

2004-2005

The Latino Center for Medical Education and Research (LaCMER) is a Hispanic Center of Excellence

In October 1996, the LaCMER was opened to serve the San Joaquin Valley community with funding from the UCSF School of Medicine and the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

The LaCMER enjoys Hispanic Center of Excellence (HCOE) grant funding from the HRSA for activities to recruit and support Latino medical students and pre-faculty fellows. The Latino Visiting Professor series is one important component.

Other major components of HCOE include a seven-week Research Methods Workshop, eight per year Research in Progress seminars, other training sessions, research traineeships for UCSF Latino medical students, research fellowships for Latino post-residency physicians, and medical Spanish training for medical students.

The LaCMER mission is to positively impact the shortage of Latino physicians in California's workforce, particularly the San Joaquin Valley, and to promote research of special significance to the health of Latino communities.

For more information about the LaCMER, please contact:

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www.ucsfresno.edu/latinocenter/

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University of California
San Francisco



School of Medicine
Fresno Medical Education Program

Latino Visiting Professor Program Goals:

- Provide updates about current health issues affecting Latino populations to Fresno area health professionals.
- Expose Fresno area Latino, and other, medical students, residents, fellows, and faculty to successful Latino researchers and health professionals from other areas for conversation, exchange of ideas, and exploration of collaborations.
- Inspire Latino, and other, health professionals to mentor San Joaquin Valley Latino students to pursue health professional careers in service to Latino populations.
- Offer opportunities for networking and collaborations among health professionals with interest in Latino community health.

UCSF Fresno Latino Visiting Professorships

Latino
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Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH

Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, is Associate Professor and Director of the Division of General Obstetrics and Gynecology (Ob-Gyn) in the Department of Ob-Gyn at the Arizona Health Sciences Center, and Medical Director of the Women's Health & Resource Center. He is the principal investigator for the Health Resources and Services Administration funded Arizona Hispanic Center of Excellence, and Deputy Director of the Arizona Women's Center of Excellence. Dr. Garcia's research interests are in pre-malignant gynecologic disease and human papilloma virus infection and the evaluation of new technologies and therapeutics for cervical cancer precursors, as well as the health of women on the U.S.-Mexico border. He has several publications on these topics. He received his MD at the University of Arizona where he also trained in Ob-Gyn. At Johns Hopkins University, he was an Instructor on faculty in the Department of Ob-Gyn, trained in Women's Reproductive Health, and earned a Masters in Public Health.



Tomás Aragón, MD, DrPH

Tomás Aragón, MD, DrPH, is Assistant Adjunct Professor, and Executive Director and Medical Epidemiologist at the Center for Infectious Disease Preparedness, University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health. For seven years, Dr. Aragón was director of Community Health Epidemiology and Disease Control, and Deputy County Health Officer at the San Francisco City/County Department of Public Health (SFDPH). At SFDPH, he directed communicable disease control and prevention, bioterrorism preparedness and response planning, and the epidemiologic and effectiveness research unit. He has published many articles on infectious diseases and other public health topics. Dr. Aragón's education and training were at UC Berkeley (BA in Molecular Biology, DrPH in Epidemiology), Harvard Medical School (MD, MPH), and UC San Francisco (Internal Medicine, Clinical Infectious Diseases, and AIDS epidemiology fellowship). He maintains a personal web site at <http://www.medepi.net/aragon/>.



Juan Carlos Zevallos, MD

Juan Carlos Zevallos, MD, is a Medical Epidemiologist and Director of International Chronic Disease Surveillance Projects with the Office of the Director, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He is also Associate Adjunct Professor with the University of Texas, Houston, School of Public Health, El Paso campus. He obtained his MD from the Central University in Quito, Ecuador. He completed cardiology fellowship training at the University of Padua, Italy, and preventive cardiology training at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester, Massachusetts. He was also an Epidemiology Intelligence Service Officer with the CDC. Dr. Zevallos has worked on U.S.-Mexico border health issues and was Acting Director of the Diabetes Research Center at Texas Tech University Health Science Center, El Paso campus, until March 2004. Dr. Zevallos has numerous publications in English, Spanish and Italian.



Miguel C. Fernández, MD

Miguel C. Fernández, MD, is Associate Professor of Clinical Surgery at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and Medical Director of the South Texas Poison Center. He practices emergency medicine and medical toxicology. Dr. Fernández received his BA from the UC Berkeley and his MD from the Medical College of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. He trained in emergency medicine at Martin Luther King, Jr. General Hospital/Drew Medical School at UCLA and completed a fellowship in medical toxicology at the University of Arizona in Tucson. He is regional director for the Advanced Hazmat Life Support training course for the south-central U.S. His teaching and research interests include health care disparities, border and environmental health, international health, pesticide poisoning, antiepileptic drug toxicity, wilderness medicine, envenomations, weapons of mass destruction, and emergency medical systems. He has published and lectured on these topics in the U.S. and internationally.

Target Audiences

- UCSF Fresno residents, fellows, and faculty
- UCSF medical students
- Fresno area hospital and clinic health staff
- Medical Society members
- Fresno area public health department staff
- Fresno area health professionals
- California State University, Fresno students and faculty
- Other Fresno area professional groups
- Sunnyside High School Doctors Academy students
- Fresno area community groups