

## 2022 Peer Recognition Award Recipients

### Founders Award | *Scott McIntosh, MD, MPH, FAWM, DiMM*



Dr. Scott McIntosh is a tenured Professor of Emergency Medicine at University of Utah Health. He was a rock and ice climbing guide before attending medical school and has climbed high mountains throughout the world.

Scott was one of the founders of the WMS Diploma in Mountain Medicine in 2012 and continues to be active as a Program Director. He served as Editor-in-Chief of the Wilderness & Environmental Medicine Journal from 2010-2015 during which WEM gained significance and prominence. Scott was WMS President from 2019-2020, a period which saw many challenges and major successes.

In his emergency medicine position, Scott serves as the Medical Director of Summit County, Utah. He also serves as Flight Physician and Associate Medical Director at AirMed, the University of Utah's medical flight service. Scott is the Director of the Wilderness Medicine Fellowship at the University of Utah and has been the rescue physician on Denali for three seasons.

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### Paul S. Auerbach Award | *Susanne Spano, MD, FACEP, FAWM*



Sue is from Fresno, CA and the WM Fellowship program director at UCSF Fresno. She received her MD at Temple and completed EM residency and WM fellowship at UCSF Fresno. She is a member of the Fresno County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team, and faculty at NPS Parkmedic trainings since 2005.

Sue is chair of the WMS GME Committee, since 2019. During that tenure, the WMS spearheaded a GME fellowship certification review process, and a GME fellowship match. Currently, she serves as a reviewer for Wilderness and Environmental Medicine, awarded Excellence in Peer reviews (2015, 2019), and winter conference chair-elect. Prior service includes the WMS Membership Committee, Research Committee, invited lectures on long distance backpacking and effective presentations, and virtual co-host of the Winter 2022 conference.

Most cited research articles focus on the search and rescue, medical morbidities in long distance backpackers, and articles on WM GME. She is on the Executive Committee for the California ACEP BOD. Regionally she serves as a medical staff leader for Community Medical Centers.

Hobbies include backpacking with over 1000 miles completed on the PCT and running with a goal to complete 26.2 in all 50 states.



### **Ice Axe Award | Taylor Haston, DO, FACEP, DiMM, MPH, MS**

Dr. Taylor Haston is from Charlotte, NC, completed medical school at Nova Southeastern University, Emergency Medicine residency training at the Medical College of Georgia, followed by a Wilderness Medicine Fellowship at MCG. She is now an Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, as well as Director for the Wilderness Medicine Fellowship. Dr. Haston has earned her Diploma in Mountain Medicine (DiMM) and certifications in Level 1 Swiftwater Rescue, Advanced Open Water and Rescue Diving. She works as medical support for an international ultra-marathon race series as frequently as her schedule allows and has traveled internationally as faculty, not only with the Wilderness Medicine Section, but also with the International Medicine Section and the Ultrasound Section at MCG.

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### **Education Award | Lara Phillips, MD, FAWM**

Dr. Lara Phillips is on faculty at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital where she works as an emergency medicine physician. She is the faculty advisor of the Wilderness and Disaster Medicine Society at the Sidney Kimmel Medical College at TJU. In 2015, she completed a fellowship in Wilderness Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. During this fellowship, she worked at Health Aid Posts in the Annapurna Mountains through the Himalayan Rescue Association and continued to volunteer with relief efforts in Kathmandu after the Nepal earthquake in spring 2015. She has also worked in rural Dillingham, Alaska and Pine Ridge, South Dakota through the Indian Health Service and in Guyana at Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation. She has a passion for teaching and service to the underserved in rural areas. She is also involved in the medical school curriculum at Sidney Kimmel Medical College as a

course director for the first block in medical school, Introduction to the Study of Medicine and the Wilderness and Environmental Medicine Elective in Breckenridge, CO. During the pandemic, she assisted with various initiatives including the Regional Congregate Care Assistance Team as part of a rapid response team for covid outbreaks in the community. She continues to pursue an academic career by combining patient care and teaching in traditional and non-traditional emergency medicine settings.

