History of the Rheumatology Research Foundation’s Clinician Scholar Educator (CSE) Award

The American College of Rheumatology established an innovative and unprecedented grant support for Rheumatology clinician educators. This award emphasized the ACR commitment to the education mission of the College. Modern academic centers within the structure of modern health care provided an atmosphere that was thought to threaten academic missions including education. The American College of Rheumatology responded to this concern and possible future impacts to the three missions represented on the triangle logo of the ACR. In August 1997, Dr. William Koopman, then President of the ACR, appointed a Blue Ribbon Committee on the Future of Academic Rheumatology. The committee was under the leadership of Dr. Eng Tan. From this important committee, a report was submitted to the ACR Board of Directors in March 1998. There was a consensus that one of the first priorities was the creation of a grant program to support the work of clinician educators in rheumatology. The Clinician Scholar Educator (CSE) Award was born. Support of talented clinician educators to educate, mentor, and inspire medical students and residents was established. Sharing knowledge about rheumatology with the next generation of physicians would provide improved outcomes for patients with rheumatologic disorders and may also recruit the best and brightest physicians into a professional path in rheumatology. The first three ACR/REF Clinician Scholar Educator Awards were granted in July, 1999. There has been an energetic and sustaining Clinician Scholar Educator’s community of practice dedicated to the scholarship of education, mentorship, and inspiration of future physicians. In 2016, a landmark work on the history and impact of the Rheumatology Research Foundation’s Clinician Scholar Educator Award was published marking an important part of the history of the CSE Award.

References:


