



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Department of Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

The DOM Dispatch - December, 2019

Monthly newsletter for the CU Department of Medicine. In this issue:

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Message from the Chair

Friends and Colleagues,

At last month's [State of the Department address](#), I presented our accomplishments from the past year and a look back over the last nine years. As I mentioned in the presentation, I am in awe of what we've been able to achieve as a department, including these top line accomplishments:

- 2-fold increase in clinical activity
- 4-fold increase in the diversity of our housestaff
- 50 percent increase in federal research support
- Outpaced growth of NIH 2:1
- 50 percent increase in endowed funds
- Salary equity and parental leave



We've made tremendous strides with a laser-focused attention to our core values and an unwavering commitment to our vision. Together, we've taken a balanced approach to growth and development across all of our mission areas, where patient care, education and training, and research and scholarship continue to thrive.

This would not be possible without you – our exceptional Department of Medicine faculty, trainees, and staff. In addition to our faculty, trainees, and staff, I also want to acknowledge the dedication and contribution of our APP's who make a difference in the lives of our patients every day.

As we close out the year and reflect back, I'm mindful of the impending transition of my role as chair of medicine—it's been an absolute honor to serve alongside all of you. While there is uncertainty and perhaps some anxiety of the unknown, I know that the department's foundation is strong and well positioned to succeed as a powerhouse institution into the future. I also know that our leadership is entirely committed to the future success of our faculty, trainees, and staff.

I send you and yours best wishes for the holidays and good health for the New Year.

Warmly,

David A. Schwartz, MD
Professor of Medicine and Immunology
Robert W. Schrier Chair of Medicine

Faculty Advancement

Mid-Career Faculty Women's Leadership Program - Deadline Extended



Debuting early 2020, this 9-month program, will feature four half-day workshops and additional sessions delivered by local and national experts.

Designed for mid-career academics, this program will help you expand existing leadership skills, build new skills, strengthen your community with peers in the Department of Medicine and support you as you move

towards the next level or stage of your career.

[Review the FAQs](#) to learn more on if this program is a good fit for your personal career goals. [Click here to apply](#). **The application deadline has been extended to Fri, Dec 6.** For more information contact [Maggie Wierman](#), [Marisha Burden](#) or [Gaby Frank](#).



Faculty Recognition Event

On Nov 13, we celebrated the accomplishments of our faculty at the annual Department of Medicine Faculty Recognition event.

Headlining the evening, nationally acclaimed psychiatrist and concert pianist Richard Kogan, MD, provided an outstanding lecture and performance on "Music and Medicine: George Gershwin."

Special congrats to our 2019 Faculty Innovator Award recipients:

Rita Lee, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine
Division of General Internal Medicine
Anschutz Medical Campus

Micol Rothman, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine
Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism
and Diabetes
Anschutz Medical Campus

Dan Matlock, MD

Associate Professor of Medicine
Division of Geriatric Medicine
Anschutz Medical Campus

Cecile Rose, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine
Division of Pulmonary Sciences and
Critical Care
National Jewish Health

Sonia Flores, PhD, interviewed each 2019 award recipient to glean their insight, background and roles as innovators in their field. In subsequent issues of this newsletter, each award recipient's interview will be highlighted.





Q/A with Dr. Micol Rothman 2019 Faculty Innovator Award Recipient

In this issue, [learn about Dr. Micol Rothman's pioneering role and leadership](#) of the Integrated Transgender Program and the Metabolic Bone Clinic.

"The Integrated Transgender Program represents a key example of synergy to me and embodies to me why I remain in academic medicine in a time of academic burnout and increased pressure on providers," said Dr. Rothman. "In less than two years, our team has been able to accomplish so much more than any of us could as individuals." [Read more.](#)

Upcoming Faculty Advancement Events

Contact DOMFacAdvancement@ucdenver.edu for registration and session questions

Jan 9 - Department of Medicine New Faculty Orientation and Welcome Reception
5pm (Orientation), 5-7pm (Reception), Fulginiti Pavilion

Jan 23 - SOM New Faculty Career Development Workshop, 7:30am-3:30pm,
Nighthorse Campbell Building, Room M24-101 (Shore Family Forum) [Register Now](#)

Dec 4 - Smoking Cessation WebEx (Hosted by Ambulatory Health Promotion)
12-1pm, [Click to join the meeting](#) or [read more.](#)

Research and Innovation



Fall Innovator Spotlight: Michael Holers, MD, Rheumatology

Michael Holers, MD, head of the Division of Rheumatology, is the focus of [CU Innovations' Fall Innovator Spotlight](#) for his academic and entrepreneurial successes.

