.aapmr.org to nominate yourself or one of your peers for an AAPM&R award. There are several categories to choose from, with each recognizing excellence and the distinguished service of physiatrists who have made significant contributions to the specialty and to people with disabilities.

2020 award recipients will be honored at the Annual Assembly in San Diego on Saturday, November 14, 2020.



OCTOBER 2019 AAPM&R AWARDS SPECIAL ISSUE

AWARD WINNERS

RECOGNITION.

AAPM&R has an awards program to recognize members who deserve the applause of their peers. Each year, Academy members are encouraged to submit award nominations to recognize lifetime achievement, distinguished membership, and public service, as well as pioneering physiatrists, clinicians, and researchers who have made significant contributions to both the specialty and to people with disabilities. Please join AAPM&R and its Awards Committee in congratulating this year's award recipients, who will be honored at the AAPM&R 2019 Annual Assembly.

2019 AAPM&R Awards Committee



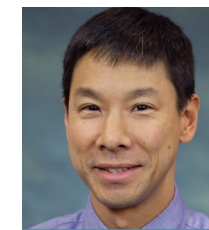
Stuart Weinstein
MD, FAAPMR; Chair



Kathleen R. Bell
MD, FAAPMR



Christina Y. Lee
MD, FAAPMR



Thomas K. Watanabe
MD, FAAPMR

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Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation



Frank H. Krusen, MD, Lifetime Achievement Award

The Academy's highest honor is the Frank H. Krusen, MD, Lifetime Achievement Award. It was established in 1972 in honor of Frank H. Krusen, MD, a founding father and the fourth president of the Academy who was a leader in the development of the specialty of PM&R. Recipients of the Frank H. Krusen Award are selected for their outstanding and unique contributions to the specialty of PM&R in the areas of patient care, research, education, literary contributions, community service, and involvement in Academy activities.



Alberto Esquenazi
MD, FAAPMR

Alberto Esquenazi, MD, FAAPMR, serves as the John Otto Haas chair of the department of physical medicine and rehabilitation at MossRehab and Albert Einstein, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and is the chief medical officer of MossRehab. Dr. Esquenazi is professor of PM&R at Temple University School of Medicine and professor of Rehabilitation Medicine at Jefferson University School of Medicine as well as associate professor of Biomedical Engineering at Drexel University.

An AAPM&R member for 35 years, Dr. Esquenazi is an AAPM&R past president (2012-2013); a member of the Board of Governors for 6 years, with 9 Academy committee appointments, and currently serves as chair of the Academy's International PMR/PRM Task Force.

Dr. Esquenazi is a member of several national and international professional, educational, and research societies, including the National Advisory Board on Medical Rehabilitation Research of the National Institute of Child and Human Development of the National Institutes of Health; the Veterans Administration Advisory Committee on Prosthetics and Special Disabilities Program; the American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association; and the American Orthotics and Prosthetics Association.

His research funded through federal government grants and industry support focuses on gait analysis, limb prosthetics, spasticity management, and orthotics and technology in rehabilitation. He contributed to the development of ReWalk™, the first exoskeleton device to gain FDA approval for restoring independent ambulation in persons with spinal cord injuries in 2012. Dr. Esquenazi has published more than 85 scientific papers, 20 review articles, authored more than 55 book chapters, and has been recognized on the Top Doctor list in Philadelphia for 20 consecutive years as well as America's Top Doctor for 17 years.

He received his medical degree from the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, completed his residency in PM&R at the Temple/MossRehab training program, and a fellowship in gait analysis and prosthetic research at MossRehab in Philadelphia.



Distinguished Member Award

The Distinguished Member Award was established in 1994 to honor AAPM&R members who have provided invaluable service to the specialty of PM&R, primarily through participation in PM&R-related organizations other than the Academy.



Sara J. Cuccurullo
MD, FAAPMR

Sara J. Cuccurullo, MD, FAAPMR, is vice president and medical director of the JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute, professor and chair of Rutgers-Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) School and Hackensack Meridian (HM) School of Medicine at Seton Hall University. She is residency program director and oversees the fellowship for Brain Injury Medicine and Pain Medicine, and also serves as the clinical and academic lead for the Rehabilitation Care Transformation Service through the Hackensack Meridian Health Network.

An AAPM&R member for 30 years, Dr. Cuccurullo is active on the national level, serving as past president of the Residency and Fellowship Program Director's Council, vice president of the Chair Council, board member of the Association of Academic Physiatrists, and co-chair of the Women in Academic Physiatry Task Force. She is also a member of the Tri-Organizational GME Core Knowledge Steering Committee, representing AAPM&R, AAP and ABPMR, with the goal of understanding how physiatrists are currently practicing and are likely to practice in the future, to help identify the core knowledge and training requirements for GME within PM&R.

Dr. Cuccurullo is the editor-in-chief of *Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Board Review* textbook (All royalties are donated to the JFK Johnson Resident Education Fund). She has authored more than 35 book chapters and has authored/co-authored more than 20 peer-reviewed articles and 75 abstracts regarding resident education and competencies, stroke recovery research, and clinical consult-related issues.

Her research focuses on stroke recovery. She is a co-principal investigator in the Stroke Recovery-Stroke HEART Trials, to provide a comprehensive modified cardiac rehabilitation program for stroke patients.

Dr. Cuccurullo received her medical degree from SUNY Health Science Center at Brooklyn, and completed an internal medicine internship at Staten Island Hospital as well as a PM&R residency at JFK Johnson Rehabilitation Institute, where she served as chief resident.



Distinguished Public Service Award

This award was established to honor individuals who, in the course of public service activities, have significantly contributed to the growth and development of services that directly impact the specialty of PM&R.



Priya Chandan
MD, MPH

Priya Chandan, MD, MPH, is an assistant professor at the University of Louisville's Division of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation as well as an associate appointment in the Department of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences, School of Public Health and Information Sciences.

Dr. Chandan is committed to inclusive health—the intentional inclusion of all people, including people with intellectual disabilities (ID), in mainstream health services, training programs, research, funding streams, policies, and laws. She utilizes a systems-based perspective, leading projects at multiple levels of influence in order to effect change. She led AAPM&R's Inclusive Health Innovation grant from the Special Olympics, which involved policy, education, and advocacy activities, including the creation of an AAPM&R Intellectual Disability Member Community.

Dr. Chandan is also the principal investigator of the National Curriculum Initiative in Developmental Medicine, which provides funding to medical schools to implement curriculum changes regarding the care of patients with ID across the lifespan. She is a global clinical advisor for MedFest, the Special Olympics Healthy Athletes discipline that provides free pre-participation sports physical exams to athletes with ID, and has engaged residents and faculty in MedFest efforts in Virginia, North Carolina, and Kentucky.



Lisa A. Merritt
MD, FAAPMR

Howard graduate **Lisa Merritt, MD, FAAPMR**, completed her physiatry residency at Baylor College of Medicine, during which she co-authored a paper and book chapter on the Neurological Manifestations of AIDS, and delivered the first resident lecture at the AAPM&R Annual Assembly on neurological manifestations of AIDS, while co-founding AAPM&R's Resident Physician Council (now known as the Physiatrist-In-Training Board or PHiT) and African American special interest group (now African American Physiatrist Member Community).

The former special consultant to the California Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, the California State Compensation Fund Special Catastrophic Care unit, and the California Office of Minority Health statewide taskforce, Dr. Merritt has been a clinical instructor at Baylor, an adjunct assistant professor at UC Davis, Morehouse, and New College. Through her not-for-profit Multicultural Health Institute, Dr. Merritt has mentored and nurtured innumerable students, residents, and early-career clinicians through the health care continuum.

An early member of AAPM&R speaker's bureau and advocacy efforts, Dr. Merritt has served on numerous special interest groups, councils, several state societies, and lectured nationally and internationally on catastrophic care coordination, TBI, musculoskeletal and neurological disorders, multicultural health, and health equity issues.



Distinguished Clinician Awards

The Distinguished Clinician Award is presented by the Academy to honor individual physiatrists who have achieved distinction on the basis of their scholarly level of teaching and their outstanding performance in physiatric patient care activities. Recipients of this award have contributed significantly to the advancement of the specialty through participation in Academy activities.