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### **Education Award | Josh Rudner, DO, DiMM**

Josh is an Emergency Physician who lives in the Upper Valley of New Hampshire. He is the Medical Director for a Critical Access Hospital Emergency Department and several surrounding EMS agencies. He is also the co-founder and co-director of BreckWild, an immersive 4 week Wilderness Medicine elective for senior medical students that takes place each spring in Colorado at Utah.

Josh's adventures in wilderness medicine have their source in WFR courses taken as a student trip leader at Bowdoin College and developed through a decade long career in outdoor education as a wilderness trip leader, program director, whitewater kayak instructor, raft guide, and on-again/off-again ski bum. After medical school at the University of New England and residency training at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Josh stayed on to complete a fellowship in wilderness medicine education. His academic interests include leadership and performance, judgment, and resource limited medicine. Any remaining time is happily spent with his family outside. Josh believes passionately in the power of shared outdoor experiences



### **Warren D. Bowman Award | *Simon Ruparelia***

Simon has over 20 years of global experience in marketing and communications, having started his early career at Unilever. He has worked in brand strategy roles on behalf of the world's biggest brands, with the last decade covering Asia Pacific for a multi-national public relations agency.

Alongside his marketing credentials, Simon also has a passion for public health and remote medicine – a unique combination of skills and interest! He is both a practitioner and organizational leader with on-the-ground experience in east & west Africa and has spent hundreds of hours working in emergency medicine as a paramedic. He has previously served on the council of a UK search & rescue organization, and as a reservist in the British Army

medical corps.

Utilizing both his professional background and his passion, Simon directed the recent rebranding of the WMS from top to bottom, a process which took many months to realise. The results of which are a visual identity that will set the WMS apart in the field of wilderness medicine for many years to come.

Simon continues a lifetime of learning through post-graduate Public Health studies at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and currently working towards his FAWM.

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### **Dian Simpkins Award | *Arun Ganti, MD, MPHS, FAWM, DiMM***

Arun is an emergency physician currently practicing in the Seattle area. He attended medical school at Washington University in Saint Louis and completed emergency medicine residency at the University of Michigan. Following residency, he completed a fellowship in Wilderness Medicine at UCSF Fresno and continued to work as faculty after graduation. During his time in Fresno, he was on the Fresno Search and Rescue team, served as medical advisor to the National Park Service, and served as the local emergency medicine advisor to Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Parks. He is currently part of the medical team at Global Outdoor Emergency Support (GOES) and helps run the fellowship match hosted by the WMS. In his free time, he enjoys cycling, hiking, attempting to ice climb, and doing just about anything outside with his partner Beejal and their two daughters.

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### **Ascent Award | *Shilpi Ganguly, MS***

Shilpi Ganguly is a rising fourth-year medical student at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Prior to medical school, she earned a double degree in biomedical engineering and Spanish, with a minor in aerospace engineering from Washington University in St. Louis. She then went on to get a master's degree in modern human anatomy from the University of Colorado.

She is an avid traveler and adventurer, having visited 68 countries, all 7 continents, and climbed three of the world's seven summits. She even has a minor planet named after her, 22706 Ganguly! She is currently working on her private pilot's license and is the creator and founder of The Global Organization for Wilderness Medicine Education (GOWME), an organization started during the pandemic dedicated to providing free open access wilderness medicine education for all. Through GOWME, she has opened up the world of wilderness medicine to larger audiences from all over the world, facilitating unique and accessible learning opportunities and creating meaningful leadership roles for interested students.

Her personal interests in wilderness medicine lay within the fields of polar, mountain, tactical, and space medicine, and she hopes to integrate these disciplines within her future career.

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### **WEM Outstanding Contributor Award | Neal Pollock, PhD**

Neal Pollock holds a Research Chair in Hyperbaric and Diving Medicine and is an Associate Professor in Kinesiology at Université Laval in Québec, Canada. He was previously Research Director at Divers Alert Network (DAN) in Durham, North Carolina. His academic training is in zoology, exercise physiology and environmental physiology. His research interests focus on human health and safety in extreme environments. Neal joined the editorial board of the WMS journal Wilderness & Environmental Medicine in April 2005; became a section editor (Undersea and Dive Medicine) in August 2010; an associate editor in October 2014; and editor-in-chief in May 2016. He stepped down from the EIC position in July 2022.

