FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, Oct. 11, 2013

UCSF FRESNO OFFERS MINI-MEDICAL SCHOOL FOR THE PUBLIC
Classes will begin Oct. 21

FRESNO – The public is invited to join leading experts in medicine and health sciences at the second annual Mini-Med School 101, presented by the Academic Senate at UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program. Faculty physicians at UCSF Fresno will provide lectures on issues and advances in medicine and research that are pertinent to local residents and important to improving health care. All courses will be taught in understandable and engaging terms. No previous medical training is required.

Mini-Med School 101 will be held for six consecutive sessions, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, October 21 to November 25. Each course will include two presentations, followed by a question-and-answer session. All lectures will be held in the auditorium at the UCSF Fresno Center for Medical Education and Research, 155 N. Fresno Street, in Fresno. Free parking will be available in the UCSF Fresno parking lot, with access on Illinois Street.

Registration for the series is $10. Pre-registration is required. Early registration is recommended. Seating is limited. Both students and adults are encouraged to attend.

The series includes the following presentations:

Monday, October 21
“The Brain and Disease: What Causes Degeneration”
Presented by Jeffrey Rosenfeld, PhD, MD
The complexity of the nervous system results in certain areas of vulnerability for neurological disease. Impact and symptoms of specific diseases in the nervous system will be reviewed and discussed.

“Pseudoseizure and Seizure”
Presented by H. Terry Hutchison, PhD, MD
Disorganized electrical activity in the brain results in a seizure and can be caused by many different factors. Patients also exhibit seizure-like activity with no underlying disorder of electrical activity. This phenomenon will be discussed and examples of different types of seizures will be presented.

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Monday, October 28
“Supersized Portions, Supersized Kids”
Presented by Renee Kinman, MD, PhD
Overview of how childhood obesity is rapidly becoming a major health issue in the United States. The health risks associated with obesity and what can be done to prevent it will be covered.

“Virtual Colonoscopy”
Presented by Arnold Friedman, MD
Colorectal Carcinoma (colorectal cancer) is a major killer in the US. The mainstay of screening is optical colonoscopy, which is an invasive and slightly risky procedure. Virtual colonoscopy is a new noninvasive screening method for colorectal cancer that deserves consideration.

Monday, November 4
“Wilderness 911: Alpine Search and Rescue”
Presented by Susanne J. Spano, MD, FACEP, FAAEM
The evolving discipline of alpine search and rescue will be introduced. A case study of lightning striking a Boy Scout Troop in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, including details of the rescue, evacuation, and medical treatment will be presented. Organizational skills, technical training, and other abilities required to safely respond to such incidents will be described.

“Bites and Stings in Central California”
Presented by Rais Vohra, MD
The many and diverse venomous creatures - from snakes to spiders and household insects - that live here in Central California will be introduced. How to treat venomous bites and stings will be covered.

Tuesday, November 12
“Valley Fever”
Presented by Naiel N. Nassar, MD, FACP
Valley Fever is an extremely common condition throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Learn how this disorder affects patients and how it is recognized.

“New Advances in Genetics Help Explain Developmental Delays and Autism”
Presented by Cynthia Curry, MD
In the past, medicine had little to offer families whose children had developmental issues or autism. New breakthroughs are allowing for the cause(s) of these conditions to be diagnosed more frequently. The advances in genetics that have helped understand the causes of autism and intellectual disability will be discussed. Real case histories will be presented.

Monday, November 18
“Fantastic Voyage: Navigating the Heart through Catheterization”
Presented by Ryan Berg, MD, FACC
Explore the vascular supply of the heart from inside the blood vessels. Cardiac catheterization will be discussed and examples of different disorders that can be identified by this procedure will be shown.

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“Robotic Surgery”
Presented by Babak Eghbalieh, MD, FACS
Robotic surgery has become increasingly popular for many applications. Examples of the benefits and methods of robots in the operating room will be discussed.

Monday, November 25
“The Use of Simulation in Medical Education”
Stacy Sawtelle, MD and Stuart Maxwell, MD
Experience firsthand the application of high-tech simulation in medical education. Participants will be able to interact with high-fidelity mannequins and task trainers used to teach physicians medical decision making and procedural skills.

The series will conclude with a graduation ceremony for participants.

For more information or to register, please visit www.fresno.ucsf.edu/minimed

UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program, established in 1975, plays a substantial role in providing healthcare services to residents of California’s San Joaquin Valley and training medical professionals in the region. A clinical branch of UC San Francisco (UCSF), the medical education program has trained approximately one-third of Central San Joaquin Valley physicians. Annually, UCSF Fresno currently trains approximately 245 medical residents in eight specialties, nearly 50 fellows in 14 subspecialties and about 250 medical students on a rotating basis.

UCSF Fresno faculty and medical residents engage in a broad spectrum of research addressing health issues pertinent to the Valley. UCSF Fresno faculty and residents also care for the overwhelming majority of the region’s underserved populations.

In addition, UCSF Fresno provides academic preparation programs for middle- and high school students interested in the health professions through the Doctors Academy and Junior Doctors Academy. UCSF Fresno is a key partner in the UC Merced San Joaquin Valley Program in Medical Education.

UCSF is a leading university dedicated to promoting health worldwide through advanced biomedical research, graduate-level education in the life sciences and health professions, and excellence in patient care. It includes top-ranked graduate schools of dentistry, medicine, nursing and pharmacy, a graduate division with nationally renowned programs in basic biomedical, translational and population sciences, as well as a preeminent biomedical research enterprise and two top-ranked hospitals, UCSF Medical Center and UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospital.

For further information, please visit www.fresno.ucsf.edu and http://www.ucsf.edu

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