The University of Colorado Denver School of Medicine Academy of Medical Educators

Mission

The Academy of Medical Educators provides a home base for teachers and a visible mechanism to support and enhance all educational programs and teaching faculty at the University of Colorado Denver (UCD) School of Medicine (SOM). Although a physical space is one component of Academy home, the most important aspect is the creation of an environment that promotes and rewards teaching excellence and enhances the education of our students, residents, faculty and community. Specific goals include:

- To develop and sustain a cadre of faculty skilled in undergraduate (medical student), graduate (resident and fellow), and continuing medical education (practicing physicians).
- To promote and celebrate excellence in teaching and mentoring.
- To encourage opportunities for curricular and teaching innovation.
- To promote excellence in educational research and scholarship.
- To mentor teaching faculty in order to foster professional development and academic advancement.
- To advocate for educators and educational programs with Departments and the UCDSom

Description of Academy Programs

In order to achieve these important goals, the Academy will:

- Support the current and future faculty development efforts of the School of Medicine to train faculty in teaching skills, mentoring, curriculum development, and programmatic evaluation.
- Recognize the accomplishments of exceptional teachers, mentors, educational leaders and medical education researchers through membership in the Academy and the creation of an awards program.
- Develop a formal mentoring program for junior medical educators to foster educational skill development as well as career advancement.
- Develop a competitive grant program to support efforts to create, implement and evaluate innovative medical education programs, as well develop scholarship in medical education.
- Discuss, advocate for and provide guidance on issues relevant to educators, to Deans and Departments.
Executive Committee

Director:
Eva Aagaard, MD will serve as interim director for the Academy. She is Vice Chair for Education for the Department of Medicine and a member of the Academy of Medical Educator’s at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF).

School of Medicine Senior Leadership:
Rob Feinstein, MD is Senior Associate Dean for Education for the School of Medicine and Professor of Psychiatry.
Steve Lawrentz, MD, MPH, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professor of Surgery in the Division of Emergency Medicine.
Carol Runnack, MD, FACR is Associate Dean for Graduate Medical Education and Professor of Radiology. She serves as the Women's Liaison for the AAMC and Director of the Women in Medicine Office at UCD SOM.
Ron Gibb, MD is Professor and Chair of Obstetrics and Gynecology as well as Associate Dean for Continuing Medical Education.
John Freed, PhD is Professor and Dean of the Graduate School.

Departmental Leadership:
Doug Jones, MD is Professor of Pediatrics, Chair-Elect of the American Board of Pediatrics and a national leader in residency education reform, having served on and Chair of the Residency Committee in Pediatrics.
David Norris, MD is Professor and Chairman of Dermatology.
Randall Holmes, MD, PhD is Professor and Chairman of Microbiology.

Graduate Medical Education Leadership:
Suzanne Brandenburg, MD is Residency Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program
Kent Voorhees, MD is Vice Chair for Education for the Department of Family Medicine
Jeffrey Druck, MD is Assistant Head, Education and Associate Residency Director Denver Health Residency Program in Emergency Medicine and Assistant Course Director for the Integrated Clinician’s Course.

Undergraduate Medical Education Leadership:
JJ Cohen, PhD is Professor of Immunology and a member of the President’s Teaching Scholars Program.
Robin Michaels, PhD is Assistant Professor, Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, SOM Basic Science Block Director, and SOM Essentials Core ICC Course Co-Director.
Tom French, PhD is Professor of Pharmacology and one of the most highly respected and valued teachers within the curriculum.
Jennifer Wolf, MD is Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery and Co-Clerkship Director for the Musculoskeletal Block.
Richard Byyny, MD is Professor of Medicine and Director of the Mentored Scholarly Activity Program.
Dennis Boyle, MD is Associate Professor of Medicine and Associate Director, Foundation of Doctoring.

Alumni Association and Volunteer Clinical Faculty Members:
Christine Petersen, MD is Past President of the Alumni Association and director of current efforts to fund the Heritage Center.
Michael Gerber, MD is an alumnus of the SOM and the Pulmonary/ Critical Care Fellowship at University of Colorado. He continues to serve as a Volunteer Clinical Faculty Member and serves on the SOM Council of Advisors.
Andy Fine, MD is a volunteer clinical faculty member in the Department of Medicine and winner of several Departmental and School Teaching Awards.

Housestaff and Fellows:
Scott DelaCruz is a fellow of General Internal Medicine/ focus in Medical Education
Laura Donigan, MD is a resident in Internal Medicine
Andrea Salzberg, MD is a fellow in Endocrinology
Sarena Teng, MD is a fellow in Pediatric Critical Care
Rhonda Schafer-McLean, MD/ PhD is a Chief Resident in Ob-Gyn
Mike Ford, MD is a resident in General Surgery
Oscar Szentirmai, MD is a resident in Neurosurgery

Medical Students:
Barbara Wilson, MS4
Ramnik Dhadwal, MS3
Paul Swenson, MS2
Annelise Sterne, MS2

Key Stakeholders and Partners:
Mary Ann Shea, PhD, Director of the Boulder campus Faculty Teaching in Excellence Program and the system President's Teaching Scholars Program and a faculty member in the College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program
Laura Oleh is Development Associate for the CU Foundation
David Pries, MD is Director of Education for Kaiser Permanente
Tonia Johnson is a leader in online education at the K-12 level, Adams City High School

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