Committee Mission Statement

To develop and enhance the academic environment for women faculty and trainees through networking, mentorship, professional development, and advocacy.

The recent report Status of Academic Women at the University of Chicago highlights the need for women faculty to be recognized as contributors to the overall mission of the institution; to promote scholarship, education, clinical care and research. In order to do so, it is essential that women faculty and trainees have equal opportunity for leadership and advancement. This core mission is reflected at all levels within the Department of Medicine. In 1999, the Department of Medicine established the Women’s Committee to provide a mechanism for networking, mentorship, equity review and professional development. Over the past 12 years, our committee has continued to serve as an important mechanism for dialogue and representation and recently, we have witnessed increasing leadership among women faculty. This year, we are launching our first DOM Women’s Newsletter to celebrate the accomplishments of women faculty and trainees, to introduce new faculty and to discuss important topics related to the status of women. We invite you to join us in recognizing the great accomplishments of our faculty and trainees.

Karen E. Kim, MD, MS
Chair, Department of Medicine Women’s Committee

Formed in 1999 to address specific issues and concerns of women, the Department of Medicine Women’s Committee serves a vital role, both within and outside the confines of the Department, by promoting and enhancing the working environment for women faculty. Many of the successes relating to gender issues realized by the University of Chicago over the past few years can be directly attributed to the outstanding efforts of our Women’s Committee. Led by Dr. Karen Kim, the Committee is comprised of women from multiple sections within the Department, all of whom are amazing leaders, scientists, clinicians and educators in their own right, and are dedicated to working towards a common goal of cultivating a rich, inclusive, and supportive environment where women faculty choose to be. I hope you will enjoy this inaugural issue of the DOM Women’s Committee Newsletter and join me in applauding their extraordinary accomplishments.

Everett E. Vokes, MD
Chair, Department of Medicine

May 2012
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women in the news: faculty spotlight

Lisa Vinci, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
General Internal Medicine

Dr. Lisa Vinci, Vice Chair for Ambulatory Operations, was recently elected to the Practice Board of University of Chicago Medicine. In 2000, Dr. Vinci joined the faculty of the Section of General Internal Medicine. Lisa’s academic interests are focused on improving quality and efficiency in systems of care in the ambulatory setting. She directs the Primary Care Group, the Internal Medicine residents’ curriculum in quality improvement and the DOM Faculty Quality Scholars Program.

Lucy Godley, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Hematology/Oncology

Dr. Lucy Godley, a leader in cancer biology research in the fields of DNA methylation and hematopoietic malignancies, was recently elected to the prestigious American Society of Clinical Investigation (ASCI). In addition to her scientific success, Dr. Godley takes an active role in mentoring and developing the next generation of physician scientists. She was co-Director of the Physician Scientist Development Program, and she is a longstanding steering committee member of the Medical Scientist Training Program. She is a role model for physician scientists in training, especially women.

Doriane Miller, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine
General Internal Medicine

Dr. Dorianne Miller is the inaugural director of the Center for Community Health and Vitality at University of Chicago Medicine, which aims to improve population health outcomes for residents on the South Side of Chicago. Prior to joining our faculty, Dr. Miller served as Associate Division Chief for General Internal Medicine at Stroger Hospital of Cook County, Senior Director for Quality and Clinical Research of the Health Research and Educational Trust of the American Hospital Association and was program Vice President at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
trainee spotlight

Sushila Dalal, MD
Fellow
Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

Dr. Sushila Dalal is a 2006 graduate of the Pritzker School of Medicine. In 2009 she completed internal medicine residency here and began her gastroenterology fellowship in 2009. Dr. Dalal has worked in the lab of Dr. Eugene Chang since medical school where she studies the way in which the bacterial community in the intestine affects the host’s gene expression. Dr. Dalal received a Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award for an Individual Postdoctoral Fellow, which is funding an additional year of research training to further her career development as an independent researcher.

Katrina Booth, MD
Geriatrics Fellow

Dr. Katrina Booth received her MD from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2008. She completed her internship and residency training at the University of Chicago and was selected to serve as the Ambulatory Chief Resident for the 2011-2012 academic year. Her current academic focus has been the implementation of a new “discharge clinic” in the Primary Care Group, to provide early post-hospital follow-up for the internal medicine residents’ continuity clinic patients. She will present her results and findings from this initiative at the Department of Medicine Grand Rounds on June 5th, 2012. After her chief resident year, she will return to the University of Alabama at Birmingham to continue her training as a geriatrics fellow.

new faculty

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS:
Doriane Miller, MD (General Internal Medicine)
Uzma Siddiqui, MD (Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition): Dr. Siddiqui joined the faculty in January, 2012. Dr. Siddiqui is the Director of Endoscopic Ultrasound for the Center for Endoscopic Research and Therapeutics.

