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ASTRO announces 2009 research award, grant recipients

Fairfax, Va., October 2, 2009 – The American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO) has announced the recipients of two grants funded by the Radiation Oncology Institute – the Junior Faculty Career Research Training Award and the Residents/Fellows in Radiation Oncology Research Seed Grant Award. Winners were selected by ASTRO’s Research Evaluation Committee.

The Junior Faculty Career Research Training Award is awarded to stimulate interest in radiation research early in academic career development by giving junior physician faculty the opportunity to focus on research in radiation oncology, biology, physics or outcomes/health services research. It is presented each year to a board-eligible physician or physicist in radiation oncology or a radiobiologist who is within the first three years of his or her junior faculty appointment. This is a two-year award in the amount of \$125,000 per year. This year’s recipients are Joseph Contessa, M.D., Ph.D., of Yale University in New Haven, Conn., and Phuoc Tran, M.D., Ph.D., of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore.

The Residents/Fellows in Radiation Oncology Research Seed Grant Award is given to support residents or fellows who are planning a career focusing primarily on basic science or clinical research. The grants are awarded each year for a one-year project and are in amounts of up to \$30,000 each. This year’s recipients are Christopher Barker, M.D., of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, Kevin Choe, M.D., Ph.D., of the University of Chicago in Chicago and Andrew Elia, M.D., Ph.D., of the Harvard Radiation Oncology Program in Boston.

“Congratulations to all of this year’s award and grant winners,” Patricia Eifel, M.D., FASTRO, chairman of ASTRO’s Board of Directors and a professor of radiation oncology at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, said. “These award recipients are the future of radiation oncology and by acknowledging their research early, we are helping to nurture the future big advances in our specialty. I am proud to be able to recognize them for their hard work.”

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For more information on these awards and other awards distributed by ASTRO, visit www.astro.org/AboutUs/Awards/ResearchGrants. Visit www.roinstitute.org to learn more about the Radiation Oncology Institute.

ASTRO is the largest radiation oncology society in the world, with more than 10,000 members who specialize in treating patients with radiation therapies. As the leading organization in radiation oncology, biology and physics, the Society is dedicated to improving patient care through education, clinical practice, advancement of science and advocacy. For more information on radiation therapy, visit www.rtanswers.org. To learn more about ASTRO, visit www.astro.org.

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