UF College of Dentistry

2020 Spring Synergy
Awards for Excellence in Research

D.M.D.

1st: Chelsea Kopp - The CRISPR-associated protein Cas3 modulates virulence in Porphyromonas gingivalis
Authors: C Kopp*, J Frias-Lopez, J Solbiati, A Duran-Pinedo

2nd: Kathryn Kiskaddon - Association of Candida albicans and Cnm+ Streptococcus mutans with early childhood caries recurrence
Authors: KJ Kiskaddon*, BA Garcia, J Lemos, L Mugayar, J Abranches

3rd: Jaime Cardascia - Opioid and cannabinoid interactions in pain and reward
Authors: J Cardascia*, B Setlow, S Caudle, J Neubert

4th: Neeshi Patel - Investigation of the role of jag in Streptococcus mutans
Authors: N Patel*, P Vasquez, LJ Brady

M.S./Resident

1st: John Witcher - The effects of orthodontic treatment duration on outcome according to ABO-OGS scores using straight wire technique
Authors: JE Witcher II*, C Dolce, S Holliday, J Neubert

2nd: Kelsey Wahl - microRNAs as biomarkers in gingival crevicular fluid
Authors: KC Wahl

3rd: Maram Bawazir - Gingival fibroma: an emerging distinctive gingival entity with well-defined histopathologic features.
Authors: M Bawazir*, MN Islam, DM Cohen, S Fitzpatrick, I Bhattacharyya.

4th: Austin Belknap - Retrospective series of burning mouth syndrome patients treated with a protective mouthguard: An effective non-pharmacologic treatment modality
Authors: A Belknap*, S Fitzpatrick, MN Islam, I Bhattacharyya, M Cohen.
Ph.D./Postdoctoral

1st: **Michelle Rodriguez** - Site-specific epigenetic control of the epithelial differentiation program in oral cells
Authors: M Rodriguez, G Kushner, M Young Chae, N Atyeo, B Papp

2nd: **Aravindraja Chairmandurai** - Bilateral intracerebral infection of Porphyromonas gingivalis augmented Amyloid seeding and induced Microgliosis in APP-TgCRND8 mice model of Alzheimer’s disease
Authors: C Aravindraja*, R Sakthivel, X Liu, G Marshall, Y Levites, TE Golde, L Kesavalu

3rd: **Kyulim Lee** - Regulation and function of an antimicrobial peptide resistance locus in Streptococcus sp. A12
Authors: K Lee*, G Rojas-Carreno, JR Kaspar, AR Walker, and RA Burne

Undergraduate/Pre-Dental

1st: **Eshani Shah** - Manganese uptake is essential for the fitness of Streptococcus mutans
Authors: J Kajfasz, J Vargas, J Abranches, J Lemos

2nd: **Michael Prado** - The study on periodontitis mouse model induced by passive smoking
Authors: M Prado*, B Rajeshkumar, A Dongtai Fu, J Lu, J Chang

3rd: **Sebastian Ocampo** - Cross-β structure is a conserved core building block for Streptococcus mutans functional amyloids
Authors: AL Barran-Berdon, S Ocampo, J Morales-Aparicio, G Ottenberg, A Kendall, S Mishra, JR Long, G Stubbs, LJ Brady