

Award: Philip J. Wolfson Outstanding Teacher

Basic Information

Name

Tracey Dechert MD

Your title:

Chief of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery

Your Institution:

Boston University/Boston Medical Center

Email

Tracey.Dechert@bmc.org

Name of nominee:

Tejal Brahmbhatt, MD

Nominee's institution:

Boston University/Boston Medical Center

Nominee's title:

Chief of Surgical Critical Care

Nominee's email address:

Tejal.brahmbhatt@bmc.org

Short Essays

Please describe the nominee's innovative approach to teaching (the nominee's personal philosophy of teaching).

Dr. Brahmbhatt's extremely conscientious approach to surgical education incorporates taking trainees on a complete journey from basic science through clinical application and then evidence-based best practices. His teaching is something that stands out and is tried often by others but not executed as successfully. Without any preparation, and at any given time, he is able to do this so elegantly that it comes off as if he is explaining something as simple as how to fold a shirt that he sets a high bar for which the trainees and students can aspire. He has an uncanny ability to bring any surgical topic into understanding after assessing a trainee's fund of knowledge and building on that instead of a simpler approach of recitation of facts. Because of his keen educational mission to "build" knowledge as opposed to "give" knowledge, he is known to have conversations that are able to bring Cori's cycle into why certain decisions are made in patient care, or how a specific receptor in the heart is the reason why we will not take down a tourniquet at a certain moment, and he expects the same of his trainees.

What educational scholarship is the nominee most proud of and why?

Dr. Brahmbhatt is most proud of his educational contribution in the development of a "real-world curriculum" for our general surgery residency. When he arrived as a new attending, he realized how much of medicine is not taught during postgraduate training and he developed a curriculum to address this. The two-year curriculum covers topics ranging from coding and billing, malpractice, hospital leadership, depression and suicide in surgeons, and pearls to being a successful and fulfilled surgeon, whether residents pursue academics or community surgery. It has been a resident favorite for the last 7 years. Please identify the nominee's educational productivity accomplishments including: teaching activities, curricular development, evaluation and assessment innovations, etc.

In addition to his "real world curriculum," Dr. Brahmbhatt conceived a sustainable and effective general surgery enrichment experience program for the first and second-year medical students at Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM) that sought to dispel preconceived notions of what a surgeon is and what it takes to become a surgeon. This program has been running for the last 6 years and is attended by greater than 80% of the medical school students in a given class annually. It incorporates candid interviews, testimonials, didactic lectures, and hands-on workshops. He studied the effects of this program and was able to disseminate this work in a publication through the Journal of Surgical Education. In addition to this, Dr. Brahmbhatt also holds multiple didactic sessions year around to the medical students during their surgical clerkship. Because of his deep involvement with the medical students, he was awarded BUSM's Clinical Educator of the Year award earlier this year and as the only surgeon in this award's greater than twenty-year history. He regularly conducts didactic sessions for the general surgery and anesthesia residency programs in all realms of general surgery, trauma, and critical care. Because of this, his efforts have been acknowledged by BUSM's Department of Anesthesia as the only surgical faculty with a dual appointment as Assistant Professor of Anesthesia as well.

Additional Information

Please list any educational professional development programs that the nominee has attended (workshops, courses, fellowships, certificate/degree programs, etc)

N/A

Please list any education/teaching awards or honors that the nominee has received.

2019 Boston University Medical Center, Department of Surgery, Erwin F. Hirsch Faculty Teaching Award

2019 Boston University School of Medicine - Faculty Honor Roll

2020 Boston University Medical Center, Department of Surgery, Erwin F. Hirsch Faculty Teaching Award

2020 Boston University School of Medicine - Distinguished Faculty of the Month

2022 Boston University School of Medicine - Educator of the Year (Clinical) Award

2022 Alpha Omega Alpha - Honor Medical Society #2145535

Please list the names of the mentees of the nominee and the nature of their relationship with them (how long did the nominee mentor the person, what was the focus of the mentorship provided).

MEDICAL STUDENTS

1. Cedric Benson, MD, MSCI

7/2015-6/2016

M.S. student in Clinical Investigation Program, Boston University

Masters Thesis; 1st author publication in American Journal of Emergency Medicine.

2. Lenee Plauche, MD, MS

7/2016-6/2022

Medical Student & Resident, Boston University SOM

Published manuscript in Curr Obes Rep.

3. Muhammad Fazal, MS, MD

9/2017-6/2018

Medical Student, Boston University SOM

Poster presentation: Structured surgical experience for pre-clinical medical students. 2017 AAMC Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

4. Keerthivasan Vengatesan, MD

12/2017-6/2020

Medical Student, General Surgery Intern, Boston University SOM

Development of BUSM 1st and 2nd-year medical student surgical enrichment curriculum.

