Anatomy and Neurobiology

1st Place- Katelyn Trecartin

Katelyn studies neuroinflammation as a factor in healthy brain aging and associated cognitive decline using a non-human primate model. When she finishes the MD/PhD program she hopes to complete a residency in Neurology and continue neuroinflammation research as it pertains to Multiple Sclerosis. She was selected for this award in part in recognition of her extensive and ongoing volunteer efforts on the part of the BU, BMC and wider communities. Some highlights of Katelyn's efforts include co-founding and leading the BUSM Wellness Initiative for the last five years and founding the Brain Enrichment Program to promote brain awareness in assisted living communities in Boston and surrounding neighborhoods. Recently she volunteered for the lauded initiative in which BUMC researchers developed a rapid and accurate test for SARS-CoV-2 within a week of the shut down, and she currently provides homecare for children of a BMC physician who is caring for Covid patients.

2nd Place- Chelsea Leblang

Chelsey has been a member of the department of Anatomy & Neurobiology since she joined in 2014 as a student in the Masters of Science in Forensic Anthropology program. She subsequently decided to pursue her passion for cellular and molecular translational science by entering the Ph.D. program in Anatomy & Neurobiology in the Fall of 2015. As a member of Dr. Jennifer Luebke's Laboratory of Cellular Neurobiology she characterized the relationship between stress granule biology, neuroinflammation and tauopathy. In Chelsea's long tenure at BUSM she has consistently contributed to the quality of the Department. She participated in the graduate student fundraising committee for three years and has done extensive tutoring and teaching for fellow graduate students and medical students. She also organized fundraising walks for Alzheimers Disease in her spare time. She successfully defended her doctoral dissertation in March 2020 and is beginning a postdoctoral fellowship in pathology at Stanford University in June 2020.

3rd Place- Yashar Rahimpour

Yashar uses structural MRI techniques such as diffusion in conjunction with functional MRI to study the Default Mode Network and its role in the healthy brain, aging brain, and cerebrovascular disease models. He has always been interested in biomedical imaging, and is well known to always be happy to teach others how to acquire and process their MRI data. This includes his colleagues in his lab as well as other students both at the medical center and students on the Charles River campus. He is an active and valued member of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology community and has served as a student greeter for incoming graduate students for many years and also on a faculty search committee. He loves teaching and is a major instructor in the SPIN program and in BU-ICM/AIM. Upon completing/graduating the PhD program he

hopes to stay in academia to research and teach at a medical program. In his free time, he likes to go on hikes with his wife and Newfoundland dog.