

Johns Hopkins Medicine

Media Relations and Public Affairs

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**FIVE YOUNG JOHNS HOPKINS SCIENTISTS COMPETE FOR THE RANGOS
AWARD FOR CREATIVITY IN CANCER DISCOVERY**

First-place winner will receive a \$25,000 cash prize at the event on April 3, and a total of nearly \$50,000 will be awarded.

Five Johns Hopkins students and trainees have been selected as finalists in a competition to find creative new approaches to treating metastatic cancer. The five, whose ideas were chosen from among 55 applicants, will present their proposals to a panel of judges in an auditorium filled with several hundred Johns Hopkins physicians, researchers and students.

The competition takes place on April 3, 2013, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Armstrong Education Building on the Johns Hopkins East Baltimore campus. The top winner will receive \$25,000. The other four finalists also will receive cash awards of \$12,500 for second place; \$6,250 for third place; \$3,150 for fourth place; and \$1,500 for fifth place.

The program is designed to encourage students as well as young scientists and physicians to look at the problem of metastatic cancer and propose creative, “out of the box” treatment strategies.

“This competition has attracted many excellent ideas from very smart and creative individuals,” says Theodore DeWeese, M.D., professor and chairman of Radiation Oncology and Molecular Radiation Services at the Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center.

DeWeese is the chief faculty sponsor of the Rangos Awards.

“The finalists will be judged on the novelty of their ideas and the scientific merit, as well as the feasibility of future clinical application of their proposals,” says De Weese.

John G. Rangos Sr., the chairman of the Rangos Family Foundation, is funding the competition, which is now in its second year. Rangos, a retired CEO and serial entrepreneur, is a globally renowned philanthropist and longtime supporter of John Hopkins Medicine.

“Every family knows someone who has suffered from cancer. Some forms of the disease can be cured even after they have spread, but most are not,” says Rangos. “The goal of the competition

is to inspire original ideas and innovative approaches. When cancer is finally cured, I believe it will be cured by someone at Johns Hopkins,” says Rangos.

“We are grateful to Mr. Rangos for supporting this very worthwhile project,” DeWeese says.

Benjamin Carson, M.D., professor and director of the Division of Pediatric Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins, will emcee the event.

The competition was open to all currently enrolled full-time students and trainees at the Johns Hopkins University, including undergraduate, graduate and medical students, residents and fellows. A university-wide panel of faculty members judged the essays and came up with the five finalists.

The finalists are:

- Jason D. Howard, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow in the Head and Neck Cancer Therapeutics Program in the Department of Oncology
- Sylvie Stacy, M.D., resident in General Preventive Medicine
- Hogan Tang, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow in Biological Chemistry
- Ashwin Ram, M.D., resident in Radiation Oncology
- Xiaochuan Yang, Ph.D., postdoctoral fellow in Oncology-Hematologic Malignancies

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The finalists, as well as Mr. Rangos and Dr. DeWeese, will be among those available for interviews.

For more information and to see a video interview with John Rangos:

http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/rangos_award/index.html