The Innovator Spotlight celebrates the accomplishments of CU Anschutz faculty and highlights the numerous breakthrough innovations around campus.

First Anschutz Campus Clinical Trial with Mesenchymal Stem Cells

ClinImmune Labs, in the Division of Allergy, Asthma and Clinical Immunology, recently began the first clinical trial with mesenchymal stem cells used to treat diabetic wounds, in coordination with Cell Research Corporation out of Singapore.

This trial is significant as it represents the first collaboration between the ClinImmune, and multinational corporation [CPC](#), and the Anschutz Medical Campus. This is also the first time the university is the lead sponsor for a study using mesenchymal stem cells for the treatment of a disease.

Division of Hematology Clinic Receives FACT Accreditation for Transplants and Immune Effector Cell Therapy

The Division of Hematology's clinic recently received re-accreditation for transplants under the [Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy \(FACT\)](#) and for the first time accreditation for immune effector cell therapy.

Call for Applications: Outstanding Early-Career Scholar Program

Applications are being accepted for the 2020 Department of Medicine Outstanding Early-Career Scholar Program (OECSP), which provides awards of \$75,000 annually up to four years. Through this program, the DOM invests in the career development of each scholar, and is not limited to a specific research project or scholarly activity.

Please see the [attached document](#) for full details and application process, or [view online](#). Applications are due Jan 1, 2020 by 5pm. For more information contact [Jennifer Kemp](#) 303-724-9546.



Call for Applications: SPARK | REACH Translational Projects

SPARK Colorado, founded in 2018, has been assisting CU Anschutz faculty

and researchers in the process of transitioning their discoveries into products that will improve health. The program provides funding, industry mentorship, and a curriculum tailored to the needs of participating members.

This fall, the Anschutz Medical Campus was [awarded](#) \$4 million over the next four years from the National Institutes of Health Research Evaluation and Commercialization Hubs (REACH) grant. With the REACH hub designation, the program will also provide access to key federal agencies, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, in addition to relevant companies and organizations within the industry, and the angel and venture capital investment communities.

Application deadline for the SPARK | Reach program is Mon, Jan 20, 2020. Application details are available at the [SPARK | Reach website](#).



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Apply Now: 2020 Boettcher Investigator Status

BOETTCHER FOUNDATION WEBB-WARING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AWARDS

The Boettcher Foundation established the Boettcher Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Awards program, which provides up to five grants of \$235,000 each covering up to three years of research activity with the intent to provide independent research opportunities to promising and talented early career investigators. Awardees carry the title of Boettcher Investigator in acknowledgement of the prestige of the award. Applications are due by Feb 28, 2020. [Read more.](#)

Faculty Publication and Presentation Highlights

- Laura Scherer, PhD, assistant professor in Cardiology recently published "[Role of Patient Maximizing-Minimizing Preferences in Thyroid Cancer Surveillance](#)"; J Clin Oncol. 2019 Oct 1:JCO1901411
- Matthew Wynia, MD, MPH, professor in General Internal Medicine, recently published an article in JAMA, "[Colorado End-of-Life Options Act: A Clash of Organizational and Individual Conscience](#)".

Faculty Publications

Global Health Program

International Medical Camp: Philippines (June 10-July 10, 2020)

Be a part of a team of national and international doctors, nurses and medical students to serve the medical needs of a developing country in a resource-poor area. Join us for our next International Medical Camp in the Philippines from June 10-July 10, 2020.

Residents, fellows, and faculty are encouraged to apply. The entire trip is covered by the Global Health Program of the Department of Medicine and the BICOL Clinic Foundation.



If interested, please contact Ali Musani MD
ali.musani@cuanschutz.edu

DOM Initiatives - Diversity & Justice

BRIM Training Dates

The Department of Medicine welcomes BRIM-Bias Reduction in Internal Medicine training. The BRIM initiative is a NIH funded study to evaluate an evidence-based pro-diversity intervention throughout academic medicine.

Dr. Molly Carnes' BRIM team will be here Dec 9-12 to train the Group 1 Divisions and the local leads.

[Click here to view the schedule](#)

BRIM | Bias
**Reduction in
Internal
Medicine**

Questions? Contact [Sonia Flores, PhD](#),
Vice Chair for Diversity and Justice



DOM Initiatives - Wellness

WellIDOM @ the Table (formally Compass Groups) Call for Group Leaders

WellIDOM @ the Table is the new name that will be modeled after COMPASS Groups. COMPASS groups were developed at Mayo Clinic for physicians and were shown to decrease burnout as much as 15 percent. Our name reflects a focus on specific needs of CU DOM members.



