Cynthia Haq, MD

Message from the Chair

Greetings,

Spring is my favorite season as it signals the potential for growth and rejuvenation. This spring brought abundant rainfall, lush vegetation and wildlife, and vibrant growth of UCI Family Medicine. We cared for patients, designed pre-health pathways for undergraduate students, inspired medical students to select family medicine, trained new family physicians, recruited new faculty, and strengthened community partnerships and scholarship.

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Department and Clinic News

Division of Geriatrics and Gerontology

Geriatrics Division Update

The Geriatrics Division continues to expand clinical services to meet the needs of Orange County’s growing older adult populations. The Senior Health Center has
the largest group of board-certified geriatricians in Orange County, working within a multidisciplinary team of pharmacists, social workers, psychologists, nurses, health coaches and medical assistants. We are excited to launch our Digital Health Engagement Center in April 2023 to help close the digital divide; nursing students will have clinical rotations this quarter to provide education in telehealth, remote patient monitoring, digital device use, and MyChart navigation. Our newest clinical site, UCI’s Laguna Hills, offers geriatric specialty primary care, dementia care, and geriatric assessment for coordinated oncology care. At the Family Health Center, our Federally Qualified Health Clinic (FQHC), in Santa Ana we run a unique Geriatric clinic to serve our safety net populations. We are proud to offer unparalleled comprehensive care and innovative services for seniors in Southern California.

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Residency News

The residency had another successful Match, and will be under new management starting July 1, 2023, with Dr. John Hann as Program Director, Dr. Betzy Salcedo continuing as the Administrative Associate Program Director, and Dr. Matteo Leveroni as the new Academic Associate Program Director. The senior residents are ready to fly the coop after surviving the pandemic, the wedding of the century, and our own personal epidemic.

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FQHC News

UCI Health Family Health Centers - Anaheim and Santa Ana

The UCI Health Family Health Center (FQHC) continues to serve the under-supportive communities of Orange County. In calendar year 2022, we continued to collaborate with numerous Schools (Medicine, Nursing,
and Pharmacy) to improve the health of 26,681 patients. Over ninety percent of the patients live below the poverty level and a third of these patients were kids.

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**Scholarship**

**Research Updates**

In the past several months the Department of Family Medicine has had some great achievements by the faculty. We hosted a Faculty Development Workshop *Developing Scholarly Work: Passion, Curiosity, Skill Building* led by Mindy Smith, a family physician clinician, scholar and national leader promoting clinical faculty success in scholarship. Faculty learned about collaborating with our Research Faculty and others throughout the university and the community and how to grow your own scholarly portfolio as a faculty mentor for Resident Scholarly Projects.

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**Medical Humanities**

**Program in Medical Humanities and Arts (PMHA)**

The new year has been full of medical humanities and arts events. One of the many highlights is the Healing through Humanities (HtH) undergraduate club photo-narrative project “Voices of Family Medicine.” The photo exhibit took place on the UCI campus in late February, with nearly 100 attendees. The project aims to share the wide range of care Family Medicine physicians provide and the diverse patients who seek care at the FHC in Santa Ana. Over several months, HtH students visited the FHC-SA to take photos and interview physicians and patients. Drs Lynette
Anderson, Shane Jones, and Anthony Nguyen generously gave their time for this project. Faculty advisors included Drs. Baotran Vo, Tan Nguyen, and Juliet McMullin. We will have the traveling exhibit at the Medical Humanities and Arts event on May 19th. We hope to bring the exhibit to the FHC-SA soon. Until then, you can see the photo narratives at this link.

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Medical Education

Medical Education Updates

2022-2023 has been one of the most exciting years for DFM's Medical Education. Our Family Medicine Interest Group received the AAFP Program of Excellence award due to the leadership of medical students Remy Slomoff, Raisa Archeta, and Martha Lopez with the guidance of faculty advisors, Dr. Dylan Hanami and Dr. Tan Nguyen. In addition to various panels, talks and hands-on workshops introducing students to the field of Family Medicine, FMIG also created an innovative series in Health Equity which was subsequently featured at the AAFP National Conference in Kansas. Due to its importance and popularity, the series has evolved into an elective for medical students.

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Heal

Sports Medicine

Sports Medicine

The Primary Care Sports Medicine service continues to thrive and grow. Sports medicine clinical services operate out of UCI Health sites at Gottschalk Plaza, Pavilion 3 Orthopedics, Newport Center, and FHC-Santa Ana and are busier now than ever. We plan to expand into new sites in the next year as well as transition the
Gottschalk practice to its new home in the Center for Advanced Care in 2024.

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Integrative Medicine

As winter turns to spring, and the rain dissipates to warm sunny skies, the integrative medicine residents continue their diligent work on online content and monthly meetings to cover integrative medicine topics. As the R3s get closer to graduation, they are working on completing their modules and wrapping up their scholarly projects. However, for our last monthly session on integrative techniques, the residents got a different kind of training: rock climbing.

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Women's Health

Reproductive Health

As we encounter more turbulent times in women's health care, the Department stands committed in providing compassionate comprehensive care and adapting our training of FM physicians to meet the community's needs.

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Faculty News

Honoring Dr. Emily Dow

Dr. Emily Dow will be retiring in June following 22 years of exceptional service to patients, trainees, and UCI Family Medicine. While her contributions are too numerous to mention in this brief summary, she has been a true servant leader. She is an exemplary role model.
model, family physician, and teacher and has cultivated a practice of caring for patients with Down Syndrome and/or developmental disabilities. She is a leader in global health and in caring for immigrants and refugees. She has served as medical director, interim chair, residency program director, and community leader, and so much more.

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Staff

Staff News

Welcome to our new Staff

Yan Deng
Senior Finance Analyst

Laura Ng Hunt
Finance Analyst

Leonora Naser-Saravia
Project Manager

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Family Medicine HEAL Grand Rounds
We were honored by the visit of Alonzo Plough, PhD, MPH, who provided Health Equity Across the Lifecourse Grand Rounds for the UCI College of Health Sciences in on March 9. 
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Alumni News
Featuring Rochelle Wilson, DO
Resident of UC Irvine Medical Center, graduate class of 1988.
Shorty following residency, I began my solo practice of Family Medicine in Palos Verdes, California (1988). I engaged in public speaking within the local community on various health topics. I remained active in the medical staff committees of Torrance Memorial Hospital, as well as the local IPA. During this time, I also practiced Occupational Medicine with Allied Signal in Torrance (1991). 
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Support Family Medicine & Geriatrics
UCI Family Medicine is proud to be among the first residency programs to train family physicians in the nation, established in 1969. Our residency has
trained more than 450 family physicians over 54 years through the dedication of countless faculty, staff, and trainees. Our graduates are outstanding community-based family physicians, teachers, and leaders, who care for patients, families, and communities in California and beyond.

We welcome your contributions to our never-ending quest to promote health for all. Donate Here

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