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS:
Tamar Polonsky, MD (Cardiology): Dr. Polonsky joined the faculty in September 2011. She is a 2002 graduate of PSOM. Dr. Polonsky’s research focus is on cardiovascular epidemiology and prevention and risk stratification.

Diane Bolotin, MD (Dermatology): Dr. Bolotin joined the faculty in July 2011. She received her PhD in molecular genetics from the University of Chicago in 2004 followed by her MD in 2006 from PSOM. Dr. Bolotin is the Director of Mohs Micrographic Surgery and has expertise in a wide range of medical and surgical treatments within cutaneous oncology.

Megan Huisingh-Scheetz, MD (Geriatrics & Palliative Medicine): Dr. Huisingh Sheetz joined the faculty in February 2012. Her research interests are focused on delineating frailty trajectories among obese compared to non-obese older adults, with a particular interest in the role of energy expenditure.
Arlene Ruiz de Luzuriaga, MD (Dermatology): Dr. Ruiz de Luzuriaga joined the faculty in December 2011. Dr. Ruiz de Luzuriaga is interested in epidemiologic studies in dermatology and dermatopathology. She is also interested in clinical informatics and the use of information technology for the improvement of patient care, diagnosis and treatment algorithms, and medical education.

Amber Pincavage, MD (General Internal Medicine): Dr. Pincavage is a 2007 graduate of PSOM and our IMR program, where she served as Chief Resident. Amber joined the faculty in July 2011 and focuses her efforts on medical education research.

Gordana Raca, PhD (Hematology/Oncology): Dr. Raca joined the faculty in July 2011 and currently serves as Co-Director of the Cancer Cytogenetics laboratory. In 2001, she was granted her PhD in molecular genetics from the University of Chicago. Gordana’s research interests are focused on molecular and cytogenetic mechanisms of hereditary disorders and hematologic malignancies.

INSTRUCTORS
Jennifer Pisano, MD (Infectious Diseases and Global Health): Dr. Pisano, Associate Director of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, joined our faculty in December 2011 after completing her residency and fellowship training at the University of Chicago. Dr. Pisano’s academic interests include studying the etiologies of febrile neutropenia in patients receiving cytotoxic chemotherapy.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR:
Vani Konda, MD (Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition)

Pamela McShane, MD (Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine)

Emily Mawdsley, MD (Infectious Diseases and Global Health)

Milda Saunders, MD (Hospital Medicine)

Anna Zisman, MD (Nephrology)

LINDA DREULINGER, MD
Chief of Emergency Medicine

Dr. Druelinger, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine was recently appointed as Chief of the Section of Emergency Medicine. Dr. Druelinger had been serving in an interim capacity since April 2011 where she demonstrated outstanding leadership and academic vision for the Section.

Dr. Druelinger is widely lauded for her outstanding mentorship and teaching skills. She was the 2010 recipient of the PSOM Leonard Tow Gold Humanism Award and the Department of Medicine’s Clinical Productivity Award for Evaluation & Management. In 2007 she was chosen as the recipient of the Doroghazi Clinical Teaching Award and elected as a Master in the PSOM’s Academy of Distinguished Medical Educators. On a national level, Dr. Druelinger is an active member in Clerkship Directors in Emergency Medicine where she serves on the 3rd year Curriculum Development Committee, the Emergency Medicine National Test Development Taskforce and the Direct Observation Task force Committee, as well as the Academy of Women in Academic Emergency Medicine where she chairs the Regional Mentoring Committee and serves as a member of the Executive Committee.

recent promotions

PROFESSOR
Bana Jabri, MD, PhD (Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition)

Mary Strek, MD (Pulmonary/Critical Care)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR:
Mary Hammes, MD (Nephrology)

Stacie Levine, MD (Geriatrics & Palliative Medicine)

Olatoyosi Odenike, MD (Hematology/Oncology)
Dr. Bana Jabri, Professor of Medicine was named as Vice Chair for Research (Basic) for the Department of Medicine on December 1, 2011. Bana joins Vice Chairs, Dr. Julian Solway and Dr. Ravi Salgia, as part of the newly reorganized DOM Research Advisory Committee to coordinate, enhance and advance research in the DOM. Bana also serves as Co-Director of the NIH funded University of Chicago Digestive Disease Research Core Center.

