Recently, OUWB Class of 2017 medical students Deidre Bartlett and Michael Rezaee, earned first- and second-place honors respectively in an abstract poster competition at the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) Foundation’s 149th Annual Scientific Meeting.

The students presented their Capstone research and were evaluated by a panel of judges comprised of members of the Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) Planning Committee and MSMS Board members.

Bartlett’s research, “Music Selection and Anesthesia Effects,” investigates the role of music in the medical field, specifically in anxiety-inducing situations. Her work involves comparing patients that listen to music versus those who do not listen to music during a procedure. The data translates to shorter recovery times and a decrease in nausea, vomiting, and severe pain during and after the procedure. As she explained the ongoing music and anesthesia research process to the physicians she received insightful responses from them.

“The physicians liked learning how this research focused on the type of music the patient listens to in the operating room as opposed to the music the surgeon wants to listen to,” said Bartlett.

Rezaee’s Capstone poster titled, “Prevalence and Associated Cost and Utilization of Multiple Chronic Conditions in the Outpatient Setting among Enrollees of an Employer-based Health Plan,” identifies patients who are heavily burdened with managing their multiple health care appointments, treatment, personal and family responsibilities, and increased health care costs and utilization.

“TMy project highlights the importance of studying and supporting these patients, and I thought it was critically important to share this information with our community,” said Rezaee. “As a medical student, I think it’s important to have my Capstone project reviewed and vetted by members of our health care community.”

Presentations Motivate Students to Keep Researching

Both students advise their peers to seek opportunities to present their Capstone research to obtain feedback and inspiration from experienced physicians and researchers.

Specifically for Bartlett, the MSMS competition broadened her horizons beyond the procedure room and allowed her to brainstorm more applications. “Our research is ongoing and seeing the positive response from the judges and conference attendees helps to rejuvenate our own drive and enthusiasm for extending this study beyond our initial aspirations.”