

UCI Family Medicine

Spring Newsletter

VOLUME 3, MAY 2022

Message from the Chair Cynthia Haq, MD

[Dr. Haq](#)

We are breathing a big sigh of relief as the number of patients presenting with COVID-19 has fallen. While we're eager to move forward, we know the effects of the pandemic will continue to ripple through our society and the world for years to follow. We honor those who were lost by [reflecting and renewing](#) our commitments to our mission to: Discover. Teach. Heal. and Serve.

Department and Clinic News

Geriatric Medicine

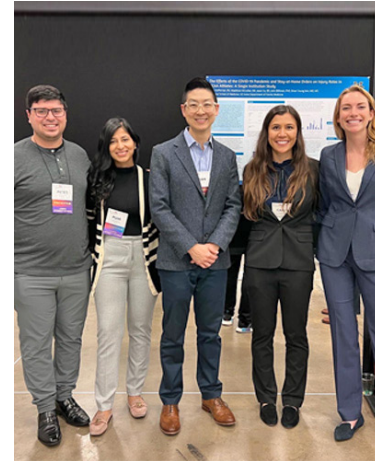
Archstone Foundation Chair

[Dr. Gibbs](#)

We are thrilled to announce that the Division in Geriatric Medicine received an endowment from the Archstone Foundation to support an [Archstone Foundation Chair](#) in Geriatric Healthcare. After a national search, our leadership team has concluded that the most deserving for the founding Chair is Dr. Sonia Sehgal, a UCI geriatrician.

Sports Medicine A New Normal

The UCI Primary Care Sports Medicine service continues to thrive and grow as the world turns to a new normal, incorporating COVID-19 safety precautions into sporting competitions. Sports medicine clinical services operate out of four UCI Health sites and are [busier now than ever](#).

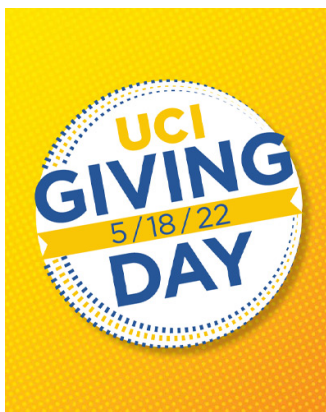


Integrative Medicine Growth and Transition

We soon will have to say goodbye to our wonderful 3rd year residents. As they prepare for their next step with interviews and signing contracts, we've focused on [how they can transition](#) their integrative knowledge into their own lives as well as how they can incorporate this knowledge into their next positions.



Upcoming Event



UCI Giving Day: May 18, 2022

UCI Family Medicine is proud to join the UCI Brilliant Future Campaign and [Giving Day](#) to be held on May 18, 2022. While you can donate any time, contributions of up to \$5000 will be matched by a donor if received by the end of May. You may designate your contributions to support any or all of the following:

- **UCI Family Medicine Residency** to support residents' enrichment

- activities
- **UCI Geriatrics** to support outreach and programs for seniors in Orange County
 - **UCI Family Medicine Health Equity, Advocacy and Community Engagement** to provide outreach for disadvantaged patients and communities

Teach



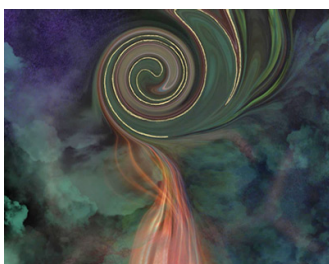
Medical Education

This year, we are delighted that a group of 8 stellar students have been matched into the Department of Family Medicine. The department also kicked off the Advisor program which is now in full gear, supporting medical students in their quest for a career in Family Medicine. Learn more of the [happenings in medical education here](#).



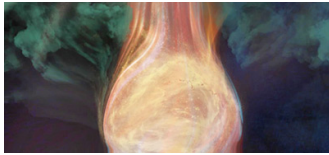
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Advocacy and Salutogenesis (IDEAS)

Winter is Service Learning season! Student projects have had a [significant impact](#) in domains such as mentorship of young people, transitions in health for incarcerated individuals, harm reduction among persons who use intravenous drugs, and food security in disadvantaged communities. We are also gearing up for another round of funding for health equity projects.



Medical Humanities and the Arts

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Medical Humanities/Arts program has been involved in [many activities](#) to acknowledge the loss, grief, frustration and burnout, as well as



trying to help physician faculty and medical students chart a path forward. We are also welcoming Dr. Juliet McMullin as the new Endowed Chair and sharing a goodbye word from Dr. Shapiro.

Heal



Family Health Centers – Anaheim and Santa Ana

The UCI Health Family Health Center has responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by making significant changes in its care model and collaborating with numerous community partners to serve 24,741 patients in 2021. [Read about](#) a new Hypertension pilot, interdisciplinary care teams, proactive contact by the social work team, virtual dentistry, and much more.

Residents, Faculty and Staff



UCI Family Medicine welcomed a group of stellar students into the department. [Meet the Class of 2025 here.](#)

Faculty Spotlight



Partha Gonavaram, MD



Irmina Haq, MD

We're delighted that Partha Gonavaram, MD, and Irmina Haq, MD, joined our department in early 2022. Gonavaram practices at the UCI Health Gottschalk Medical Plaza and Haq practices at the UCI Health Family Health Center in Santa Ana.



Tan Nguyen, MD



Lisa Gibbs, MD

Congratulations to Dr. Tan Nguyen who received the UCI School of Medicine Innovation in Mentoring Award for 2022, and to Dr. Lisa Gibbs who received the UCI School of Medicine Mid-Career Faculty Research Award for 2022. [Read more about their achievements.](#)

Staff Spotlight



Jorge Solé, MA

Assistant Director, UCI Elder Abuse
Forensic Center, Division of Geriatric
Medicine and Gerontology

Jessica de la Cruz

Operation Manager, Department of Family
Medicine

Mr. Jorge Solé has devoted his whole career to the provision of social services for children, dependent adults and older adults in the County of Orange. Since 1984, he has been involved in different aspects of social intervention including provision of family services, mental health clinics and development of social services programs. Mr. Solé joined the UCI Geriatrics team in 2017 and has been working with Dr. Lisa Gibbs and the Geriatrics team in securing several innovation grants from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to incorporate trauma-informed case management services to enhance the services provided through the EAFC.

Jessica de la Cruz has worked at UCI since July 2015, all of which have been in the Department of Family Medicine. She is a vital part of department and one of the main contributors to the department's success. She handles a very large amount of work that supports our entire department. She is our go-to person with extensive knowledge of UCI and the department. She is helpful, compassionate, diligent, and thorough. She is a super star!



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