



# Putnam Scholars Program

## Comprehensive Description

**Goal:** The Program will sustain and expand Samuel Morse Putnam’s longstanding enthusiasm for networking among schools, countries, and disciplines, and his ardor for improving teaching and research on physician-patient relationships and communication.

### **Objectives:**

- Encourage individual physicians, educators, and researchers to deepen their commitment to improving physician-patient relationships and communication and connect their work with the broader community of educators and researchers working in this domain.
- Through the mentoring process, the Program will increase the number, quality and connectedness (matrix of relationships) of physicians, educators, and researchers who are committed to improving physician-patient relationships and communication

### **Anticipated Scholar Outcomes:**

- Scholars will develop and implement creative projects that augment their institutions’ academic resources. For example, projects might include the design of special programs, enhanced curricula, new research projects or faculty development efforts
- Scholars will increase connections with people (inside and outside the Scholars’ local institution) who are committed to improving healthcare communication and relationships, through activities such as participation in annual communication conferences, and presentations of papers and workshops at relevant organizations
- Scholars will begin, expand and/or study their mentoring of more junior personnel
- Scholars will submit for publication papers relevant to improving physician-patient relationships and communication
- Scholars will assume additional responsibility for teaching/ researching physician patient communication at their home institution, or in other forums

### **Anticipated Program Outcomes:**

- By the 2012 AACH Teaching and Research Forum, 12 Scholars will have been funded and implemented projects
- Eight of these Scholars will attend the 2012 AACH Teaching and Research Forum.
- The Program Committee (*vide infra*) will submit a paper (with evaluation results) for publication not later than two years after the 10<sup>th</sup> Scholar completes the Program.

### **Methods:**

- Scholars will develop a mentoring relationship with a senior AAPP faculty member. This will include a 3-5 day “visiting professor” session at the Scholar’s institution, with time set aside for consultation between mentor and Scholar and initiation of mentoring arrangements.
- Scholars will arrange at least 11 additional telephone (or video calls) contacts of an hour or so with the mentor to continue organizing, planning and implementing projects, establishing connections with other educators and researchers and enhancing the scholar’s professional development.
- Scholars will attend the AACH Research and Teaching Forum in the year of the award.



# Putnam Scholars Program Comprehensive Description

## **Award\* Procedures:**

- AACH Board will appoint a 3-5 person Putnam Scholars Program Committee of AACH members and other scholars. Members will have three-year rotating terms, and take responsibility for all aspects of Program conduct, including but not limited to designing and reviewing applications, selecting Scholars for presentation to the Board, designing and supervising an evaluation process for the Program, financial supervision of grants.
- Each year AACH will issue a request for proposal (December or January). Prior to this time, the Program Committee will establish a roster of senior AACH facilitators who agree to provide mentoring and be a visiting scholar.
- Scholars submit applications (by March), proposing how the AACH visiting scholar would be integrated into their institution, propose an educational or research project, and outline networking opportunities. Applicant must demonstrate department and/or institutional support for the application and show that Scholar will have time to focus on this project and attend the full AACH Forum in October.
- Applicant must clearly specify outcome goals, as well as methods for evaluating the results.
- AACH Board offers the award. (Makes decisions at April meeting)
- Awardees are provided with a list of potential scholars. Potential mentors and scholars discuss opportunities and interests and establish partnerships for the Program year. (Make decisions by June)
- Awards announced at the AACH Forum. (even if visit(s) have already taken place)  
\*(Number of awards to depend on suitable requests and availability of funds)

## **Finances:**

- All funds donated to the Putnam Scholars Program will be added to the endowment principal (after deducting expenses for fund-raising; such as postage, telephone, travel to donor meetings, etc)
- AACH Finance Committee, in concert with the Development Committee, will suggest people and procedures for a volunteer ad hoc committee to properly invest, manage, and disburse the income
- AACH Putnam Program funds will support a senior AACH facilitator's scholarly 3-5 day visit and mentoring calls with a Scholar at a North American or European medical school.
- Program funds will support coach airfare, lodging and registration fees for the local Scholar, who will attend the ICCH-AACH conference in odd years, or the AACH Forum OR ICCH conference in even years.
- Program funds will support an evaluation process for the Putnam Scholars Program that is designed and supervised by the Putnam Scholars Program Committee.

## **Selection Criteria (tentative, until modified by duly appointed Program Committee):**

- Organization and coherence of the proposal.
- Proposals that demonstrate strong local organizational support, from the Scholar's department or institution.



## Putnam Scholars Program Comprehensive Description

- Proposals that promise to make significant impact toward strengthening local teaching and scholarly capacity. These will include designated time for the Fellow to pursue planned activities and attend ICCH/ Forum; and may include making steps toward creating a comprehensive curriculum related to healthcare communication and relationships; bringing together disparate faculty from diverse units; creating or moving forward local research capacity; conducting faculty development activities; or advancing other aspects of the AACH mission.
- Proposals that seek to build sustainable bridges to AACH, EACH, the PCM, or related organizations that will support the local initiative.
- Proposals that demonstrate a commitment to related capacity-building efforts. These might include, but are not limited to sending additional faculty member(s) to the AACH national course, Forum, or to the ICCH.

### **Budget: subtotal award cost (estimate- \$5800 per scholar per year)**

- Mentor honorarium \$400 per full day on site; \$1000 for 11 mentoring calls. (~ \$2500)
  - (Scholar's department to fund expenses of the mentor visit)
- Scholar cash award. \$1500
- Scholar attendance at Forum (~\$1800; 700 airfare, 600 lodging, 500 registration)

### **Budget: subtotal administrative cost (estimate- \$2000 yearly first scholar, and \$750 each additional)**

- AACH administration expenses for initial awardee,: 40 hours per year (5 hours to put out call; 10 organizing proposals for review; 5 communicating with applicants; 10 monitoring and administering funds; 5 coordinating feedback and evaluation; 5 arranging Forum and National Course related matters; 15% "indirect" overhead, such as arranging conference calls, reviewing and coordinating documents, emails to committee, etc.) @ \$50/ hour = \$2000; and 15 additional hours per additional awardee, or ~ 55 hours for 2 awardees.

### **Budget: subtotal evaluation cost (estimate- \$1000 yearly) Cost for implementing Program evaluation procedures; \$1000 per year (questionnaire development, mailing, collation and reporting**

**Total costs estimate-** \$7800 one scholar (plus \$1000 evaluation), \$6600 each additional (no added evaluation cost) (2= 15400, 3=22000)

*Implications for fund-raising: @ 5% yearly, \$400,000 endowment generates \$20,000 (2-3, 4-day scholar visits), and \$178,050 generates \$7800 (one 4-day scholar).*