

## **Darrell Abernethy Early Stage Investigator Award**

The *Darrell Abernethy Early Stage Investigator Award* is intended to foster the growth of early career scientists. This award honors the memory of Darrell Abernethy, MD, PhD, who was a leader in clinical pharmacology and a devoted advocate for the discipline of clinical pharmacology. During his career, Darrell was a successful mentor to hundreds of mentees, and it was his wish that an award be dedicated to helping young faculty succeed in the area of investigative clinical pharmacology.

### **Eligibility**

The applicant is an ASCPT member who must have completed a graduate degree and is a junior faculty member working toward obtaining a senior faculty position within clinical pharmacology or translational medicine at the time of grant award. The applicant must be a US/Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of the US. The applicant must show evidence of heading up an independent research laboratory or of being an early stage investigator with promise for a successful career and indicate the percentage of time to be committed to research during the award period, with the expectation being at least 60%.

### **Applications should include the following:**

- A cover letter briefly summarizing the applicant's qualifications and a description of the ongoing or proposed research.
- Applicant's curriculum vitae.
- The names of 3 potential scientific or career mentors.
- No more than 5 pages that describe the project, inclusive of a summary/abstract, specific aims, and the research strategy as well as a section on the protection of human subjects, if applicable.
- Two letters of recommendation, with one letter from the candidate's Division Chief, Department Chair, or Dean demonstrating support of the candidate and the second from someone outside the candidate's institution.
- An electronic copy of one of the applicant's publications that they consider their best work.

### **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:**

ASCPT is committed to recognizing and promoting excellence in research, collaborations, and efforts that highlight dimensions of diversity. Nominators should address how the candidate has fostered a diverse and inclusive environment.

### **Selection Process**

The ASCPT Award Selections Task Force will select the recipient based on the following criteria:

- Qualifications and track record of the candidate
- Potential impact of the work
- Environment and institutional support for the work

### **Additional Considerations**

- Recipient will be provided with an ASCPT member mentor (scientific or career match).
- Recipient is encouraged to submit their research for presentation at the ASCPT Annual Meeting as either an oral or poster presentation.
- The recipient will be formally recognized at the ASCPT Annual Meeting and will be provided with complimentary registration to attend the award presentation.

**Prize and Presentation**

The *Darrell Abernethy Early Stage Investigator Award* recipient will receive a grant for a one-year period, January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026, for the total amount of \$10,000. The Grant funds are directed to the sponsoring institution and may provide salary support, supplies, equipment, travel, and other expenses necessary for the pursuit of the recipient's research project. Funds may not be used for administrative overhead costs.

**Awards History:**

2025: Katherine Theken, PharmD, PhD

2024: Amelia Deitchman, PharmD, PhD

2023: Zhu Zhou, PhD

2022: Matthew McLaughlin, MD

2021: Shuiying Hu, PhD

2020: Akinyemi Oni-Orisan, PharmD, PhD

2019: Laura Ramsey, PhD (inaugural recipient)