Open to all DOM staff, faculty (APP's, MDs, DO, PhD's) and trainees, these self-formed groups of 6-7 participants meet 12 times in one year for at least one hour over a meal, and talk about a topic from a list of topics developed for the groups.

Groups will start Jan 2020. We are currently recruiting leaders for up to 16 groups. For questions or to sign up, contact Katie Morrison katherine.2.morrison@cuanschutz.edu
Leader responsibilities can be accessed here: <http://bit.ly/2VX4ZEc>.

HeartMath + Muse Mindfulness Coaching

Learn how to improve sleep, anxiety, fatigue and the ability to focus. Sign up for this one-hour class on mindfulness using HeartMath Inner Balance Sensor Technology and Muse Technology.

Both programs are easy to use and offer biofeedback to improve your skills. Open to all faculty, staff and trainees. [Register now](#) for the following sessions:

- Dec 6
- Jan 17
- Feb 14



In addition to these sessions, groups of 8-10 can request a one-hour on-site visit (limited availability). Contact Katie Morrison Katherine.2.morrison@cuanschutz.edu

Call for Division Wellness Champions

The WellDOM committee is currently seeking three champions from each division, representing staff and faculty (APP's and MD/DO/PhD's).

We will meet for one hour approximately every three months and ask that champions bring information from WellDOM to their divisions as well as feedback and information on best practices back to the steering committee.



If you are interested in this position please let your division head know.

WellDOM Speaker Series

- **Save the date: Feb 19 - You Can't Do Yoga in a Burning Building** 12-1pm (Medical Grand Rounds), AIP2, Bruce Schroffel Auditorium, lunch provided
- **Past session: Crafting a Growth Mindset** - [view the video link](#)

Noteworthy



Elder Abuse Task Force Convenes on Campus

The inaugural Elder Abuse Task Force meeting took place on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, hosted by the CU Anschutz Multidisciplinary Center on Aging.

Attendees represented all three campus health system organizations including the [Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center](#), [Children's Hospital – The Kempe Center](#) and CU Anschutz departments and divisions. An enthusiastic and very action-oriented group, the topics of discussion were immediately identified into four priority areas:

- Advocacy/policy on campus and in the community
- Research
- Education both on and off campus
- Clinical

The task force will meet again in January to further identify opportunities in each of the priority areas and begin to build a multidisciplinary team that will oversee all abuse cases across campus. This team will also work closely with community stakeholders working in the field of elder abuse to help build a network across Colorado to better provide resources to abuse victims and their families.

If you are interested in this initiative, please contact Jodi Waterhouse, Program Director, CU Anschutz Multidisciplinary Center on Aging, at jodi.waterhouse@cuanschutz.edu

Department of Medicine Chair Search Update

The first round of interviews for the next Department of Medicine Chair have been completed, with the second round of interviews expected to start soon. According to the search committee chair Nanette Santoro, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the committee appears to be on track to deliver a short list of candidates to School of Medicine Dean Reilly by mid-Feb.

Any questions should be directed to nanette.santoro@cuanschutz.edu.



Outcomes from FY2018-19 SharkTank Event

The [Closing the Loop](#) project, led by Rheumatology faculty Emily Bowers, MD, Melissa Griffith, MD, Elena Weinstein, MD, Duane Pearson, MD and Jason Kolfenbach, MD, examined time to readmission for patients with Systemic lupus

erythematosus (SLE).

The goal of the project was to reduce 30-day hospital readmissions through implementation of a multidisciplinary post-discharge follow-up protocol. The discharge process for SLE patients (including rheumatology fellows, attendings and nurses) included standardized discharge instructions, post-admission care plans and a nurse phone call to patients within 48 hours of discharge to answer questions and ensure compliance with follow-up care.

