

Peter H. Arger, MD, Excellence in Medical Student Education Award

The Peter H. Arger, MD, Excellence in Medical Student Education Award was established in 2013, with its first presentation occurring at the 2014 AIUM Annual Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dr Arger has contributed much to the AIUM and to the growth of diagnostic ultrasound, but his true passion has been ultrasound education. This annual presentation honors an individual whose outstanding contributions to the development of medical ultrasound education warrant special merit.



Alfred Abuhamad, MD, FAIUM

Physician, educator, inventor, and humanitarian: Dr Abuhamad is not a man who can be described with just one word. A graduate of the American University of Beirut Medical School in Lebanon, he interned and completed his residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Miami School of Medicine, followed by a fellowship at the same institution and another fellowship in ultrasound and prenatal diagnosis at Yale University. His exceptional expertise in ultrasound resulted in his appointment in 1992 as the director of ultrasonography at the Eastern Virginia Medical School, where he has remained ever since. Currently, he is the vice dean for clinical affairs, chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, professor of radiology, and the Mason C. Andrews professor of obstetrics and gynecology.

Dr Abuhamad's passion and dedication to educating the world's future leaders are overwhelming. He has been highly instrumental in guiding numerous medical careers for 25 years. He has directed a multiorganizational task force to develop an obstetric and gynecologic ultrasound curriculum and competency assessment in residency training program. The resulting "Consensus Report" was jointly published by the *Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine*, *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, and *Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology* in January 2018. Dr Abuhamad currently chairs a Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine—AIUM task force that is developing a maternal-fetal medicine fellowship training curriculum in ultrasound. He has contributed to the AIUM's lecture and webinar series and has given more than a dozen presentations at the AIUM conventions.

Dr Abuhamad's innovation and creativity have resulted in 3 patents (system, method, and medium for acquiring and generating standardized operator-independent ultrasound images of fetal, neonatal, and adult organs; a cerclage suture removal device; and a compression balloon belt for postpartum hemorrhage). This same vision for improving diagnosis and treatment of pregnant women has resulted in more than 160 abstracts, which are just a small reflection of his tireless research efforts and his commitment to educating his fellow clinicians and ensuring superb-quality health care.

The *Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine* has benefited from Dr Abuhamad's expertise as an associate editor and a member of the Editorial Board. He has also served on the Editorial Boards of 3 other journals and is a reviewer for 12 prestigious medical journals from the *New England Journal of Medicine* to *Lancet*. A prolific author, he has 5 books to his name, an online free e-textbook on obstetric ultrasound, 2 dozen book chapters, and more than 170 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

It is because of his desire to promote the proper use of ultrasound, not only within his specialty but among all clinicians, that 2013 was deemed the Year of Ultrasound. It was under his leadership as AIUM president that the Ultrasound First initiative began, which included an Ultrasound First Forum that addressed the expanding role of ultrasound imaging as a “first” imaging examination, as well as the creation of an ongoing series of Sound Judgement clinical vignettes in the *Journal of Ultrasound in Medicine*. Active in many professional societies, Dr Abuhamad has also served as a president of the Maternal-Fetal Medicine Foundation, SMFM, and Society of Ultrasound in Medical Education.

It's not surprising that a physician of Dr Abuhamad's caliber has earned numerous awards, ranging from a National Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Teaching to a Presidential Recognition Award to a Dean's Outstanding Faculty Award. He has also been recognized 8 separate times as one of the Best Doctors in America; *Hampton Roads Magazine* has named him a Top Doctor every year since 2003; and he has twice received the Healthcare Hero's Award.

Not only does Dr Abuhamad care about his patients, but he is also extremely compassionate regarding the health care of people all around the world. As the chair of the Outreach Committee for the International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dr Abuhamad has engaged in 7 outreach humanitarian trips to Haiti, Ghana, and Somaliland. At the invitation of the Maternal-Child Survival Program, he directed a US Agency for International Development–funded Zika project. His task force of ultrasound experts assessed providers' capacities in 5 target countries to use ultrasound to detect features of Zika congenital syndrome and to identify highest priorities for future ultrasound education and training for Zika assessment.

It is with great honor that we award Dr Abuhamad with the Peter H. Arger, MD, Excellence in Medical Student Education Award for his dedication to medical ultrasound education.