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### **Peer Review Award | Marc Cassone, DO, FAWM, W-EMT, DIMM**

Marc is an Emergency Medicine physician working for the Indian Health Service in Shiprock, NM. He has had a long interest in wilderness medicine and wilderness medicine education. Among other activities, he has been a race director for several MedWARs, faculty for the BreckWild Student Wilderness Elective, Student Representative to the WMS Board (2015-16), Vice Chair of the EMRA Wilderness Medicine Division, conference director for the 2016 Winter Student Wilderness Medicine Conference in Lake Placid and the 2014 Midatlantic Student Wilderness Medicine Conference, and has spoken at several conferences and medical schools. He is a member of the WMS Student Education Committee and Clinical Practice Guidelines Committee. Currently he enjoys working with new and experienced authors as a peer reviewer for the Journal of Wilderness and Environmental Medicine and Associate Editor of the WMS Magazine. He also helps teach WFR/WFA courses for Base Medical. Additionally, he has worked as an outdoor guide for 10+ years and still tries to get outside and lead trips when he can.

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### **Peer Review Award | Jennifer Dow, MD, FACEP, DiMM, FAWM**

Dr. Jenn Dow began her wilderness medicine career as a member of National Ski Patrol at age 15. Growing up in California, summers were spent in the Eastern Sierra – hiking, backpacking, and climbing. She attended the Medical College of Wisconsin and completed her Emergency Medicine residency at York Hospital - York, Pennsylvania. Moving to Alaska in 1997, she has never looked back. Joining the WMS in 1990 – she completed her FAWM in 2007 and DiMM in 2014. She was a founding faculty member for the WMS-DiMM and continues to serve as core faculty. Jenn co-chaired and chaired the 2019 and 2020 summer conferences, respectively, joined the board of directors in 2018, and will serve as President of the WMS beginning in summer 2023. For her “real job”, Jenn practices Emergency Medicine at Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage. She also serves as the Medical Director for the National Park Service – Alaska Region; Guardian Flight Alaska, Alyeska Ski Patrol, and The Alyeska Pipeline. She works closely with multiple guide and rescue services, ensuring their field teams have the knowledge and tools needed to manage remote emergencies. If she’s not out running her dogs, she can usually be found skiing, climbing, or mountain biking – satellite phone in hand.



### **Peer Review Award | Daniel Keyler, Pharm.D., FAACT**

Daniel Keyler's herpetology/toxicology interests were spurred early on by the late Sherman A. Minton Jr., MD, friend and mentor. He received a BS degree from Purdue University, Indiana, and BS and Doctor of Pharmacy degrees from University of Minnesota. Conservation and research with timber rattlesnakes (*Crotalus horridus*) in the Upper Mississippi River Valley have been a passion of Daniel's, and he served on a federal committee that developed a national conservation action plan for the species. For 30 years, he was Co-Director of Toxicology Research with the Minneapolis Medical Research Foundation, and he continues to hold Adjunct Professor status with the Department of Experimental & Clinical Pharmacology, University of Minnesota. Dr. Keyler served as President of the North American Society of Toxinology; he's also a Fellow of the American Academy of Clinical Toxicology and

was the Envenomations Section Chair. Publications include 100+ peer-reviewed articles (including WEM), 40+ book chapters, and coauthor on three books, one being *Venomous Bites from Non-Venomous Snakes: A Critical Analysis of Risk Management of Colubrid Snake Bites*. Daniel is a contributor and author/member of the Medical Advisory Committee to the Online Antivenom Index, reviewer for multiple journals, including *Wilderness & Environmental Medicine*. He's most content being out in the field whenever possible.

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### **Peer Review Award | Ziva Petrin, MD**

Ziva is a sports medicine physician and Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School.

She completed her Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation residency at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA and fellowship training in Primary Care Sports Medicine from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, UT.

Her clinical and research interests include musculoskeletal adaptations to exercise, acute and overuse injuries occurring in runners, rock climbers, hikers, cyclists and other outdoor endurance athletes.