Mark A. Harrast
MD, FAAPMR

Mark A. Harrast, MD, FAAPMR, is a clinical professor of Rehabilitation Medicine, Orthopaedics, and Sports Medicine at the University of Washington. He is the inaugural and current medical director of UW's Sports Medicine Center at Husky Stadium, an innovative multispecialty Sports Medicine Clinic and Sports Performance Center, honored by *Northwest Runner* magazine as the Northwest's top sports medicine clinic for runners.

He is the founder and program director of the Sports Medicine Fellowship at the University of Washington, which has graduated 13 fellows to date. He has also been honored with the Outstanding Teaching Award by the residents of UW. He has co-edited the text, *Sports Medicine: Study Guide and Review for Boards*; and is currently editing a new textbook on the *Clinical Care of the Runner*, to be published in 2019. Since 2007, he's served as medical director of the Seattle Marathon and has worked as a physician at numerous endurance events across the country. His primary clinical interests are the care of endurance athletes, bone stress injuries in runners, and athlete safety and medical care in mass participation endurance events.

Dr. Harrast is recognized for more than a decade of Academy volunteerism on multiple committees, starting as a resident on the Resident Physician Council (now known as the Physiatrist-In-Training Board or PHiT), and more recently as a multi-year past chair of the Annual Assembly's Program Planning Committee.

He graduated with honors from the University of Chicago and obtained his medical degree from Northwestern University. He was elected chief resident at the University of Washington and was honored with the Outstanding Resident Award at graduation. He completed his fellowship at the University of Michigan before returning to a faculty position in Seattle.



Ai Mukai
MD, FAAPMR

Ai Mukai, MD, FAAPMR, has been in private practice in a large multidisciplinary Orthopedic group in Austin, Texas, since 2009. She received her medical degree from Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, and finished her Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation residency at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (now known as the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab). She then completed her pain fellowship at the UCLA-West Los Angeles Veterans Administration program; joining the Texas Orthopedics Sports and Rehabilitation Associates after her training.

Dr. Mukai has been actively involved with AAPM&R for more than 15 years since she was a fourth-year medical student. She has held several Academy positions including president of the Resident Physician Council (now known as the Physiatrist-In-Training Board or PHiT), Membership Committee chair, Board of Governors member for 5 years as well as co-editor of *The Physiatrist* member newsletter. She has been a volunteer faculty member (affiliate faculty of neurology) at the UT-Dell medical school PM&R residency program since its inception.

She is interested in virtual community building within PM&R and has co-moderated various online forums including studentdoctor.net and a Facebook group for female physicians.



David W. Pruitt
MD, FAAPMR

David W. Pruitt, MD, FAAPMR, is the medical director of the Inpatient Pediatric Rehabilitation Unit; fellowship director of Pediatrics Rehabilitation Medicine; and associate professor of Clinical Pediatrics and Clinical Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

In his roles as medical director and faculty, Dr. Pruitt supports Cincinnati Children's ongoing accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF), leading 3-year recertification efforts on 5 occasions, most recently achieving specialty program certification in Pediatric Brain Injury, Pediatric Cancer Rehabilitation, and Pediatric Interdisciplinary Inpatient Pain programs.

Dr. Pruitt's outpatient pediatric rehabilitation expertise is in the area of pediatric cancer rehabilitation, evaluating the rehabilitation needs of patients in a neuro-oncology clinic, as part of a multidisciplinary collaboration since 2005. Over the years, he's provided rehabilitation expertise and input to cancer diagnosis in the pediatric population.

His area of interest in research and scholarly activities is focused on functional outcomes of children following rehabilitation interventions and education/training in the field of pediatric rehabilitation medicine. A large amount of his work addresses the rehabilitation needs of pediatric cancer patients, an area in which there is very limited expertise and literature to support rehabilitation interventions.

An AAPM&R member since 1999, he is a member of several clinically-focused Member Communities, and has presented at the 2016 Annual Assembly.

He received his bachelor's degree in biology (cum laude) from the University of Notre Dame, a medical degree from Loyola University of Chicago Stritch School of Medicine, and residency training in pediatrics and PM&R at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.