On May 20, 2015, members of the Class of 2015 participated in the 69th annual Senior Scientific Session. The event was founded in 1946 by Dr. Leon Jacobson to provide senior medical students with a forum to present their research. The event was chaired by Dr. Jessica Kandel, Mary Campau Ryerson Professor of Surgery; Chief, Section of Pediatric Surgery; Surgeon-in-Chief, Comer Children’s Hospital.

The following students were honored for their exceptional scholarly work.

The Franklin McLean Medical Student Research Award, granted to the non-PhD student who has performed the most meritorious research in the medical field

Kevin Stephens, Jr.
Population Segmentation and Risk Prediction of MA and MMAI Patients
Faculty Mentor: Lisa Vinci, MD, MS

The Medical & Biological Science Alumni Association Prize, for the best presentation made by a student in the area of Applied Scholarship

Cassandra Fritz
Knowledge of Polyp History and Recommended Follow-Up Among African Americans and the Impact of Patient Navigation
Faculty Mentor: Karen Kim, MD

The Catherine Dobson Prize, for the best oral presentation given by a student in the area of Scientific Investigation in Clinical Research or Social Sciences

Camil Correia
Multisensory Impairment Is Prevalent and Correlates with Physical Performance and Function in Older Adults in the United States
Faculty Mentor: Jayant Pinto, MD

The Leon O. Jacobson Basic Science Prize, granted to the MD/PhD student whose Basic Science research is judged to be the most meritorious from among session participants

David Binder, PhD
Antigen-Specific Bacterial Vaccine Combined with Anti-PD-L1 Rescues Dysfunctional Endogenous T Cells to Reject Long Established Cancer
Faculty Mentor: Hans Schreiber, MD, PhD

The Leon O. Jacobson Prize, for the best oral presentation given by a non-PhD student in the area of the Basic Biological Sciences

John Lim
Elevated Serum Vitamin D Levels Are Associated with Improved Epithelial Barrier Function and Decreased Mucosal Inflammation in Patients with Ulcerative Colitis
Faculty Mentor: Joel Pekow, MD
The Award for Best Poster Describing Applied Scholarship

Claire Naus

Screening to be “Double Sure”: Breast Cancer Risk Perceptions and Illness Etiologies Among Nigerian Women

Faculty Mentor: Funmi Olopade, MD

The Award for Best Poster Describing Scientific Investigation in Basic Sciences

Vaibhav Upadhyay, PhD

Diet Drives Changes in Commensal Bacteria Regulated by Lymphotoxin to Enable Obesity

Faculty Mentor: Yang-Xin Fu, MD, PhD

The Award for the Best Poster Describing Scientific Investigation in Clinical Research or Social Sciences

Patricia Osmolak

The Incidence of Perioperative Deep Venous Thromboses of the Lower Extremities

Faculty Mentor: David Glick, MD, MBA