THE AOA IS PLEASED TO HONOR THEIR
2018 AWARD WINNERS

WILLIAM H. HARRIS, MD, FAOA
Distinguished Contributions to Orthopaedics Award
Dr. Harris founded the Harris Orthopaedics Laboratory (HOL) at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he initiated and directed the creation of electron beam-irradiated, highly cross-linked polyethylene for use in total joints. This contribution was a culmination of a four decade-long quest to identify, unravel, and overcome periprosthetic osteolysis, a worldwide iatrogenic disease. Now, 18 years after the introduction of this cross-linked polyethylene for total hips and total knees, it is being used by over seven million people around the world and today, periprosthetic osteolysis has been virtually eliminated.

ANN E. VAN HEEST, MD, FAOA
Distinguished Clinicians Educator Award
Dr. Van Heest is a Professor, Vice Chair of Education, and Residency Program Director in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at the University of Minnesota. A pediatric hand and upper extremity surgeon, she has supervised and mentored over 150 surgical residents and fellows. She has been the residency program director at University of Minnesota for the past 15 years, and previously served as a member of the AOA Critical Issues Committee, CORD Board of Directors, and AOA Academic Leadership Committee. She is the current Chair of the GME Committee, as a Director for the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery.

Since 1887, AOA members have led the orthopaedic specialty and musculoskeletal care in extraordinary ways.

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