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Prateek Sharma, MD
University of Kansas
School of Medicine
Chairman of the REGAL
Awards Steering
Committee



The 2005 REGAL Awards Symposium

The 2005 REGAL Awards program was sponsored by the University of Kansas Medical Center Continuing Education through a grant from PriCara, Unit of Ortho-McNeil, Inc; Centocor, Inc; and InScope, a division of Ethicon Endo Surgery, Inc; and is run by the 8-member REGAL steering committee. "We are pleased to welcome Therakos, Inc, which is developing therapies for patients with immune-mediated disease, as a sponsor of the 2006 REGAL Awards," remarked Prateek Sharma, MD, chairman of the REGAL Awards steering committee. The most recent REGAL Awards attracted a record number of applicants compared to previous years. Since the inception of the REGAL Awards, the distribution of applicants and winners includes 35 of the 37 states that have GI programs.

In 2005, the program was held in San Francisco, October 7-9, at the Park Hyatt Hotel. Over the 4 years of the program, nearly 300 applications have been received from across the country. "This year's applicants were of exceptionally high caliber," observed Scott Plevy, MD, "and we are getting some very sophisticated research in molecular biology. We could have easily

increased the number of winners without sacrificing quality."

The REGAL Awards symposium combines formal scientific presentations, including a significant amount of interactive discussion, with opportunities to discuss details of research, career paths, as well as strategies for grant applications. "I think one of the favorite parts of the weekend is the time devoted to informal group exchanges," said Loren Laine, MD. Peter Kahrilas, MD, commented that there was a broad mix of topics in each area: "The spectrum of research topics includes everything from epidemiology to endoscopy."

"The REGAL Awards symposium is just the beginning—the steering committee views the Awards as the first step towards the formation of collaborative ties among recipients, as well as between faculty and recipients. This is a great opportunity to meet the future academic leaders in gastroenterology and hepatology," noted John Inadomi, MD. "This has been a very informative program for me," remarked Luis Balart, MD, "and I am quite impressed by the interplay of ideas in hepatobiliary and GI research that this symposium provides."

"We are pleased that the REGAL Awards Program is now in its 5th year and has recognized 80 outstanding young researchers in GI."

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REGAL AWARDS PROGRAM STEERING COMMITTEE

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 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
 LOWER GI

SCOTT PLEVY, MD
 UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
 LOWER GI

Lower GI REGAL Awards for 2005

The Lower GI section was introduced by Scott Plevy, MD, from the University of Pittsburgh, and Gary Lichtenstein, MD, from the University of Pennsylvania. Winners included:

William Faubion, MD, from the Mayo Clinic Rochester. His winning paper entitled, *Colitis is associated with thymic destruction attenuating CD4+25+ regulatory T cells in the periphery*, was published in the journal *Gastroenterology*.

Adrian Miranda, MD, of the Medical College of Wisconsin, discussed his paper, *Altered visceral sensation in response to somatic pain in the rat*, published in the journal *Gastroenterology*.

Michael Pezzone, MD, PhD, at the University of Pittsburgh, summarized his work, *A model of*

neural cross-talk and irritation in the pelvis: implications for the overlap of chronic pelvic pain disorders, published in *Gastroenterology*.

Shanthi Srinivasan, MD, of Emory University, reviewed his research, *Enteric neuroblasts require the phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase /Akt/Forkhead pathway for GDNF-stimulated survival*, published in *Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience*.

Chinweike Ukomadu, MD, PhD, from Brigham & Women's Hospital Boston, presented his paper entitled, *p21-dependent inhibition of colon cancer cell growth by mevastatin is independent of inhibition of G1 cyclin-dependent kinases*, published in *The Journal of Biological Chemistry*.



—Lower GI Research—
Seated: Gary Lichtenstein; Scott Plevy
Standing: William Faubion; Michael Pezzone; Shanthi Srinivasan; Adrian Miranda; Chinweike Ukomadu

Upper GI & Endoscopy REGAL Awards for 2005



—Upper GI & Endoscopy Research—
Seated: Prateek Sharma, Peter Kahrilas
Standing: Shai Friedland; Marcelo Vela; Rachel Rosen; Banke Agarwal; Girish Mishra

The Upper GI and Endoscopy section was introduced by Prateek Sharma, MD, of the University of Kansas, and Peter Kahrilas, MD, from Northwestern University. The winners were:

Banke Agarwal, MD, from Saint Louis University, presented, *Endoscopic ultrasound after preoperative chemoradiation can help identify patients who benefit maximally after surgical esophageal resection*, published in the *American Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Shai Friedland, MD, of Stanford University, discussed his paper, *Measurement of mucosal capillary hemoglobin oxygen saturation in the colon by reflectance spectrophotometry*, published in *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*.

