

Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs Office News Release

For Immediate Release
Release Number 04-016

Contact: Tripler Public Affairs Office, 808-433-5785
Apr 8, 2004

Tripler physician earns highest academic award in Ear, Nose & Throat field

Photo and story by Staff Sgt. Michael Westerfield
Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs Office

HONOLULU--An ear, nose and throat surgeon at Tripler Army Medical Center has earned the highest academic honor available in his field.

Maj. Joe Sniezek M.D., an otolaryngologist at Tripler, was selected from hundreds of applicants for induction into the Triological Society. Sniezek submitted a molecular biology research thesis on a protein found in certain head and neck cancers as part of his application to the society. His thesis also earned the honorable mention award for basic science.

"Completion of a triological thesis is one of the very highest achievements for an academic otolaryngologist," said Navy Capt. Michael R. Holtel, M.D., Otolaryngology-head and neck surgery chairman at Tripler Army Medical Center. "Receiving an honorable mention award in basic science truly sets Major Sniezek apart from his peers."

"It says a lot about military medicine, that academic medicine is being practiced here," said Sniezek. "What we provide here is truly world class care for our retirees, family members, Pacific islanders and our troops. Tripler has a great concentration of specialists in one hospital."

Sniezek is the only military doctor among the 12 slated for induction this year. He will be inducted into the Triological Society April 30. He is the only otolaryngologist currently on active duty to receive this award and only the second ever from Hawaii.

"It is an honor especially so early in my career," Sniezek said. "It puts military medicine at a par with the foremost academic surgeons in my field. It allows me to network with the giants in my field and that translates to better care for my patients."



Last updated: Friday November 21 2014
Comments or suggestions to the [Public Affairs Officer](#)

Tripler Army Medical Center
1 Jarrett White Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96859-5000
(808)433-6661