

MEDIA ADVISORY

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UC San Francisco

Jennifer O'Brien, Asst. Vice Chancellor/Public Affairs

Source: Brandy Ramos Nikaido, Director of Media Relations and Public Affairs,
UCSF Fresno

Cell: (559) 313-6539 Email: bnikaido@fresno.ucsf.edu



University of California
San Francisco

UCSF Fresno
Medical Education Program
155 N. Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93701
(559) 499-6400

University of California and Fresno State Team Up to Help Aspiring Doctors, Health Professionals and Researchers

WHO: UCSF Fresno, UC Merced, Fresno State, Central Valley Higher Education Consortium, CalViva Health, California Health Sciences University and many other partners are teaming up for the second Reaching Out to Aspiring Doctors (ROAD) for the San Joaquin Valley conference. **This year's conference has a special emphasis on mental health.**

Nearly 100 students, representing Clovis Community College, Fresno City College, Fresno State, Merced College, Porterville College and UC Merced are expected to participate.

Dozens of health care professionals are volunteering their time to share their expertise and enthusiasm with future health care professionals.

The keynote speaker is Maricela Rangel-Garcia, MD, a Fresno/Clovis native, mom, UC Merced alumna, UC Davis School of Medicine and UC San Joaquin Valley Program in Medical Education graduate and first-year internal medicine resident at UC Davis Medical Center.

WHAT: ROAD is a pre-medical, pre-health and public health conference for students from Valley colleges and universities who are interested in becoming doctors, other health professionals and those who want to improve health through public health work and research. **Pre-registration was required. The conference is full.**

WHEN: Saturday, Sept. 24, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Interviews: 10:45 am to 11 am and noon to 12:50 pm

Photo/Video Opportunities: 11 am, 1 pm, 2 pm and 3 pm

Students will be using simulation equipment to practice CPR, airway intubation and asthma management.

WHERE: UCSF Fresno Center for Medical Education and Research, 155 N. Fresno Street in downtown Fresno.

“It takes 10 years or more to become a practicing physician. It is a long and challenging road,” said Michael W. Peterson, MD, Associate Dean at UCSF Fresno. “Medical students graduate with enormous debt. Many become discouraged by the price tag, the process or commitment

required. We want these students to know that as a community and as institutions of higher education, we support their efforts. We want to help guide them. The hope is that they will help improve health in the Valley.

“In addition, we want students to know there are many ways to improve health – by becoming nurses, dentists and other health professionals,” Peterson added. “They also can seek solutions to some of our most pressing health challenges through research.”

About UCSF Fresno: UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program, established in 1975, plays a substantial role in providing health care to residents of California’s San Joaquin Valley and training medical professionals in the region. UCSF Fresno is the San Joaquin Valley’s largest physician training program. Annually, UCSF Fresno currently trains approximately 250 medical residents (medical school graduates who are training under senior faculty physicians prior to practicing on their own) in eight specialties, 10 oral and maxillofacial surgery dental residents, 50 medical fellows (physicians who are completing training beyond residency) in 17 subspecialties, approximately 350 medical students (students in the process of earning medical degrees) on a rotating basis and two physician assistants in an emergency medicine residency program. More than 40 percent of the physicians trained by UCSF Fresno stay in the region to provide UCSF care in the Central Valley. Thanks to the expertise of faculty physicians at UCSF Fresno, in many cases, travel outside of the region is no longer necessary for patients seeking specialty medical care. 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 helps prepare middle, high school and college students for careers in health and medicine through a variety of pipeline programs. Please visit www.fresno.ucsf.edu

About UCSF: UCSF is a leading university dedicated to transforming health worldwide through advanced biomedical research, graduate-level education in the life sciences and health professions, and excellence in patient care. Founded in 1864 as a medical college, UCSF now includes top-ranked graduate schools of dentistry, medicine, nursing and pharmacy; a graduate division with world-renowned programs in the biological sciences, a preeminent biomedical research enterprise and top-tier hospitals, UCSF Medical Center and UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals. Please visit www.ucsf.edu/news.

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ROAD partners include: CalViva Health; California Health Sciences University; Central California Center for Health and Human Services at Fresno State; Central California Faculty Medical Group; Central Valley Higher Education Consortium; College of Health and Human Services at Fresno State; College of Science and Mathematics at Fresno State; Fresno County Department of Public Health; Echo 9 Studio Photography & Design; Fresno-Madera Medical Society; Merced-Mariposa County Medical Society, Roman Candle Communication; San Joaquin Valley Program in Medical Education; UC Davis School of Medicine; UC Merced Fresno Center; UC Merced Health Sciences Research Institute; UC Merced School of Natural Sciences Pre-Health Advising; UCSF Fresno-Fresno State Health Careers Opportunity Program; UCSF Fresno Latino Center for Medical Education and Research; UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program; UCSF Fresno Undergraduate Medical Education



[ROAD for the San Joaquin Valley](#)