5. Matthew Peacock, MD

1/2017-6/2018

Medical Student, Boston University SOM

Development of BUSM 1st and 2nd-year medical student surgical enrichment curriculum.

6. Wini Zambare, BA

3/2019-present

Medical Student, Boston University SOM; Resident in Surgery, Columbia University of Physicians and Surgeons

Oral presentation 2020 Virtual Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons; 1st author publication in Journal of Surgical Education

7. Tharun Somasundar, BS

10/2019-present

Undergraduate Student & Medical Student, Boston University

1st author publication in Journal of Surgical Research; Oral presentation at 2022 Annual Meeting of Society of Asian Academic Surgeons.

8. Elisa Caron, BS

4/2020-3/2021

Medical Student, Boston University SOM

1st author publication in Journal of Surgical Research.

9. Katherine Vallès, MS, MPH

5/2020-5/2021

Medical Student, Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia PA

Oral presentation 2020 Drexel Discovery Day (Honorable Mention); Oral/podium presentation 2021 annual Academic Surgical Congress; 1st author publication in Journal of Surgical Research.

10. Jang Hyerim, BS

6/2020-2/2022

Medical Student, Boston University SOM

1st author publication in JSR.

11. Ling-Ling Lok, MA, MD

7/2020-10/2021

Medical Student, Boston University SOM; Resident in Anesthesiology

Poster presentation 2021 American Society of Anesthesiologists annual meeting.

12. Luke Wallace, BS

6/2021-7/2022

Medical Student, Boston University SOM; Resident in General Surgery, UCSF, CA

Oral Presentation at 17th Annual Academic Surgical Congress.

13. Jessica Shi

7/2021-8/2022

Medical Student Boston University SOM; Resident in General Surgery, BMC/BU

Publication in Seminars in Interventional Radiology.

RESIDENTS

14. Stephanie Talutis, MD MPH

4/2016-6/2021

General Surgery Resident, Boston University SOM; Vascular Surgery Fellow UCLA

Published 2 manuscripts in the Journal of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery.

15. Praveen Sridhar, MD

10/2017-6/2021

General Surgery Resident, Boston University SOM, Fellow in CT surgery U of Utah

Poster presentation: 38th Annual Meeting of the Association for Surgical Education, May 2018; Published 1 manuscript in the Journal of Surgical Research.

16. Maha Haqqani, MD

8/2019-present

General Surgery Resident, Boston University SOM

Podium presentation 2021 annual meeting of the Vascular & Endovascular Surgery Society.

17. Scott Levin, MD

1/2020-present

General Surgery Resident, Boston University SOM Podium presentation

European Congress of Radiology; Publication Journal of Vascular Surgery; Presentation at 17th Annual ASC .

18. Allan Stolarski, MD

7/2020-present

General Surgery Resident, Boston University SOM

Ongoing research: Bedside ultrasound utility in surgical critical care, REBOA

19. Jeffrey Melvin, MD

8/2022-present

General Surgery Resident, Boston University SOM

Ongoing research: EAST MCT, Book chapter in Surgical text.

FACULTY

20. Courtney Takahashi, MD MCR

11/2016-present

Assistant Professor of Neurology, Boston University SOM; Neurocritical Care Fellowship Program Director, Neurocritical Care

Attending; Boston Medical Center, Boston MA

Development of a general surgical curriculum for a new Neurocritical care fellowship program.

21. Aaron Richman, MD FACS

11/2018-3/2020

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Boston University SOM; Assoc. PD for General Surgery Residency

Development of institutional chest wall reconstruction program.

22. Kathryn Twomey, MD FACS

8/2019-5/2020

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Boston University SOM; Attending Surgeon, Sub-internship director, Boston Medical Center, Boston, MA

Development of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Sub-Internship curriculum.

23. Joshua Davies, MD

8/2020-1/2021

Assistant Professor of Surgery, Boston University SOM

Development of institutional Direct Peritoneal Resuscitation program.

File Uploads

Please upload the nominee's CV

- [Brahmbhatt-BU-Style-CV-10-24-2022.pdf](#)

Please upload a letter of nomination by a faculty, education administrator, or anyone else with knowledge of the nominee's enthusiasm for exemplary teaching and involvement in surgical education.

- [Brahmbhatt-Nomination-Letter.pdf](#)

Please upload no more than 2 letter(s) of support from individuals with direct knowledge of the nominee's surgical education involvement and outstanding teaching. Commentary on role modeling of professional characteristics and accessibility would be appreciated.

- [Brahmbhatt-Support-letters-1-and-2.pdf](#)

Please upload documentation of teaching excellence in the form of an aggregate evaluation report (from MedHub, New Innovations, etc) from learners over the past 6 - 12 months. (file upload)

- [Evaluation-Report-Brahmbhatt.pdf](#)