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# Annual Report

# 2023

# ABOUT THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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## **Vision Statement**

To advance colorectal health through research and discovery



## **Mission Statement**

To support and advance research related to colorectal disease.

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# RESEARCH FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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**Elizabeth C. Wick, MD**

President (2022-2024)  
San Francisco, CA



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Trustee (2023-2026)  
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**Larissa K F Temple, MD**

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Boston, MA



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**Rocco Ricciardi, MD**

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Boston, MA



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Trustee (2023-2024)  
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**Sonia L. Ramamoorthy, MD, MBA**

Trustee (2023-2024)  
La Jolla, CA



**Fergal J. Fleming, MD**

Trustee (2023-2026)  
Rochester, NY



**Jennifer E. Hrabe, MD**

Research Committee Chair, Ex-officio  
(2023-2025)  
Iowa City, IA

# 2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

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## **Career Development Award**

Maria Widmar, MD, MPH

*Economic Analyses in Rectal Cancer*

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center



## **Research in Robotic Surgical Technology Grant**

Lisa Parry, MD

*A Pilot Study for Day of Surgery Discharge After Robotic Colectomy with ICA*

University of California San Diego Medical Center



## **Eugene Salvati, MD, Limited Project Grant**

Jonathan S. Abelson, MD

*Development of a decision aid in nonoperative management of rectal cancer*

Lahey Clinic, Inc.



## **Special Emphasis Limited Project Grant: Colorectal Surgery and Health Equity**

Tara A. Russell, MD, MPH, PhD

*Improving Health Equity by Addressing Health Literacy in Benign Anorectal Disease*

University of California Los Angeles

# 2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

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## **General Surgery Resident Research Initiation Grant**

Munir H. Buhaya, MD

*The role of cancer-associated fibroblasts in the pathogenesis of Hispanic EO CRC*

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Alexis Danielle Desir, MD

*Validation of a Robotic Bowel Anastomosis Surgical Skills Curriculum*

The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Christopher Neylan, MD

*Genomics-based Investigations of Diverticulitis*

Trustees of University of Pennsylvania

Megan Shroder, MD

*Patient Reported Outcome Measures in Diverticulitis*

Vanderbilt University Medical Center



## **International Fellowship Grant**

Elliot Arsoniadis, MD, PhD

*HPV-related Anal Dysplasia and Cancer in Honduras: A Needs Assessment Study*

Regents of the University of Minnesota



## **Medical Student Research Initiation Grant**

Sabrina Leung

*A Mutation-Specific Markov Model for Colectomy Type in Lynch Syndrome*

Mayo Clinic Arizona

# 2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS

## > **Diversity and Inclusion in Surgery – Colorectal Opportunity in Research – DISCOVeR**

The DISCOVeR Program is a research-intensive summer training program for **medical students interested in pursuing surgical careers**, sponsored by the Research Foundation of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS). The program is specifically designed to support students from diverse backgrounds and experiences including those who are members of groups historically underrepresented in the sciences, first in their families to achieve higher education, from inner city or rural communities, or economically underprivileged. The program is designed to complement a medical student's formal medical school education. 2023 was the inaugural year for this program.

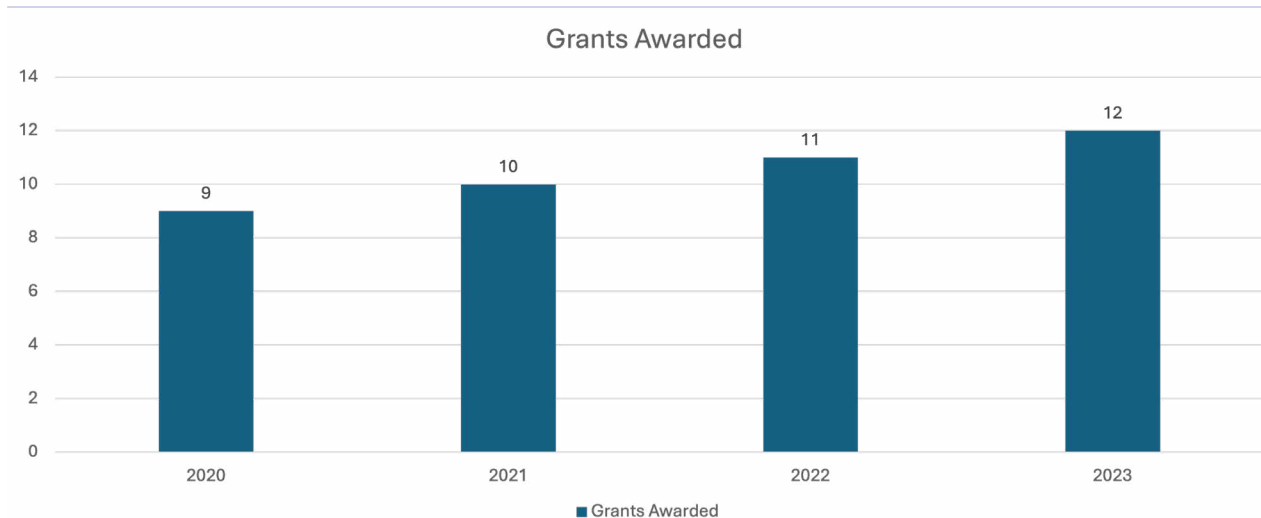
The program objectives are for the students to:

1. Participate in didactic and experiential training in scholarship, career development, and clinical exposure in person or remotely.
2. Engage in a mentored pre-designed colorectal surgery research experience identified and guided by the medical student's mentor culminating in a presentation at the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons (ASCRS) Annual Scientific Meeting.
3. Develop mentor relationships and participate in networking opportunities.
4. Join a community of like-minded scholars.

## > **2023 Recipients:** Brendan Rosamond Tiffany Wong



# INCREASING NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED



## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

### Medical Students

Diversity and Inclusion in Surgery – Colorectal Opportunity in Research (DISCOVeR)

Medical Student Research Initiation Grant

### Residents

General Surgery Resident Research Initiation Grant

Rising Star Award

### Early Career

Career Development Award

Rising Star Award

### All Members

Robotic Research Grant

Limited Project Grant

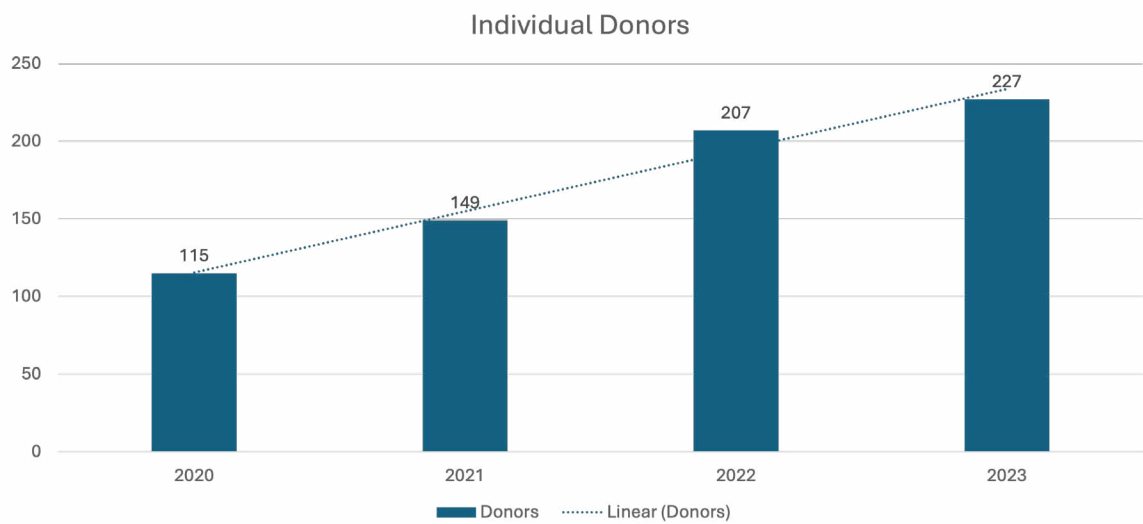
Eugene Salvati, MD, Limited Project Grant

Special Emphasis LPG: Colorectal Surgery and Health Equity

# PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

Philanthropic support is the lifeline of the foundation. We are grateful to those who have tirelessly supported the foundation over the years.

**\$35,741** raised in 2023



# FUNDRAISERS

## 2023 Socks



## 2024 Socks

