

The College of Human Medicine Student Research Essay Contest
Crossroads of Medical Education and Clinical Care
Summer 2009

The CHM Student Research Interest Group (SRIG) is pleased to announce CHM's **second** student research essay contest. All CHM students across all of the campuses have the opportunity to win up to \$250, be featured in the CHM Research Newsletter, and possibly have their work published in the new online CHM Medical Student Research Journal (MSRJ).

Awards: 1st place: \$250; 2nd place: \$100

Essay Topic:

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy announced that the United States would put a person on the moon by the end of the decade. This dream was realized only eight years later with the landmark landing of Apollo 11. In 1971, President Richard Nixon decided to take a similar approach to cancer. Addressing the nation, he announced, "I will...ask for an appropriation of an extra \$100 million to launch an intensive campaign to find a cure for cancer, and I will ask later for whatever additional funds can effectively be used. The time has come in America when the same kind of concentrated effort that split the atom and took man to the moon should be turned toward conquering this dreaded disease. Let us make a total national commitment to achieve this goal." Given that, why has a cure for cancer not yet been found? In America, one out of every two men and one out of every three women during their lifetime will hear the words, "You have cancer." Why have we failed to find a cure for this disease, when one American is dying because of it every minute? Provide concrete examples and specific explanations for why the mortality rate for cancer has remained stable for the last sixty years. Multiple viewpoints (legislative, educational, research, clinical practice/treatment, health policy, funding mechanisms, etc.) are encouraged.

Contest Details

- ✓ Eligibility: The essay competition is open to all current MSU CHM students, residents, and fellows. This includes Epidemiology, MD/PhD and other associated programs. Only one submission per person.
- ✓ Essay Length: Submissions should be no longer than 1,500 words.
- ✓ Essays submitted for consideration must be original work and must be prepared by one author only.
- ✓ Submissions should be emailed as Microsoft Word attachments to CHM.SRIG@gmail.com
- ✓ Include a cover letter with your name, title of your essay, contact information, and all references. Do NOT include your name in the body of your essay. Indicate on the cover letter if you are willing to have your essay submitted for publication to the CHM Medical Student Research Journal (MSRJ). * See MSRJ submission guidelines below.
- ✓ Deadline: Submissions will be accepted between July 1 and August 28th, 2009. No exceptions.
- ✓ Judging: Submissions will be judged by a panel of professionals with experience in medical school education and research. Winners will be notified by email in September 2009.

* **MSRJ Submission Guidelines:** Indicate on your cover letter if you agree to the submission checklist, author guidelines, and copyright policies of the MSRJ, available at:

<http://msrj.chm.msu.edu/index.php?journal=msrj&page=about&op=submissions#authorGuidelines>

Questions: If you have any questions, contact Paul Johnson or Rupesh Kotecha at CHM.SRIG@gmail.com
Contest details are also available at the CHM Research website: <http://research.chm.msu.edu/>

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"Annual Message to the Congress on the State of the Union" (January 22, 1971) in *Public Papers of the President: Richard Nixon* (Containing the Public Messages, Speeches, and Statements of the President, 1971). Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1971: 53.
Eldridge, Lynne and Borgeson David. *Avoiding Cancer One Day At A Time: Practical Advice For Preventing Cancer*. Minnesota: Beaver's Pond Press, December 1, 2006.
von Eschenbach, Andrew. *Eliminating the Suffering and Death Due to Cancer by 2015*. Medical Progress Bulletin. New York: Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, September 2005.