Greetings from UCSF Fresno Family Medicine!

What an incredible year so far! This year’s Match brought some GREAT people to UCSF Fresno Family Medicine. Check inside this issue for our new additions to the program. Congratulations also to our new Chief Residents, Aman Gill and Raul Ayala. I’m already amazed at the energy and new ideas being proposed. Our PGY3 residents are starting to oxygenate once again, as the ABFM certification exam was moved up to April this year and most residents have now successfully put that hurdle behind them. As the academic year nears its end, I’m pleased to present another group of fine physicians who will be providing care to the much needed population of the Central Valley and beyond.

Special thanks to Dr. Mortimer for his years of service as Department Chief.

He has been a valuable colleague and I am glad to say will be remaining with us to pursue other interests within the program. Thanks Roger! See this issue for more details on our changing of the guard.

Our residency graduation celebration will be at Fort Washington on June 8th. We’d love to see our alumni and other partners there!

We are on FaceBook! Check it out online. UCSF Fresno Family & Community Medicine

We are making a concerted effort to develop an active alumni group that can meet at national meetings, stay in touch with us and each other to keep involved in program events and help us better prepare residents for the real world of family medicine. Any suggestions? Let us know!

Please e-mail Donna McBrien, Program Manager at dmcbrien@fresno.ucsf.edu to update your contact information and if you know the addresses of any other alumni please let us know so we can contact them as well.

NEW DEPARTMENT CHIEF!

We welcome Alex Moir, MD to his new role as Interim Chief. No stranger to the department, Dr. Moir has been a core member of the faculty based at Selma Community Hospital and the Adventist Health Community Care Clinic in Selma for over 20 years. A leader in the department, Dr. Moir exemplifies and champions the comprehensive full-scope of rural community practice and supports education for family medicine residents in the Central Valley. Dr. Moir has participated in many leadership roles both with the residency program and with our partners at Adventist Health, serving currently as Medical Director for a rural community health center and previously as Chief of Staff at Selma Community Hospital, among many other management and advisory roles. UCSF Fresno is fortunate to have Dr. Moir take over the role of Department Chief during these challenging times for primary care and primary care education and to oversee the department as we contend with the anticipated major changes to health care delivery that will occur in the near future. Welcome Dr. Moir!
After four years Roger Mortimer, MD is stepping down from the role of Interim Department Chief. Alex Moir, MD will assume the role of Interim Chief for the Department of Family & Community Medicine (FCM) starting May 1, 2012.

UCSF Fresno FCM would like to thank Dr. Mortimer for his tireless service to the department during these challenging times for primary care and primary care education. Dr. Mortimer’s efforts and accomplishments in maintaining the mission of service to the underserved and the direction of Family Medicine education in the Central Valley have been highlighted by the development of our Hospice and Palliative care fellowship, expanding the role of the department in providing care in rural health clinics, furthering the expansion of primary care training in the Valley and supporting educational innovations including a four-year training model for the residency program. Dr. Mortimer will be staying with the program to expand his passion for research, and focus on inpatient medicine, outpatient teaching, and HIV/AIDS care. Dr. Mortimer will also oversee implementation of the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model of care at the Ambulatory Care Center Family Health Center at CRMC as UCSF Fresno FCM and our institutional partners anticipate and prepare for the changes proposed through health care reform. Thank you Dr. Mortimer!

In providing care in rural health clinics, furthering the expansion of primary care training in the Valley and supporting educational innovations including a four-year training model for the residency program. Dr. Mortimer will be staying with the program to expand his passion for research, and focus on inpatient medicine, outpatient teaching, and HIV/AIDS care. Dr. Mortimer will also oversee implementation of the patient-centered medical home (PCMH) model of care at the Ambulatory Care Center Family Health Center at CRMC as UCSF Fresno FCM and our institutional partners anticipate and prepare for the changes proposed through health care reform. Thank you Dr. Mortimer!

2012 FAMILY MEDICINE INCOMING RESIDENTS

Erica Delsman
Nitika Dhir
Mario Espindola
Jasmine Garcha
Rachel Goerzen
Miriam Ida Harris
David Hoang
Derik Keshishian
Ji Young Park
Melanie Southard
Anjani Tilak
Boston University School of Medicine
St. George’s
Michigan St. University
Ross
Lincoln Memorial University of Osteopathic Medicine
University of Arizona College of Medicine
Western University of Osteopathic Medicine
Ross
University de Sa Paulo
Touro
University of Buffalo SOM
California Area Health Education Center Program

Many in the Fresno Family Medicine community do not know that our residency program began in 1972 at then Valley Medical Center (VMC). VMC was operated by Fresno County. Ron Smith, MD, a family physician who still attends noon lectures, was our first program director. Initial funding and support for the program came from the brand new California Area Health Education Center Program (AHEC). The AHEC was the first University of California health professions program in the valley. John Blossom, third of the first family medicine graduates, heads the now Statewide AHEC Program, which provides grant support to 15 centers throughout the state. The local AHEC, hosted by the Fresno Healthy Community Access Partners, is currently providing funding and support for the exploration of a new family medicine residency program based in a teaching health center in Fresno. This effort is being led by our own Dr. Lydia Herrera-Mata who is also Associate Program Director for the Statewide AHEC.

