

For Immediate Release
May 27, 2010

Contact: Colleen Leeders, Foundation Manager
(847)869-5019 ext. 135
ckleeders@massagetherapyfoundation.org

MASSAGE THERAPY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2010 STUDENT CASE REPORT WINNERS

Evanston, IL – May 27, 2010 - Three exceptional students are the winners of the Massage Therapy Foundation's 2010 annual Student Case Report Contest. This contest supports the Foundation's belief that education about research will build a deeper appreciation of massage therapy. The student case report contest promotes research literacy in massage therapy schools by integrating research into schools' existing programs. With the support and cooperation of schools, students learn to write a research case report and simultaneously begin to incorporate research into their practice habits.

This year's first place Gold Award goes to Shannon Halpin from the Cortiva Institute, Seattle School of Massage Therapy. Her report is entitled, "The Effects of Massage Therapy on Lumbar Spondylolisthesis." As the first place winner, Ms. Halpin receives \$2,500 cash contingent upon participating in a peer-review process with a scientific journal along with an invitation to present her report during a Foundation-sponsored session at the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA) National Convention that will take place this September in Minneapolis, MN. Additionally, Ms. Halpin and her faculty supervisor will each be awarded a \$1,000 stipend to attend the AMTA Convention and an opportunity to publish her report.

The second place Silver Award goes to Melissa Pierson from CCMH – Foothills College of Massage Therapy. His report is entitled, "Does Massage Therapy Affect Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction?" As a Silver

Award winner, Mr. Sherwin receives \$2,000 cash contingent upon participating in the peer-review process with a scientific journal and an invitation to present his case report as a poster at the poster session during the 2010 AMTA National Convention.

One student is being recognized with an Honorable Mention this year. The Honorable Mention goes to Sara Davidson from the Atlantic College of Therapeutic Massage with a report entitled "Myofascial Techniques along the Acupuncture Meridians: A New Possibility for Treating Internal Organ Dysfunction".

The Massage Therapy Foundation is a 501(c)3 public charity, with a mission to advance the knowledge and practice of massage by supporting scientific research, education, and community service. For more information on the Foundation, please visit www.massagetherapyfoundation.org.

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