Girish Mishra, MD, at Wake Forest

University, reviewed his work, *Determination of qualitative telomerase activity as an adjunct to the diagnosis of pancreatic adenocarcinoma by endoscopic ultrasound-guided fine needle aspiration (EUS-FNA)*, published in the journal *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*.

Rachel Rosen, MD, from Children's Hospital Boston, presented her research, *The importance of multichannel intraluminal impedance in the evaluation of children with persistent respiratory symptoms*, published in the *American Journal of Gastroenterology*.

Marcelo Vela, MD, of the University of South Carolina, summarized his study, *Simultaneous intra-esophageal impedance and pH measurement of acid and nonacid gastroesophageal reflux: effect of omeprazole*, published in the journal *Gastroenterology*.

Outcomes REGAL Awards for 2005



—Outcomes Research—
Seated: Loren Laine; John Inadomi
Standing: Jeffrey Browning; Shyam Varadarajulu; Neena Abraham; Yu-Xiao Yang; Douglas Robertson

The Outcomes Research group was introduced by Loren Laine, MD, from the University of Southern California, and John Inadomi, MD, from the University of California, San Francisco. Winners in this section were:

Neena Abraham, MD, at the Baylor College of Medicine, began the session with a presentation of her work, *National adherence to evidence based guidelines for the prescription of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs*, which was published in *Gastroenterology*.

Jeffrey Browning, MD, from UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, presented his research paper, *Prevalence of hepatic steatosis in an urban population in the United States: Impact of ethnicity*, published in *Hepatology*.

Douglas Robertson, MD, from Dartmouth University, presented his research work entitled, *Colorectal cancer in patients under close colonoscopic surveillance*, published in *Gastroenterology*.

Shyam Varadarajulu, MD, at the University of Alabama, discussed his research entitled, *Relationship between hospital ERCP volume, length of stay, and technical outcomes*, published in *Gastrointestinal Endoscopy*.

Yu-Xiao Yang, MD, from the University of Pennsylvania, reviewed his research paper entitled, *Insulin therapy and colorectal cancer risk among type 2 diabetes mellitus patients*, published in *Gastroenterology*.



Hepatobiliary REGAL Awards for 2005

The Hepatobiliary section was introduced by Bruce Bacon, MD, of Saint Louis University, and Luis Balart, MD, from Louisiana State University. The winners were:

Ezra Burstein, MD, at the University of Michigan, presented his research, *A novel role for XIAP in copper homeostasis through regulation of MURR1*, published in *The EMBO Journal*.

Sushovan Guha, MD, PhD, at the University of California, Los Angeles, reviewed his paper, *Broad-spectrum G protein-coupled receptor antagonist, [D-Arg1,D-Trp5,7,9, Leu11]SP: a dual inhibitor of growth and angiogenesis in pancreatic cancer*, published in the journal *Cancer Research*.

David Kaplan, MD, from the University of Pennsylvania, discussed *T-cell response relative to genotype and ethnicity during antiviral therapy for chronic hepatitis C*, published in the journal *Hepatology*.

Sandeep Mukherjee, MD, from the University of Nebraska, presented his paper, *Impact of pegylated interferon alfa-2a on hepatic fibrosis in liver transplant recipients with recurrent hepatitis C: An open label series*, published in the journal *Hepatology-Gastroenterology*.

Arie Regev, MD, of the University of Miami, reviewed his research, *Reliability of histopathologic assessment for the differentiation of recurrent hepatitis C from acute rejection after liver transplantation*, published in the journal *Liver Transplantation*.