At baseline (AY2017), the 30-day readmission rate for patients with SLE was 44%. Following implementation of the interventions (AY2019), there was a trend towards a reduction in 30-day readmission rates. The team continues to work on uniform implementation of interventions and the development of criteria for identifying patients at high risk for readmission. Ultimately, the team would like to expand this effort to include other disease states (i.e., vasculitis) which also have high readmission rates.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- After 16 years on staff at the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, Evelyn Sandoval, senior human resources manager in the Division of Medical Oncology, is planning to retire Dec 31. [Read more.](#)
- Bradley Haverkos, MD, Assistant Professor, Division of Hematology, was selected to receive a CCTSI KL2 Award.
- Chelsea Magin, PhD, Assistant Professor, Division of Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care received the Colorado Bioscience Association's Educator of the Year Award. [Read more.](#)

APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

- Jennifer Taylor-Cousar, MD, Professor of Medicine, Division of Pulmonary Sciences and Critical Care, and Larry Allen, MD, MHS, Associate Division Head for Clinical Affairs in Cardiology will be elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI). Each year, the ASCI Council considers nominations of several hundred physician-scientists and recommends no more than 80 for election based on outstanding scholarly achievement. [Read more in Dr. Schwartz's announcement](#) regarding this honor.
- Michael Holers, MD, Scoville Professor and Rheumatology Division Head was named Vice President of the ACR Rheumatology Research Foundation.
- Kevin Deane, MD, PhD joined the board of directors of the Rheumatology Research Foundation Board of Directors.

*Received an award, promotion or have other good news to share?
Send your submission to holti.keyser@cuanschutz.edu.*

In case you missed it...

State of the Campus: Why our Work Matters

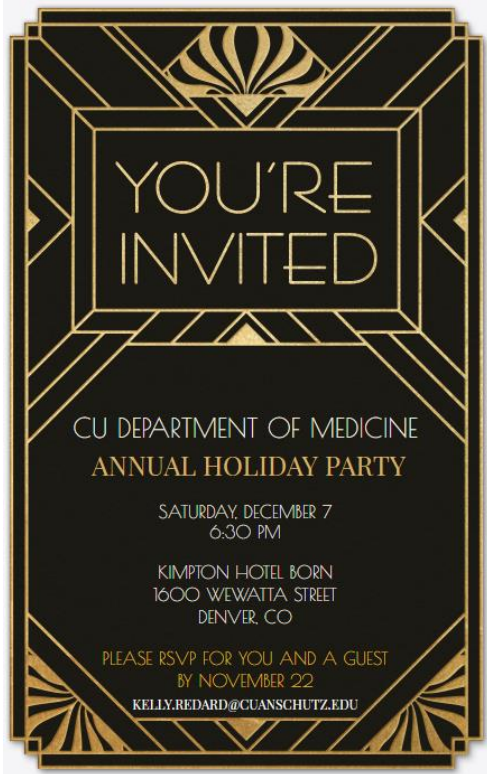
In this year's State of the Campus address on Nov 19, Chancellor Don Elliman zeroed in on why our work matters. He highlighted stories that paint the bigger picture: how the cutting-edge research, education and clinical care taking place at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus are changing the world for the better. [Read more.](#)

CU Anschutz Employees Receive Additional Holiday Leave

CU Anschutz Chancellor Don Elliman recently announced that all CU Anschutz faculty and staff may take **20 hours of additional leave**, from Dec 23, 2019-Jan 1, 2020. This is beyond the [scheduled CU Anschutz holidays](#) of Dec 24, Dec 25 and Jan 1. All units are required to be open on the normal non-holiday dates with at least essential personnel. [Read more.](#)

Events Calendar

Dec 7 - DOM Holiday Celebration Event, 6:30pm, Kimpton Hotel Born



Details:

- Cash bar from 6:30pm-midnight
- Resident group photo at 7:15pm
- Appetizers and a festive holiday buffet will be served
- String trio in the lobby
- Photo booth
- DJ until midnight
- Cocktail attire - coat check available

Hotel Accommodations:

Hotel Rooms at the Kimpton Hotel Born may be reserved here: [Exceptional Events Rate 2019 + Hotel Born Reservation Link](#)

Parking and alternative transportation:

- Kimpton Hotel Born Valet \$15
- Uber or Lyft
- Reserve a parking spot in advance using Spot Hero or Parking Panda
- RTD (hotel is located at Union Station)

Questions? Contact Kelly Redard, kelly.redard@cuanschutz.edu.

Jan 9 - Department of Medicine New Faculty Orientation and Welcome Reception
5pm (Orientation), 5-7pm (Reception), Fulginiti Pavilion

Jan 23 - SOM New Faculty Career Development Workshop, 7:30am-3:30pm,
Nighthorse Campbell Building, Room M24-101 (Shore Family Forum) [Register Now](#)

Grand Rounds

Research & Innovation Conference



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Have ideas or submissions for the newsletter? Email them to holti.keyser@cuanschutz.edu

