

2017 THOMAS J. LEMLEY AWARD FOR HEALTH DISPARITY Guidelines



The Health Disparities Committee invites you to enter this year's competition. Cash prizes for students and a one-year PSPA membership for fellows. In years past, the committee has received essays, videos, and PowerPoint™ presentations for this competition. We will continue to encourage creativity by welcoming multimedia projects for the 2017 competition.

We welcome projects that include, **but are not limited to**:

- Essay
- Photo slide show
- PowerPoint™ presentations
- Videos (music or documentary)

Last year's winners:

First Place – Hallie Gilbert,
Seton Hill University

Second Place – Christy Lee DiSilvestro,
Thomas Jefferson University

About the Committee:

The Health Disparity Committee serves to advance the PSPA's commitment to diversity in all its various aspects.

What are Health Disparities? The Health Resources and Services Administration define health disparities as differences in presentation and outcomes of disease. Once considered issues pertaining only to race and ethnicity, health disparities are also products of poor access to healthcare, poverty, environmental exposures, lower education levels, and behavioral concerns.

Who was Thomas J Lemley? Tom Lemley was born and raised in a decaying manufacturing town in Eastern Ohio. He joined the Air Force and became a PA in 1976. He rose among the ranks finishing his career teaching at the USAF PA Program and serving as the chief physician assistant in the Air Force, providing guidance to the USAF Surgeon General and his command staff at the Pentagon on physician assistant issues. With his help, PA utilization in the USAF expanded from primary care to other areas of medicine and surgery. Through his counseling and encouragement, many young enlisted men and women applied for and became PA students. Tom retired from

the USAF and came home to Pennsylvania to begin his second PA career. He joined the PSPA and became involved in its activities.

Tom brought this Diversity Award competition to life in 2004 with a vision of the PSPA finding ways to increase awareness of the diverse needs of patients. With Tom's guidance, the Health Disparities Committee (formerly called the Diversity Council) sought ways to look at issues of health disparities and attempt to highlight the efforts of those who are doing their share not only to increase awareness but also shed light on solutions. Tom passed away in 2008 but he lives on in our hearts. Many who were fortunate enough to know him called him a friend and mentor.

Eligibility:

- PA students and PA fellows are invited to participate. **All contestants must be a PSPA member in good standing at the time the project is submitted.**
- **All contestants must also be active PSPA members at the time that the prizes are awarded.**
- Awards will be presented at the 2017 PSPA Annual Conference which will be held in King of Prussia, PA during the Student Challenge Bowl/Awards Ceremony. Winners (and family members) will receive complimentary registration for the awards ceremony.

Topic:

MENTAL HEALTH

Deadline: June 15, 2017

The World Health Organization (WHO) defines mental health as a state of well-being that includes emotional, psychological, and social aspects of an individual's life. Realizing one's potential may help the individual cope with regular stresses of life. Mental health is seen in individuals who do not pose harm to one's self or others, those who are able to hold a job, and those who are able to make contributions to society. Mental health is important from childhood through adulthood. Mental health may play a role in decisions made that define the direction one's life takes. Proper diagnosis and access to resources needed are very important to maintaining mental health.

Mental health encompasses people from various races, ethnic background, and socioeconomic status. WHO estimates 20% of the world's population is dealing with mental health issues. Mental Health America (MHA) reported that 40 million residents in the United States are afflicted with mental health disorders.

This year, the PSPA Health Disparities Committee would like PSPA members, fellows and students, to present different aspects of mental health and what we as healthcare providers can do to support our patient's well-being. Consider bringing light to issues that prevent patients from receiving the care they need or deserve. You can also discuss your encounter(s) with patients whose mental health is not as well as expected and how that encounter has influenced your path to becoming a physician assistant.

Format: ***Essay***

All essays should be formatted using double space and 12-point Times New Roman font. Do not use decorative or italic fonts. The paper is to be 1,000 to 1,500 words in length.

