

## **Peter H. Arger Excellence in Medical Student Education Award**

The Peter H. Arger Excellence in Medical Student Education Award was established in 2013. Dr Arger contributed much to the AIUM and to the growth of diagnostic ultrasound, but his true passion was ultrasound education. This annual presentation honors an individual whose outstanding contributions to the development of medical ultrasound education warrant special merit.

### **Rachel Liu, MD, FACEP, FAIUM**



In just a 4-year time frame, Rachel Liu, MD, FACEP, FAIUM, graduated from Case Western Reserve University magna cum laude with 3 bachelor degrees, and that was just when she was getting started. Since then, she traveled to Ireland and earned her medical degree from Trinity College Dublin School of Medicine and interned at St. James's & Portiuncula Hospitals before returning to the United States for residency in Emergency Medicine at New York Medical College. Then, she moved on to Yale School of Medicine, where she has since remained first as a Fellow in Emergency Ultrasound, moving up to her current roles as Associate Professor in the Section of Emergency Ultrasound in the Department of Emergency Medicine, Curriculum Director for the Advanced Training Period, Associate for Educator Development in the Teaching and Learning Center,

Emergency Ultrasound Fellowship Director, and Director of Point-of-Care Ultrasound Education.

As a result, she has created curricular initiatives that use bedside ultrasound to strengthen medical students' basic science knowledge, physical examination, and clinical reasoning skills throughout their preclinical years. Dr Liu also directs the popular emergency ultrasound elective that includes students, residents, and fellows of multiple specialties.

Rachel Liu, MD, FAIUM, has made tremendous developments to not just what students learn but also the ways by which they do it. Just after completing her fellowship, Dr Liu led the development and addition of point-of-care ultrasound in the elective curriculum for preclerkship medical students, which was integrated with the clinical skills program and the human anatomy course and proved to be very successful. She was also instrumental in developing SonoGames, an annual, national ultrasound competition in which emergency medicine residents demonstrate their skills and knowledge of point-of-care ultrasound in an exciting and educational format. She also helped pioneer the creation of the AIUM's SonoSlam, a fun and intense competition where teams of medical students test their ultrasound skills against other students from around the country. Dr Liu also contributes to student education by volunteering on numerous committees, both at Yale and beyond.

In particular, Dr Liu has been, and remains, very active within the AIUM. Just in the past year, she served on the AIUM's Board of Governors, as chair of the AIUM Future Fund: Educational Events committee, and as vice chair of the Clinical Standards Committee. Dr Liu has also been a volunteer and at times a leader in multiple other education- and emergency medicine-related societies, including the Society of Clinical Ultrasound Fellowships and the Society of Ultrasound in Medical Education.

It seems she is also always happy to speak at courses, grand rounds, world congresses, meetings, symposia, summits, and more. The more she can share her knowledge with current and future medical professionals, the better. And that is evident by the awards she has won, including the Rosenkranz Award for Pedagogical Innovation (in 2015, from the Yale Center for Teaching and Learning), which promotes sustainable, scalable ideas that cultivate effective student engagement in the classroom. She also received one of Yale University School of Medicine's highest faculty awards, the Charles W. Bohmfalk Teaching Prize, for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the teaching program. The students themselves award her too. In 2018, the graduating class chose her to receive the Francis Gilman Blake Award, for outstanding teaching of medical sciences.

The evidence is clear, Dr Liu's commitment to students and their advancement is indisputable. It is clear that Rachel Liu, MD, FACEP, FAIUM, is well deserving of the Peter H. Arger Excellence in Medical Student Education Award.