The Soma Weiss Student Research Day

This day honors the memory of Soma Weiss, MD (1899-1942), an inspiring teacher and physician at HMS and an ardent supporter of student research. Soma Weiss was born January 27, 1899 in Bestercze, then a part of Hungary. He immigrated to New York in 1920 and graduated from Cornell Medical College in 1923.

Soma Weiss came to Harvard Medical School in 1925 when he was appointed assistant at the Thorndike Memorial Laboratory and Research Fellow in the Department of Medicine. He rose rapidly, demonstrating his great ability as an investigator, teacher, administrator, and clinician. Within four years, Dr. Weiss was appointed Assistant Professor of Medicine. His medical capabilities, his diplomatic handling of difficult situations, and his amicable personality led to his appointment as Director of the Second and Fourth Medical Services at Boston City Hospital in 1932. In this position, he took charge of the fourth year medical students, winning their admiration and affection. One of the important contributions he made to teaching was in his development of the Clinico-Pathological Conference at the City Hospital. His own bi-weekly Pharmacological-Therapeutic Conference gave the students unusual insight into the use of drugs.

Soma Weiss possessed all the qualifications necessary for the great clinician. He was a master of observation. His ward rounds were excellent; while conducting them, he never neglected the patients, the students, or the visiting physicians. He kept them all in proper balance while he dominated the whole. He wisely insisted that clinical work must be the basis for the study of disease.

Soma Weiss became the second Physician-in-chief of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in 1939. He died January 31, 1942 from the rupture of a congenital intracranial aneurysm. In the intervening years, his generous spirit, his eager and able services for the Hospital, his great abilities as a physician, investigator, and teacher, left an indelible imprint on the many students he mentored.

Harvard Medical School wishes to thank the Weiss family for their support of the annual Soma Weiss Student Research Day.
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Posters Sessions
1:00 - 4:00 PM
Atrium of the Tosteson Medical Education Center
260 Longwood Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts

Reception
3:00 – 4:00 PM
Atrium of the Tosteson Medical Education Center

Student Presentations and Poster Awards
4:00-5:00 PM
Room 209, Tosteson Medical Education Center

Welcome
Jules Dienstag, MD, Carl W. Walter Professor of Medicine; Dean for Medical Education, Harvard Medical School

Introductions
Patricia D’Amore, PhD, Charles L. Schepens Professor of Ophthalmology, Schepens Eye Research Institute, Massachusetts Eye and Ear; Chair, Faculty Committee on Scholarship in Medicine

Student Speakers
Emilie Mitten (Holmes)
Physiologic investigation of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system in HIV patients
Lisa Rosenfeld (Peabody)
Assessing the use of interactive voice response technology in a smoking cessation intervention
Anna Jo Smith (Cannon)
The potential impact of health insurance exchanges on children’s health insurance access and coverage
Caleb Yeung (London)
Cleavage of the anaplastic lymphoma kinase in neuroblastoma

Awarding of Poster Prizes
Elizabeth D. Hay Prize for Basic Science Research
Judah Folkman Prize for Clinical / Translational Science Research
Charles Janeway Prize for International Research or Service
Robert Ebert Prize for Health Care Delivery Research or Service
Leon Eisenberg Prize for Medicine in Society Research

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL
74TH ANNUAL
Soma Weiss
Student Research Day
January 16, 2014