Laureate Award: Marilyn Katz, MD

Marilyn Katz, MD

Dr. Katz received her Bachelor of Science degree in biomedical engineering from the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA) and her M.D. degree from the UConn School of Medicine (Farmington, CT). She completed residency training in internal medicine on the Office-Based Medicine Track at UConn. After residency, she joined the faculty at UConn in 2012 as an assistant professor of medicine and primary care physician in both the Internal Medicine Associates and General Medicine practices. She currently runs an outpatient preoperative evaluation clinic with the residents as part of their ambulatory rotation. Outside of work she serves on the Connecticut Science Center fundraising board and the Women in Science Committee and also serves on the Connecticut Medical Examining Board for the State of Connecticut.

Gift Award: Daniel Marshall, MD

Daniel Marshall, MD

Dr. Marshall received his Bachelor of Science degree from Northwestern University in 1944, his Bachelor of Medicine Degree in 1945, and his M.D. degree in 1947. He completed his Internship and Residence at Cook County Hospital, Chicago, IL from 1946-1948, his Residency from Veterans Hospital, Newington, CT from 1950-1951, his Fellowship in Gastroenterology in 1952, and his Post Graduate, M.S. Degree in Medicine from the University of Illinois in 1950. Dr. Marshall was the Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at Yale Medical School from 1950-1953 and has been the Clinical Instructor in Medicine at UConn Medical School since 1977. He is a member of the American Medical Association, Connecticut State Medical Society,
Hartford County Medical Association, Hartford Medical Society, American College of Physicians, American Society of Internal Medicine, American College of Utilization Review Physicians, and a Fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology. Whereas the vast majority of physicians would be content with a career spanning 30 or maybe 40 years, it is a tribute to Dr. Marshall's fortitude and dedication to his profession and his community that he is still practicing after more than six decades. In addition to caring for all patients without regard to race, color, creed or insurance status in a community that has changed dramatically during the course of his career, Dan has remained a pillar in the medical, Jewish and broader community along with Helen his beloved wife of 63 years.

Thornton Award: Amenuve M Bekui, MD, MPH, FACP

Dr. Amenuve Bekui graduated from the University of Ghana Medical School in June 1986. He obtained MPH (with distinction) at Leeds University, England (1991) where he focused on District Health Information Management. He worked in public health for 10 years in Ghana at various levels: District Director of Health Services, Deputy Regional Director of Health Services, and in 1994 became Director of Health Information Management, Monitoring and Evaluation for the national Ministry of Health. In 1996 he moved to USA and was a postdoctoral fellow in International Health at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health where he continued work on health information systems in developing countries. As part of a three-member evaluation team, he worked as a consultant to World Bank in the terminal evaluation of the Bank’s Better Health in Africa project.

Dr. Bekui returned to clinical medicine in June 1998, completing an internal Medicine Residency program at the Hospital of Saint Raphael internal medicine program in 2001. He was Chief Medical Resident the following year and in 2003 became a member of the core faculty of the Hospital of Saint Raphael Internal Medicine program. From 2004 to 2012 he was the Director of Residency Research for the program, and from 2006 to 2012 was a member of the Department of Medicine Research Committee at Saint Raphael. He served as Chair, Drug Research Services Subcommittee from 2008 to 2012 and a member of the Hospital Bioethics committee from 2006 to 2012.

With Yale New Haven Hospital’s acquisition of Hospital of Saint Raphael in 2012, Dr. Bekui remained on faculty of the Yale Internal Medicine Residency program until the program ended in 2015. He then became a core faculty member of the Yale Primary Care Residency program when it moved from Waterbury Hospital to the Saint Raphael Campus of Yale New Haven Hospital. From November 2016 he is serving as the co-Firm Chief of the inpatient geriatric
(Cooney) service at the Yale New Haven Hospital. He is a member of the Yale University Institutional Review Board and the Yale New Haven Hospital Bioethics committee. Dr. Bekui has been involved in teaching medical students from 2002 to date. He designed and taught a research design, data analysis and evidence-based medicine course for renal, cardiology and geriatrics fellows in the subspecialty programs at the Hospital of Saint Raphael from 2004 to 2012, with resultant resident and fellow publications in peer reviewed journals.

His current interests include chronic disease management and evidence-based medicine. He has published in peer reviewed journals. Working together with colleagues, current projects include development of a tool for evaluation of chief-resident led morning reports, statistical evaluation of impact of structured interdisciplinary bedside rounds at Yale New Haven Hospital.

Thornton Award: Mark Kulaga, MD

Mark Kulaga, MD

Dr. Kulaga is a Hospitalist Clinician Educator at Norwalk Hospital, and has been in practice for 19 years. He graduated from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in 1995. He completed his residency at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center from 1995-1998, and chief residency from 1998-1999. Dr. Kulaga has been the Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency since 2004 and is a member of the Association for Program Directors in Internal Medicine.

Volunteer Award: Atique Azam Mirza, MD, FACC, FASNC, FCPS

Atique Azam Mirza, MD, FACC, FASNC, FCPS

Dr. Atique Azam Mirza is a consultant cardiologist at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford Connecticut. He is a diplomat of the American Board of Internal Medicine (ABIM) and a fellow of the American College of Cardiology (ACC) and of the American Society of Nuclear Cardiology (ASNC). He has also been awarded an honorary fellowship by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Pakistan for his humanitarian and educational contributions, as well as his efforts to help in transfer of knowledge and scientific skills to improve the standard of medical education and health care in Pakistan.
Dr. Mirza was born and raised in Pakistan. He graduated from Allama Iqbal Medical College in Lahore, Pakistan with highest honors and moved to the United States in 1990 for advanced training and education. After completing his medical residency at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke Medical Center, Grant & Westlake Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Mirza moved to Lee County, Virginia, where he helped establish primary care practices for the County Hospital and worked there for more than five years serving in a health professional shortage area. He served in several leadership positions during his stay there, including hospital board member, director of the intensive care unit and chairperson of the medical staff executive committee at Lee County Community Hospital in Virginia. Dr. Mirza was also the chief medical examiner of Lee County, Virginia. He rose to the rank of chief of medical staff of the hospital before moving to Boston in pursuit of further medical sub-specialty training in the field of cardiovascular medicine.

Dr. Mirza is actively involved in teaching fellows at the cardiovascular medicine fellowship program affiliated with the University of Connecticut School of Medicine as a Clinical Assistant Professor and holds active staff privileges at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center (SFHMC) Hartford and Johnson Memorial Hospital in Stafford, Connecticut. He is a member of the Hoffman Heart Institution of Cardiovascular Medicine at SFHMC. More recently, with the opening of a new medical school in CT, he was invited to join the teaching faculty at Frank H. Netter school of Medicine at Quinnipiac University for teaching cardiovascular medicine to medical students and has also helped develop an elective program for the school in cardiovascular medicine at his practice site.

Dr. Mirza volunteers his time nationally and internationally. He has been involved in several organizations in various capacities. He has been a member of the Connecticut Chapter of American College of Cardiology and of the Hartford County Medical Society. He is the founding president of the Allama Iqbal Medical College Alumni Association of North America and the Connecticut Chapter of the Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America. As part of the latter organization, he has helped organized various educational conferences and free health care clinics in various parts of the state. Dr. Mirza is a life-time member of the Association of Physicians of Pakistani Descent of North America (APPNA) and has been involved with the organization since 1997, serving on multiple key leadership positions over the past several years. He has arranged numerous international conferences for the exchange of scientific knowledge. APPNA has recognized him for his commitment, dedication and leadership role as a committee chairperson, chapter and alumni president at several occasions.