—Hepatobiliary Research—
Seated: Bruce Bacon; Luis Balart
Standing: Sushovan Guha; Arie Regev; Sandeep Mukherjee; Ezra Burstein; David Kaplan

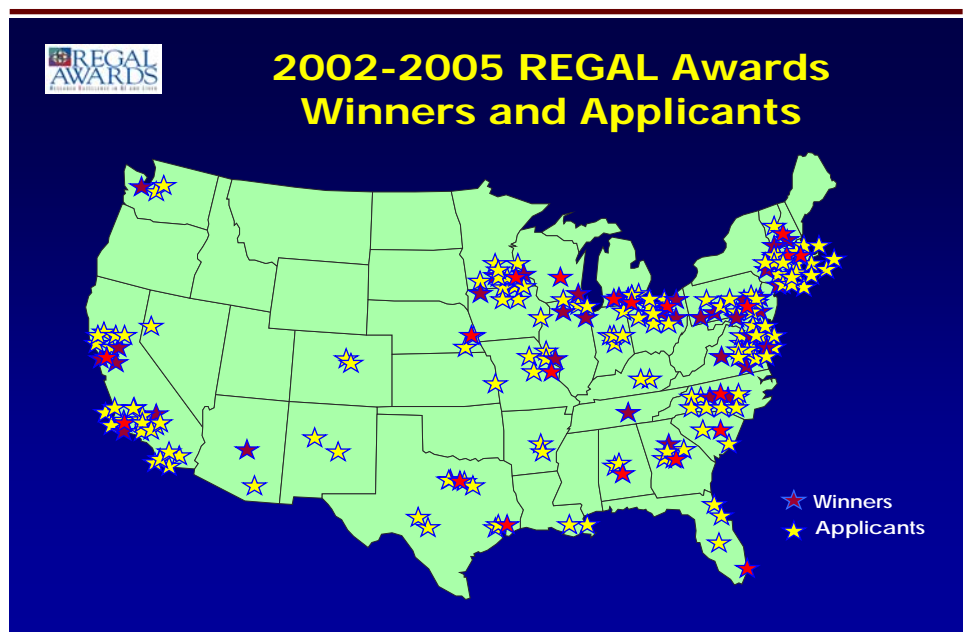
Previous Winners of the REGAL Awards Program

To date, the REGAL Awards program has received nearly 300 applications from every major GI training program involved in clinical research in the United States, as indicated on the map of the US which shows applicants and winners over the 4 years of the program. While it is not surprising that the top universities and medical centers are sponsoring applicants, many of the applying institutions are not in the top ten recipients of grant money, but are nonetheless conducting excellent research in upper or lower GI, endoscopy, hepatobiliary, or outcomes. "In past years, we have sent announcements to all GI programs in the US—nearly 150 training programs in all," noted steering committee member Gary Lichtenstein, MD, "and we are now getting inquiries from potential applicants even prior to the announcement of the program." Bruce Bacon, MD, added, "The response has been good on both the number and quality of applicants." The 2004 REGAL Award program was held in Miami, Florida, in October of that year.



Winners of the 2004 REGAL Awards were Giorgos Bamias, MD, University of Virginia; Matthew Di-Magno, MD, University of Michigan; Laurence Egan, MD, Mayo Clinic Rochester; Mohamad Eloubeidi, MD, University of Alabama; Ariel Feldstein, MD, Mayo Clinic Rochester; Andrew Feranchak, MD, University of Colorado; Deborah Fisher, MD, Duke University; Marc Ghany, MD, National Institutes of Health; Paul Hayashi, MD, Saint Louis University; Sergey Kantsevov, MD, PhD, Johns

Hopkins University; Asif Khalid, MD, University of Pittsburgh; Julia Liu, MD, Brigham & Women's Hospital; John Lynch, MD, PhD, University of Pennsylvania; Andrew Muir, MD, Duke University; Patrick Northup, MD, University of Virginia; Rodney Pacifico, MD, University of Michigan; Mansour Parsi, MD, Cleveland Clinic; Mark Russo, MD, University of North Carolina; Hwan Yoo, MD, PhD, Indiana University; and Jerry Zhu, MD, PhD, Brigham & Women's Hospital.



Apply for a 2006 REGAL Award

2006 REGAL Awards Program The 2006 REGAL Awards program is scheduled for October 6-8. Applications will be available in April, and the application deadline is July 1, 2006. Direct any questions to the REGAL Awards program at regal@brxcom.com, or see www.kuce.org/kumc/REGAL. The 2006 REGAL Awards program is sponsored by University of Kansas Medical Center Continuing Education through a grant from PriCara, Unit of Ortho-McNeil, Inc; Centocor, Inc; In-Scope, a division of Ethicon Endo-Surgery, and Therakos, Inc.