Robert T. Wong

Dr. Wong was a prominent Honolulu ophthalmologist and Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Hawai‘i Medical School (John A. Burns School of Medicine). As President of the Honolulu County Medical Society in 1965, he led a group of community practitioners who vigorously supported the establishment of a medical school in Hawai‘i. He was an outspoken and effective advocate of the school’s expansion to a four year school. He felt that the primary purpose of the medical school was to raise and maintain the high standard and quality of medical care in Hawai‘i and the Pacific Basin.

Purpose

The purpose of the Robert T. Wong, MD Lectureship is to enhance medical education for Hawai‘i’s citizens by enabling nationally and internationally prominent persons involved in the medical field to come to Hawai‘i and give the University of Hawai‘i, the medical professions in Hawai‘i, and other interested persons in the community an awareness of the latest in scientific research and techniques in the medical and health fields.

Guidelines

Total funds available every year are expected to be at least $20,000. Of this, $6,000 will be earmarked for speakers in Surgery. The balance is available for other departments whose applications meet the criteria below. Applications should not exceed $5,000 per speaker.

The Wong Lectureship Committee will accept proposals on a rolling basis and meet twice a year (January and July) to consider applications for up to $5,000 each to support visiting lecturers.

Applicants from any medical school organizational department may request funds for conference and/or keynote speakers, CME speakers, and residency program visiting professors. Funds will not be awarded for convocation speakers.

The call for applications will be announced on the JABSOM website, by email to department chairs, and at Executive Committee meetings.

Payment will be awarded as a lump sum honorarium from which speaker will pay his/her own expenses and which will be subject to income tax.

Criteria

Lecturers will be encouraged to present to multiple audiences and/or at JABSOM events that are open to the public in order to raise community awareness about the school and lecturers’ topics.

Preference will be given to lecturers who have the ability to increase visibility of JABSOM in the larger community, leverage new funds for departments, or enhance hospital partnerships.