



Alumni Awards

As a department, we focus on three values:

Relevance - Our work adds value to efforts to transform health care and improve health.

Strong relationships - We enable success for all and value the journey.

Leadership at all levels - We see, own, act.

This year we are honoring three of our distinguished alumni for exemplifying these departmental values through their contributions to academics, industry, and the application of informatics to health care. These three individuals have truly distinguished themselves, and we are proud of their contributions!



Dr. Viet Nguyen, MD Relationships Award

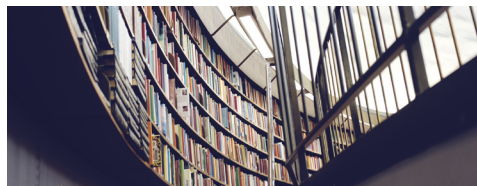
Dr. Viet Nguyen serves as Chief Medical Officer for Systems Made Simple. Dr. Nguyen is a practicing internist and pediatrician who was trained in Medical Informatics at the University of Utah. He advises the Executive Board on corporate strategy and provides clinical and informatics expertise to the Health Solutions directorate and Operations.

Dr. Nguyen has been a devoted partner to the Department over the last few years. He has helped lead an HL7 FHIR special interest group in which a few dozen students, faculty, and friends discuss their application of this evolving standard to the EHR. Dr. Nguyen has also provided funding for one of our students, Jianlin Shi, to pursue training in informatics for the last two years. He is constantly "on call" for brainstorming and advice, and we appreciate his focus on building and maintaining strong relationships.



Andrew Balas, MD, PhD Leadership Award

Dr. Andrew Balas serves as Professor and Dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences and Director of the Biomedical Research Innovation Laboratory at Augusta University. His expertise includes policy development to encourage innovative biomedical research responsive to societal needs and application of advanced digital technologies for transferring research to practice. As a Congressional Fellow working for the Public Health and Safety Subcommittee of the United States Senate, he drafted the Healthcare Quality Enhancement Act of 1999 that, among others, first achieved government action on reducing errors in health care. His academic credentials include over 100 peer-reviewed publications, externally funded research in excess of \$10 million, and publications that have cumulatively attracted over 5,000 citations. Dr. Balas brings informatics expertise to his leadership in academic medicine, and we are proud of his contributions.



Gilad Kuperman, MD, PhD Relevance Award

Gil Kuperman was named by Science Watch in 2014 as one of the world's most influential scientific minds. He received a BA in Mathematics from Columbia College, an MD from Albert Einstein College of Medicine, and a PhD in Medical Informatics from the University of Utah.

From 1992-2003, he worked in the Information Systems Department at Partners HealthCare System in Boston, where he focused on the design, development, implementation, and evaluation of clinical decision support systems. Dr. Kuperman now serves as Adjunct Professor at DBMI and as Director for Interoperability Informatics at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, helping the hospital advance its health information exchange and care coordination strategies, pioneering work in the development of alerts and reminders in computer physician order entry systems as well as the development of a system that alerts physicians for critical laboratory results. He has been involved in health information exchange activities and served as the Executive Director and Board Chair of NYCLIX, Inc., a regional health information organization that created an information infrastructure connecting medical centers and other providers in Manhattan and other parts of New York City.