

A Vital Organization **By Ross Zafonte, DO, President**



As President of the Foundation for PM&R, I want to take this opportunity to highlight the vital role our organization plays in advancing psychiatric research and innovation. As we navigate a dynamic and evolving practice environment, it is essential that we continue to support innovative research that not only enhances our field but also maintains our clinical leadership.

I am pleased to report that the Foundation has funded high-yield research that has had a lasting impact on our profession. Notably, **all psychiatric investigators funded by the Foundation in the last 10 years are still actively engaged in research**, yielding valuable outcomes that enrich our understanding and practice of psychiatry.

I would like to extend a **warm welcome to our new Board members, Rita Ayyangar and Betsy Sandel, as well as to our new Life Director, Lynn Gerber**. Your expertise and leadership will be invaluable as we move forward. Dr Gerber has been an extraordinary leader in our field and her thoughts have helped lead us forward

I encourage everyone to mark their calendars for our **upcoming events at the Academy meeting**, listed below.

We are excited to announce that the **2025 research grant applications are open now**, and I look forward to discussing this further with all of you.

Lastly, we have a brief progress update on our fall fund drive. **Your continued support is crucial** as we strive to enhance our impact and drive forward our mission to enhance and preserve our field.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to our foundation and the field of psychiatry. Together, we can foster innovation and excellence in our practice!

Braddom Named Benefactor of the Year

Dr. Randall Braddom – former President of the Foundation for PM&R and world-renowned author of

the most popular PM&R textbook – will receive the inaugural Benefactor of the Year award. This award recognizes an individual who has made extraordinary contributions of both personal resources as well as time and effort to raise monies for



the Foundation. A former Foundation President, Dr. Braddom has remained an active member of the Friends of the Foundation (a group that maintains relationships with major donors) and is currently in the midst of his third “World Tour,” a fundraiser for the Foundation in which he donates all his speaking fees. (*Dr. Braddom is available to speak to your residents on one or more topics. If you would like to participate, contact Dr. Braddom directly at randybraddom@gmail.com or 908-601-7036.*) An interview with Dr. Braddom will be posted on our YouTube channel soon. Thank you, Dr. Braddom!

New At-Large Board Members



Rita N. Ayyangar, MD - Dr. Ayyangar is Clinical Professor at the University of Michigan, director of their Pediatric Rehabilitation medicine fellowship program and active in Research. She has served as Chair of the AAPM&R Council for Pediatric Rehabilitation and is a member of the *Journal of Pediatric Rehabilitation Medicine* editorial board.



Elizabeth Sandel, MD - Dr. Sandel is a well-known expert on brain injury and concussion and has served on many Boards, including as President of the AAPM&R. Her generous donation started the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Research Fund, and she is co-chair of the Foundation’s Brain Injury Rehabilitation Research Fund Task Force.

New Life Director Named



Dr. Lynn Gerber is being honored with Life Director status on the Foundation for PM&R’s Board of Directors for her extraordinary service to the organization and the field. Dr. Gerber has given generously of her time and financial resources; she is not only one of our top donors, but she has also served on the Board of Directors from 2015-

2024; as chair of our Development Strategy Committee during some of our most successful fundraising years; and as a research grant reviewer.

Additionally, Dr. Gerber is nationally recognized for her remarkable career in cancer rehabilitation research and service in the NIH, as well as being a member of the prestigious National Academy of Medicine. She is truly a treasure to the Foundation and the field.

2025 Research Grant Applications



Visit the Foundation for PM&R's new website at <https://foundationforpmr.org/research-grants/> for information about all the research grants that are now available. Applications must be submitted at <https://foundationforpmr.submittable.com/submit>. Deadline for submission is May 1, 2025.

Congratulations!



Walter Frontera, MD - former Foundation for PM&R Board member and current Summit Club member - will be presented with this year's AAPM&R Frank H. Krusen Lifetime Achievement Award.



Craig McDonald, MD - recipient of the Foundation's 2024 Gabriella Molnar Pediatric PM&R Lifetime Achievement Award - is also receiving a 2024 Distinguished Member Award from the AAPM&R.



Adam S. Tenforde, MD - three-time Foundation for P&R research grant recipient and Ascent Club members - will receive the AAPM&R's 2024 Early PMR Career Award.



Foundation Events at AAPM&R Meeting in San Diego

The Foundation for PM&R will host a number of events at the AAPM&R

Annual Assembly in San Diego this month. We hope you can join us there!

Donor Appreciation Reception - Thursday, Nov. 7, 7:15-9:00 PM, America's Cup CD, Manchester Grand Hyatt – Come hear this year's research grant recipients discuss their work. Top donors will also be recognized. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Rehab 5k Run/Walk & Roll - Friday, Nov. 8, 6:15 AM, Ruocco Park - Please come join us for this fun event, and cheer on your team in the Residency Program Challenge!

Proof of the Pudding Debate - Friday, Nov. 8, 12:30-1:30 PM, Room 3, Upper Level of the Convention Center - Drs. Jay Vallabh and Maneesh Tiwari will present different views on the appropriate indications for spinal injections.

Presentation of 2023 Nadler Research Grant Findings

- Saturday, Nov. 9., 9:15-10:30 AM, 15B, Mezzanine level of the Convention Center - Dr. Dan Herman will present his preliminary findings on the effects of COVID-19 infection on neuromuscular control.

Video Presentation of Awards - Saturday, Nov. 9, 1:30-2:45 PM, Ballroom ABCF, Convention Center Upper Level - The research grant awards will be presented at the Donor reception on Thursday, but the Foundation's awards are also included in the Academy's video awards presentation

Foundation Booth #1414 - Exhibit Hall, Convention Center – Get information about Foundation for PM&R research grants; join the Summit or Ascent Club; sign up for the Rehab 5k; and make a donation.

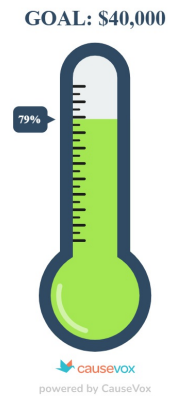
VIP Donor Lounge - Upper Level Corridor, Convention Center – Summit and Ascent Club members are invited to stop by for a cup of coffee or tea between sessions.

If you have any questions or wish to sign up for the Rehab 5k, please contact Phyllis Anderson at panderson@foundationforpmr.org or call 847-737-6062.

Fall Fund Drive Almost Over!

Every year, the fall fund drive provides a majority of the monies we need to build psychiatric research. We are at about 80% of our goal for this year's campaign – please help us fill the thermometer by the end of November so we can keep funding

innovative research for decades to come!
www.foundationforpmr.org/donate-now



DONATE NOW

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You can also find videos about physiatric research issues on our YouTube channel

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