<u>Celebrating Curiosity, Collaboration, and</u> <u>Discovery: Tulane Neurology Hosts Scholarly</u> <u>Activity Day</u>

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The Tulane Center for Clinical Neurosciences' Department of Neurology came alive with energy, ideas, and academic excellence during its second annual Scholarly Activity Day. More than a research showcase, the event brought together medical students, graduate researchers, and residents in a celebration of innovation and intellectual curiosity. The day featured over 20 poster presentations, each representing months, if not years, of focused work, long nights, and a shared drive to move neurology forward. Attendees explored topics ranging from Alzheimer's disease and cerebral aneurysms to COVID-19's impact on Parkinson's risk. PGY-4 neurology residents delivered oral presentations, and the event was headlined by keynote speaker Dr. Deborah Friedman, a distinguished Tulane School of Medicine alumna. Dr. Friedman presented "Clinical Trials in Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension: What's the Evidence?"—a thoughtful and compelling look into current research and its clinical implications.

For many participants, this event was a milestone—proof of how far they've come and a glimpse of how far they might go. And for Tulane, it was a testament to the department's growing culture of mentorship, scholarship, and scientific curiosity.

Award winners included:

• Graduate Category - Yingjie Wang

"Investigate the Role of Irg-1/Itaconate Signaling in Modulating Metabolic Dysfunction of Microglia in Alzheimer's Disease"

• Medical Student Category - Khashaiar Motazedian

"Nitro-oleic acid (CXA-10) prevents cerebral aneurysm formation via endothelial PPARδ activation"

• Postgraduate Category - Meenakshi Umar, PhD

"MTHFR Deficiency and SARS-CoV-2 Infection Synergistically Increase the Risk of Parkinson's Disease"

• Resident/Fellow Category - Sarah Zanjani, MD

"Blinded by the Dye: Transient Cortical Blindness after Angiography"

• PGY-4 Best Oral Presentation - Cate Picou, MD

"Cerebral Amyloid Angiopathy: A Unique Case Presentation and Review of Imaging, Neuropathology, and Genetics"

• Gwinn Akin Bowers Award - Michele Longo, MD

With each presentation, Tulane's future in clinical neuroscience grew a little brighter, driven by the students, residents, and researchers who are turning knowledge into impact, one discovery at a time.

Scholarly Activity Day included more than 20 poster presentations. (Photo by Bethany Barnoski)