FACULTY NEWS

Faculty Publication

Dr. Jennifer Ruff, PhD, Clinical Psychologist and coordinator of the chronic pain management program at Corcoran State Prison, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and clinical faculty at Family and Community Medicine UCSF, Fresno wrote Chapter 11 “Adversity, Healing, and the Development and Practice of a Woman Psychologist” of the recently published book “Women Psychotherapists: Journeys in Healing.”

Congratulations Rusty!

Russell "Rusty" Tontz, MD a 2009 graduate of the program and the Selma Pathway for rural FP training has been accepted into the 2012 entering class of the US Airforce Aerospace Medicine Residency Program. Dr. Tontz will spend the first year of this program at Harvard University obtaining an MPH in Health Care Management and Policy. He then moves to Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio for his last two years of specialty training. There are currently only five accredited U.S. residency programs in aerospace medicine and a very small number of residency positions.

Rusty is presently the acting chief of Aerospace Medicine at Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho, and recently returned there after a tour of duty in Iraq. We appreciate his service and are proud of his accomplishments.
THE SCOPE

Spotlight on Research

Focus: A Publication of Scholarly Activity Projects

UCSF Fresno Family and Community Medicine
awarded Innovations Grant

The Haile T. Debas Academy of Medical Educators Innovations Funding Working Group awarded UCSF Fresno Family and Community Medicine nearly $30,000 to further Faculty Development. Dr. Ivan Gomez developed the proposal titled “Using a Dynamic Objective Structured Teaching Exercise (DOSTE) in a Longitudinal Model for Faculty Development.” This project will build on what the department learned in the last HRSA training grant, using structured exercises with standardized patients to teach residents about psychosocial issues. Funding is for the next academic year. Open to all faculty in the School of Medicine, these intramural grants serve as a catalyst for the development of curriculum that addresses the constantly changing ways in which physicians practice medicine.

Introducing FOCUS: the new UCSF Fresno Family and Community Medicine Scholarly Activities insert!

Be sure to check out the new insert to the newsletter. Focus: A Publication of Scholarly Activity highlights the new journal club and outside presentations made in the last quarter. The format of our journal club now has a resident take a clinical question, search for the best evidence-based answer, and summarize the findings. Our first four residents to go through this process are represented here. The abstracts for the most recent presentations are all from the UCSF FCM Jack Rodnick Colloquium. We had a large group in attendance with 3 poster presentations and Dr. Sherriff’s talk based on a study completed with the help of UCSF LIFE medical student Alecia Greenlee.

Past and present UCSF Fresno attendees at UCSF FCM Jack Rodnick Colloquium
THE SCOPE

OUTGOING CHIEF RESIDENTS

Happy Spring Everyone! We are pleased to have matched 11 great interns. And with the new year approaching we are also preparing to say goodbye to our current third years. The three years here have been an adventure and I cannot believe it is almost over. It is crazy to think that my fellow graduates and I are almost done with our training. To think that roughly 11 years ago most of us were finishing high school and then starting college. It has been a very long 11 years of work and struggles to get to our dreams of being doctors, but it is finally here! All of our patience and dedication has finally paid off and in a few months my fellow classmates and I will enter the world as Family Practice Physicians. I would like to thank all of our families that have supported us through each of our journeys and all the faculty of the UCSF Fresno Family and Community Medicine Program in facilitating our growth as physicians. It has been a long road, but a fulfilling one. Graduation here we come!

—Sarojini Schorling, MD

NEW FAMILY MEDICINE CHIEF RESIDENTS FOR 2012-13

They say time flies when you’re having fun. We think that time flies when you don’t have time to look at your watch or phone to see what time it actually is. The last two years have been a whirlwind of activity and work in Family Medicine. We are so excited to be the chiefs for the Family Medicine Residency in 2012 and 2013. We would like to thank Sarojini and Victor for the fine mentorship that they have done and the tools that they have provided to us as their residency completes. We look forward to continuing to work with them all the way until their graduation. We are excited to welcome the new Family Medicine interns in June. Their energy and excitement will help us power through our final year. We know we still have a lot of work to do and we are planning for an epic residents retreat this year at Pajaro Dunes resort near Monterey. Thanks to our fellow residents, faculty, and staff for believing in us and allowing us to represent Family Medicine this year. Cheers!

—Aman Gil, MD and Raul Ayala, MD
THE SCOPE

UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program
155 North Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93701

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE SCOPE

FAMILY
MEDICINE
EVENTS

ALSO Course May 10th and 11th, 2012 - UCSF Fresno Medical Education and Research building, 8am – 5 pm.

UCSF Fresno Family Medicine EXPO May 24th, 2012 - Room 136 at the UCSF Fresno Medical Education and Research building, 2 pm – 4 pm.

UCSF Fresno Housestaff Graduation June 7, 2012 – Saroyan Theater, 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

FCM Graduation June 08 2012 - Fort Washington Country Club, 6 p.m. – 11 p.m.