



The Bigelow

CARDIAC SURGERY RESIDENT RESEARCH COMPETITION

MAY 23rd

2025

We are excited to announce the **5th annual Bigelow Research Competition**, which will be open to any **resident** currently enrolled in a Canadian cardiac surgical residency program and to **medical students** enrolled in Canadian medical schools. This year, for the first time, the competition will be held in-person on **Friday, May 23rd, 2025 as part of the CSCS Spring Meeting** in Montreal. This integration of the Bigelow Competition into the CSCS Spring Meeting will afford all presenters exposure to an even broader platform, with notable guest speakers interspersed throughout the abstract sessions including Joe Bavaria and Francois Dagenais and 100+ meeting participants. This will be an unparalleled opportunity for trainees to showcase their research, network with high profile academic surgeons and colleagues.

There will be two categories in which residents may submit abstracts, 1) **basic / translational** and 2) **clinical / educational** research. Residents and students are encouraged to submit one abstract each, in a format that will be easy to adhere to as it corresponds to CCC submission guidelines.

The entry must adhere to the following specifications:

1. A cover page with the authors, title, institutional affiliations and category of abstract.
2. On a separate page, the title and body of the abstract (maximum 400 words). The abstract and title may not contain any reference to the authors or originating institution.
3. One figure, table or photograph.
4. A statement from the resident or medical student confirming that they are currently enrolled in their residency training program or medical school and that they performed the majority of the work described in the abstract.
5. The title, body of the abstract and the figure, table and photograph should be submitted together as a single pdf file, but separate from the cover page.

6. The work may not have been previously published in manuscript form, but work that has been previously presented as an abstract is eligible. In addition, because presentation at the competition will not preclude subsequent presentation at a national/international meeting, this is an excellent forum to get constructive feedback and tune up your talk.

7. Each resident or student may only submit one abstract.

8. Residents should indicate whether they wish to be considered for the **Feindel travelling residency award** (see below).

9. The complete abstract submission package should be submitted to julie.wei@uhn.ca prior to the **deadline on Friday, March 21, 2025**.

The deidentified abstracts will be reviewed by a panel of faculty surgeons from across the US and Canada. The top-ranked abstracts in each category (basic/translational and clinical/educational) will be invited to present their work at the live in-person competition. The first-place winners in each category will receive a cash prize of \$1500, while the runners-up will receive a prize of \$1000. In addition, there is a CSCS fan favorite award which will be voted upon by the conference attendees.

For the second year, senior residents are eligible for consideration for the Feindel travelling residency award. This award of up to \$7500 supports a Canadian senior cardiac surgical resident to spend one week at the University of Toronto under the direct mentorship of Dr. Christopher Feindel, Professor of Surgery at the University of Toronto and senior surgeon at the Peter Munk Cardiac Centre, and to observe the clinical and research activity of the adult cardiac surgery division. This is an unparalleled opportunity for networking and clinical and career mentorship.

We are anticipating a host of submissions that will showcase the breadth and depth of the research being performed by residents and students across Canadian training programs. The CSCS Spring Meeting will be a fantastic event for faculty surgeons and trainees of all levels. There will be ample opportunity for abstract presenters to network with speakers, faculty and other trainees during the meeting and at organized social events.

For more information, please contact julie.wei@uhn.ca.