Historically, this format is the most common format seen in this competition. Your work should have a title. The manuscript must be submitted in numbered sequential order. Please expand all acronyms on first mention. (Example: WBCs for white blood cells). Also, provide units of measure for all laboratory values or other clinical measures that are expressed in number form. (Example: mg/dL when providing a blood glucose level.) Refer to drugs using their generic names and trade names. Provide the named salt if it will help to clarify which drug you are talking about. (Example: Cefuroxime axetil, an oral form, or Cefuroxime sodium for IM or IV forms). Provide appropriate headings and sub-headings throughout the text in order to clarify the organization of information for the reader. All references should be from peer-reviewed, reputable resources within the medical community and be formally referenced.

Videos

All entries should include opening credits that list all participants who deserve credit for the project submitted. Nudity and use of inappropriate language will not be tolerated. Videos are to be of tasteful, respectful, ethical, and moral nature. The video should be no more than 3 minutes in length. Be creative and show off your talents.

PowerPoint® Presentation

Create a 20- to 25-slide PowerPoint® presentation regarding the role of physician assistants in addressing the topic. The presentation should simulate a seminar appropriate for an advisory board who is contemplating how physician assistants employed by their organization could play a role in addressing the issues identified.

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Photo Slide Show

The slide show should contain no more than 25 photos. Music and/or narration should be added to the slide show. Lyrics/transcript of narration should be included with entry. Nudity and use of inappropriate language will not be tolerated. Photos and music are to be of tasteful, respectful, ethical, and moral nature.

Submission: A letter of submission should be e-mailed to committee co-chair, Jane Arenas. The letter should confirm that the submitted work is original, created by the primary author or co-authors (not ghost-written by anyone not named as an author) and is free from pharmaceutical company or medical education company sponsorship or funding. The project should be identified in all correspondence and the required contact information should be found in the body of your letter or e-mail. In the letter of submission, you should list each table, figure, algorithm, photograph, radiograph, etc., in the article and clearly state whether the item is original to you or, if it is not, state who holds the copyright. Provide complete a reference (specifying which manual of style is used) for each item utilized from another source.

All entries submitted should be accompanied with the following statement:

(For individual assignments)

I certify that this assignment is presented as entirely my own intellectual work. Any words and/or ideas from other sources (e.g. printed publications, Internet sites, electronic media, other individuals, groups, or organizations) have been properly indicated using the appropriate scholarly citation style required by the department or College. I have not submitted this assignment in its entirety to satisfy the requirements of any other PSPA competition.

(For group projects)

We certify that this assignment is presented as entirely our own intellectual work. Any words and/or ideas from other sources (e.g. printed publications, Internet sites, electronic media, other individuals, groups, or organizations) have been properly indicated using the appropriate scholarly citation style required by the department or College. We have not submitted this assignment in its entirety to satisfy the requirements of any other PSPA competition.

Essays should be sent as an attachment via email. CDs or USB flash drives containing videos, PowerPoint® presentations, and photo slide show should be sent via postal mail. The letter of submission, sent via email, should include information regarding the expected arrival of the package.

Essays, videos, PowerPoint™ presentations, or slide shows previously or simultaneously submitted for publication elsewhere are not eligible for this particular PSPA sponsored health disparity competition.

Evaluation: Every effort is made to select judges from all PSPA regions. Judges review the projects and provide evaluation scores. Judging criteria include: practical application to the physician assistant education/profession/practice, enhancement of PA profession knowledge base, and quality of presentation. Award winners are determined by the highest average scores.

Prizes:

Student Division	
1 st Place -	\$1,500
2 nd Place -	\$1,000
Fellow Division –	Membership for the following year Conference registration for the following year

Please contact Jane Arenas via email, at jane.arenas38@gmail.com with any questions. ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 15, 2017. Essays can be sent via email. Videos, picture slide shows, and PowerPoint presentations must be sent on a USB flash drive or CD-ROM via USPS should be addressed to:

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