Dr. Petrin is currently pursuing her FAWM. She serves on the WMS Research Committee, is involved with the WMS Women in Wilderness Committee as well as the WMS Environmental Committee.

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### **Peer Review Award | David A. Warrell, KCMG, DM, DSc, FRCP, FMedSci**

Professor Sir David Warrell is Emeritus Professor of Tropical Medicine, formerly head of the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, and Honorary Fellow of St Cross College, University of Oxford, UK. After training in internal medicine in London, he started research on human and comparative respiratory physiology at Hammersmith Hospital, London with Moran Campbell, and with John B. West at University of California, San Diego (1969-70). His introduction to tropical medicine was with Eldryd Parry and Anthony Bryceson in Ethiopia in 1968 and Zaria, Nigeria (1970-7). In 1979, he founded Oxford's Tropical Medicine Research Network, by establishing the Wellcome-Mahidol University, Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Programme in Bangkok, Thailand, now in its 43rd year. His career has been as a physician, zoologist, teacher, researcher, resident, traveller, and perpetual student in Africa,

Asia, Latin America, and Papua New Guinea. His research interests comprise malaria, relapsing fever, rabies and other tropical infections, clinical toxinology, especially snakebite, and expedition medicine. His interest in Wilderness Medicine began when appointed Medical Advisor to the Royal Geographical Society in 1993. He was greatly encouraged by an old friend, the late Paul S Auerbach, and WMS. He contributed to several editions of Paul's classic "Wilderness Medicine" and taught on this topic in Europe and the United States.



### **Research Award | Giacomo Strapazzon, MD, PhD, DiMM**

Giacomo Strapazzon is Head of the Institute of Mountain Emergency Medicine of Eurac Research in UNESCO World Heritage Dolomites, Italy. He is a consultant in emergency medicine, delegate for the Italian Mountain Rescue (CNSAS) within the International Commission for Alpine Rescue (ICAR) and he serves in the WMS Research Committee.

His research career in wilderness medicine began at the EV-K2-CNR Pyramid International Laboratory in Nepal. Since, he has been principal and co-investigator in over 30 in-field, clinical and lab studies, mainly focusing on cold injuries, thus expanding the current knowledge on avalanche-accident care and injury prevention using a notably innovative approach. His research interests encompass high-altitude illnesses and mountain emergency medicine (MEM) including helicopter and special-scenario rescue, point-of-care ultrasonography and UAV use. Strapazzon considers his role in development and capacity building of the terraXcube one of his most important to date - the facility comprises two large hypobaric chambers able to recreate the extreme conditions of mountains and wilderness areas in a safe and controllable environment. He has published over 140 research manuscripts and 12 book chapters and is editor of the first MEM book. He also lectures in several Universities and DiMM courses on topics related to mountain and wilderness medicine.

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### **Special Recognition Award | Jim Ingwersen**

Jim started working with the Wilderness Medical Society when it relocated from Indianapolis to Colorado Springs in 1998. While initially serving as a system and network consultant, his relationship with the Society grew to include web hosting, development and ultimately, in late 2005, the coding for the groundbreaking FAWM program. With help from outside graphic artists, he single-handedly developed the last two iterations of WMS.ORG and starting in 2010, implemented a high degree of automation that enabled the growing Society to greatly expand its services with minimal staffing overhead. The website and management systems he developed have served the Society dependably for the last decade. In addition to serving as a consultant to the WMS, Jim is currently a Database Developer Team Lead for CTA, Inc. working on a contract with the US Navy.

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### **Special Lifetime Contributor Award | Peter Hackett, MD**

Peter Hackett is Founder and former Director of the Institute for Altitude Medicine in Telluride, CO; Clinical Professor of Medicine at the Altitude Research Center, Division of Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care Medicine, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus; Former Medical Director of the Himalayan Rescue Association; Past President of the International Society for Mountain Medicine; Founder and Director of the Denali Medical Research Project; and Co-Chairman of the International Hypoxia Symposia. While not inspiring and impacting the wilderness medicine community, Dr. Hackett enjoys climbing (he's an Everest summiteer) and yak ranching.