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.

Stanley A. Herring, MD, FAAPMR is a board-certified physiatrist who has been in practice for more than 38 years. He is a Clinical Professor in the Departments of Rehabilitation Medicine, Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine, and Neurological Surgery at the University of Washington in Seattle. Dr. Herring holds the Zackery Lystedt Sports Concussion Endowed Chair. Dr. Herring is a co-founder of the Sports Institute at UW Medicine where he serves as Senior Medical Advisor, and he also serves as Co-medical Director of the UW Medical Sports Concussion Program. He is also Co-medical Director of UW Medicine Orthopedic Health and Sports Medicine, and he is one of the team physicians for the Seattle Seahawks and Seattle Mariners. Dr. Herring’s practice focuses on the diagnosis and management of neurological and musculoskeletal injuries, particularly spinal disorder in active people and athletes as well as sports-related concussions.

Dr. Herring has held many national leadership positions, including President of the North American Spine Society, member of the Board of Trustees of the American College of Sports Medicine, and Board Member of the Foundation for Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. He is also a founding member of the American Medical Society for Sports Medicine and the Physiatric Association of Sports, Spine and Occupational Rehabilitation. Dr. Herring is on the editorial board of professional journals and has been an editor of nine textbooks as well as an author of 97 peer-reviewed journal articles and 55 textbook chapters. He was a major contributor to the successful passage of the Zackery Lystedt Law in Washington State, a law that has led to similar laws in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. In addition, Dr. Herring is a frequent national and international speaker on a variety of physiatric and sports medicine topics.

Monica Verduzco-Gutierrez, MD, FAAPMR is an accomplished academic Physiatrist, and Professor and Chair of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at the University of Houston College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. She is a thought leader in the field of interdisciplinary care, optimize function, and improve quality of life for survivors with Long COVID.

Dr. Verduzco-Gutierrez is a passionate advocate for physiatry and for underrepresented groups in medicine via social media channels. She is the Social Media Editor of the American Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation. She is a current member of the AAPM&R’s Inclusion and Engagement Committee. Inspired by the uprising in the Rio Grande Valley, she is a clinician and student, trainsee and young faculty and providing top-level clinical care for the underserved. In 2019, she received the Top 25 Women in Healthcare Award, from the National Diversity Council and Healthcare Diversity Council, which recognizes the top women leaders in the city of Houston. She is a member of the American Medical Women’s Association, and an active participant in the American Medical Women’s Association’s Midcareer and Leadership Development Program. Dr. Verduzco-Gutierrez has received numerous national and local awards, honors and recognition for her work as a clinician, educator and researcher, with pioneering research and clinical work on the prevention of falls and rehabilitation of balance disorders in elderly persons.
Maurice G. Sholas, MD, PhD, FAAPMR is the Founder and Principal for Sholas Medical Consulting, LLC in New Orleans, LA, where he solves operational challenges for individual practitioners, hospitals and healthcare agencies. In addition, he is a subject matter expert on children with special healthcare needs. Dr. Sholas previously served as a Senior Medical Director for multiple children's hospitals and has founded multiple programs in Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine. His work, whether clinical or administrative, is focused on optimizing function and advocating for the marginalized.

Dr. Sholas was born in Baton Rouge, LA, and has traveled the country gathering the educational tools needed for a career that serves children with congenital and acquired physical disabilities as a specialist in Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine. He attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, majoring in Biology with an emphasis in Spanish. The skill set acquired through school and research activities allowed a smooth transition to the MD-PhD Program at Harvard Medical School. In addition to Medical Education, this program allowed Dr. Sholas to receive a terminal degree in the study of Neuroscience. He completed his graduate medical education in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and received subspecialty training at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (Shirley Ryan AbilityLab) in Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine. He is a prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholar.

Kate Sully, MD, FAAPMR will serve as the Director of Pain Medicine at Veteran's Administration Texas Valley Coastal Bend Healthcare System in Harlingen, TX. Prior to her current position, she was a Medical Consultant for the Florida Department of Health in Pensacola, FL and Interventional Physiatrist at the Battle Creek Veteran's Affairs Medical Center in Battle Creek, MI. She completed her medical training at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and is an MBA candidate in Healthcare Administration at John Hopkins University's Carey School of Business.

Dr. Sully addresses musculoskeletal pain across multiple platforms, teaching MSK ultrasound on both local and national levels, and has elevated the field of PFM&R as the recipient of the International Young Investigator’s Award in 2017 for her research in the area. She has amplified health education across multiple media platforms, including digital, radio and television. Dr. Sully continues to contribute to patient care and health advocacy through her work with the American Medical Association, the Food and Drug Administration, the Florida Department of Health and multiple academic specialty committees. She has been an AAPM&R fellow member since 2012, and actively participates in Academy activities.

In an endeavor to assist during the COVID-19 pandemic, she rounds on inpatients, providing a much-needed care and health advocacy through her work with the American Medical Association, the Food and Drug Administration, the Florida Department of Health and multiple academic specialty committees. She has been an AAPM&R fellow member since 2012, and actively participates in Academy activities. In an endeavor to assist during the COVID-19 pandemic, she rounds on inpatients, providing a much-needed care and health advocacy through her work with the American Medical Association, the Food and Drug Administration, the Florida Department of Health and multiple academic specialty committees. She has been an AAPM&R fellow member since 2012, and actively participates in Academy activities.

Thank you to all members who participated in this year's awards nominations. 2022 Nominations will open in November; watch PhyzForum.org for details.