CRITERIA

Mission:
- To create a unique early career investigator competition highlighting cardiovascular research, health/wellness, and service in the state of Vermont.

Early Career Investigator Challenge in Cardiovascular Disease
- Merit based scientific abstract competition to highlight the best cardiovascular research work conducted by early career scientists at the University of Vermont and UVM Health Network.
- Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate individual and professional commitments to cardiovascular health/wellness and service.

Timeline:
- Abstract due date: December 2, 2019
- Finalists announced: January 6, 2020
- Finalist presentation due date: January 27, 2020
- Competition: February 5, 2020

Competitor Eligibility:
- Applicants must be early career investigators. Eligible candidates include: PhD and Master’s graduate students; postdoctoral fellows; residents and clinical fellows; medical students; faculty and staff within 5 years of first appointment.
- Applicants and primary mentor(s) must be affiliated with the University of Vermont and/or the UVM Health network and the research.
- The applicant must be the first author.
- Previously presented and/or published scientific work is eligible for submission if the final publication occurred within 1 year of the Investigator Challenge (after January 1, 2019).
- Complete application (Appendix I) with attestations (Appendix II) must be submitted.
- Demonstration of personal and professional commitments to cardiovascular health/wellness and service is encouraged but not required (Appendix III). For Finalists, this component may count for up to 5% of the final competition score.

General Format: Scientific Abstract - Oral Presentation
- 4 Finalists selected by abstract reviewers
- Abstract reviewers: CVRI Board
- Oral Presentations: 7 minutes (Applicant) + 4 minutes questions (Judges)
- Judges: Panel of 5 Faculty Research Experts
- 1 Overall Winner
- 2 Hour Event: Competition (5-6pm), Award Announcement (6:30pm), Refreshments (6-7pm)

Awards:
- Winner: $2,000 prize (cash [taxable] or funds transfer to research account)
- Winner’s Mentor: $1,000 prize (funds transfer to research account)
- Recognition plaques awarded to: Winner, 3 Finalists, Winner’s Mentoring Lab/Clinical division