

West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

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WVSOM Students Win Rural Health Awards



Eight of the team members from the Southeastern Area Health Education Center proudly hold their awards for "Outstanding Student Research Project," at the WV Rural Health Education Partnerships Recognition Dinner.

Several WVSOM students won awards at the West Virginia Rural Health Education Partnerships (WVRHEP) Recognition Dinner in Charleston on February 16. The dinner is staged every year to coincide with Rural Health Day at the West Virginia Legislature.

WVSOM third-year medical students Connie Brown and Hayes Calvert, along with WVSOM graduate Julie Brehm, D.O., who is now a family practice resident at Greenbrier Valley Medical Center, were part of a nine-person team from the Southeastern Area Health Education Center (AHEC) who won the award for the "Outstanding Student Research Project."

The AHEC team's project addressed osteoporosis and arthritis in Greenbrier County and involved two separate surveys conducted at a large local retail store, analysis of data, and recommendations based on the results. Study recommendations

included increased physician education, more patient education, and continued research. As a part of the project, the AHEC team also conducted home assessment visits to four patients with osteoporosis and arthritis. These visits led to subsequent students building a ramp at the home of one of the elderly patients who had trouble negotiating a steep set of stairs.



Pucci

Fourth-year WVSOM medical student David Pucci won the "Outstanding Student Community Service Award" during the awards dinner. Pucci researched and created a pamphlet that highlighted

various diabetic resources available to local providers in southeastern West Virginia. He mailed them to providers in the local area to use as a tool when referring diabetic patients to other specialists and health agencies.