Dr. Jabri’s groundbreaking work includes the discovery that signals from tissue cells control effector immune responses, in particular combinations of stress-induced ligands and IL-15 license cytotoxic T cell to mediate tissue damage. Her research group developed the first mouse model of celiac disease, which will allow for the testing of new vaccines and therapeutic strategies. Dr. Jabri’s seminal work has been published in dozens of high impact journals including two recent papers in Nature. Bana was the 2010 recipient of the Department’s Leif B. Sorensen Faculty Research Award, the 2010 recipient of the international William. K. Warren, Jr. Prize for Basic Research in Celiac Disease and was recently elected to the prestigious Association of American Physicians.

fy12 honors & awards

Vineet Arora, MD (General Internal Medicine)–Midwest SGIM Leaders in General Internal Medicine Award and SGIM National Award for Mid-Career Mentorship

Deborah Burnet, MD (General Internal Medicine)–Appointed as a standing member of the NIDDK-B grants review subcommittee for a four year term starting next summer

Nancy Cox, PhD (Genetic Medicine)–Selected as a 2012 Pritzker Scholar

Lucy Godley, MD, PhD (Hematology/Oncology)–Elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation

Karen Kim, MD (Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition)–Elected to serve on the steering committee for the National Viral Hepatitis Roundtable

Michelle Le Beau, PhD (Hematology/Oncology)–Elected Vice President/President-elect of the Association of American Cancer Institutes and elected to the AACR Board of Directors.

Funmi Olopade, MD (Hematology/Oncology)–Recipient of the 2011 AACR Distinguished Lecture on the Science of Cancer Health Disparities, funded by Susan G. Komen for the Cure

Monica Peek, MD (General Internal Medicine)–Named as one of the first Bucksbaum Institute Faculty Scholars

Valerie Press, MD (Hospital Medicine)–Named as one of the Top Hospitalists for 2011 by the American College of Physicians Hospitalist’s

Janet Rowley, MD (Hematology/Oncology)–Recipient of the 2012 Japan Prize for Healthcare and Medical Technology

Sonali Smith, MD (Hematology/Oncology)–Appointed to the Lymphoma Research Foundation Scientific Advisory Board

Monica Vela, MD (General Internal Medicine)–Recipient of the Diversity Award by the National American College of Physicians and the ACP Award for Diversity and Access to Care.

women making the news

TOP DOCTORS CHICAGO MAGAZINE:
Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition: Carol Semrad, MD, Helen Te, MD

Hematology/Oncology: Gini Fleming, MD, Hedy Kindler, MD

Infectious Diseases: Kathleen Mullane, DO

General Internal Medicine: Deborah Burnet, MD, Susan Glick, MD

Nephrology: Michelle Josephson, MD

ACADEMY OF DISTINGUISHED MEDICAL EDUCATORS (ELECTED):
Master–Vineet Arora, MD
Fellows–Rita Rossi Foulkes, MD; Sonali Smith, MD; Julie Oyler, MD

RECENT NAMED PROFESSORS:
Michelle Le Beau, PhD–Arthur and Marian Edelstein Professor

Eve Van Cauter, PhD–Frederick H. Rawson Professor
While women faculty and trainees contribute to the academic mission of the University of Chicago, we strive to create an environment that is equitable for all faculty and students. Earlier this year the Status of Academic Women at the University of Chicago report was released. The data below shows the continued need to address the gaps in gender equity and leadership.

**FIGURE 10.**
NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS BY SEX 2001–2010
Source: Office of the Provost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>% of Leadership Positions Filled By Women</th>
<th>% of All Tenured Faculty Who are Women</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSD BASIC</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSD MEDICAL</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMANITIES</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSD</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSD</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>23%</td>
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**FIGURE 11.**
WOMEN CHAIRS VS. TENURED WOMEN IN THE FACULTY 2001-2010
Source: Office of the Provost

**the balancing act**
how do women balance academic success with work-life balance? what advice would you give other women?

**Helen Te, MD**
Associate Professor of Medicine, Section of Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition
Medical Director, Adult Liver Transplantation
Balancing act: Clinician, Mother of three, wife

**PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**
Dr. Te’s major interest is the interplay of graft function and complications from immunosuppression following liver transplantation. In her role as Medical Director of Adult Liver Transplantation, she works very closely with the Liver Transplant Team to provide outstanding multidisciplinary care for each patient. With the breadth and depth of clinical expertise that she has attained over the years, Dr. