

The Wilbur (Tib) Tusler, Jr. Health Environments Research Prize

The Tusler Health Environments Research Prize recognizes outstanding research in the planning and design of environments for health. Research qualifying for consideration is defined as published creation of new knowledge through controlled or semi-controlled experimentation; analysis of data; synthesis of expert knowledge; or the development of innovative solutions to healthcare facility design. The annual award seeks to acknowledge excellence in applied research through a cash award of \$2,500, and special recognition in the Health Environments Research and Design (HERD) peer-reviewed journal. Funding for the prize is provided through the Foundation for Health Environments Research.

This prize is named for two individuals, father and son, who have demonstrated leadership and vision in the practice of healthcare architecture.

Wilbur H. Tusler, FAIA

Wilbur (Tus) Tusler was born in 1890 in Miles City, Montana. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in the early tenth century. Shortly thereafter, he joined with an engineer to form a firm. Mangey and Tusler. The partnership evolved to become “Mangey Tusler and Setter” and became one of the leading firms in Minneapolis. Together they created many of the memorable buildings that exist in Minneapolis today. Examples include Foshay Tower and the Central Post Office.

As part of his commitment to the profession, “Tus” served as President of the Minnesota Chapter AIA and later as a Board member of the National AIA. As an AIA board member, he met other architects with interest in healthcare. This group decided to form a committee to address the challenges of the raised expectations brought on by the end of the war and the creation of the recently passed Hill-Burton legislation. Wilbur served two years as Chair of the AIA Committee on Architecture for Health.

Wilbur H (Tib) Tusler, Jr. FAIA, FACHA

The prize is named in recognition of the leadership of Tib Tusler, a healthcare architect who has been a consistent advocate for research in healthcare design throughout his career. Tib Tusler, Jr was a lead researcher in the development of the innovative VA building system. He was an early advocate for workload-based techniques for determining space. He also led research studies regarding the implementation of federal healthcare planning policies. Tib has served as President of the American College of Healthcare Architects (ACHA), and the AIA Academy of Architecture for Health (AAH). As a member of the AIA Academy on Architecture for Health, Tib led the creation of the Coalition on Health Environments Research (CHER) and later served as the Academy representative on the Center for Healthcare Design's research council. Tib continues to be a strong advocate for research.

Qualification

Submissions will be accepted for completed research documented in the form of published papers. Research is expected to have been completed within the twenty-four months prior to the submission due date. (Articles accepted for publication elsewhere but not yet published are disqualified.) The primary applicant(s) should be the principal investigator(s). Studies that involve observation or interaction with patients or staff must document appropriate institutional review board (IRB) approvals. The selected recipient will be invited to participate in an interview to be published in HERD.

Process

Applicants should submit a project synopsis of two pages or less, addressing four areas:

1. The research hypothesis or goals;
2. The methods used in the execution of the research;
3. The major findings;
4. The implications for the design of healthcare facilities;

In addition to the synopsis, applicants should provide the research itself (e.g., the research publication or research report). Optionally, applicants may include one auxiliary work that demonstrates diffusion of the research, such as a white paper, related published article, or presentation.

Deadline: Submissions should be received by March 03, 2023.

Selection

Submissions will be evaluated by a review committee of five members established by HERD and the Foundation for Health Environments Research.

For further information, contact **Dr. Zorana Matic**, Co-Chair of the Research Grants Committee (z.maticisautier@northeastern.edu).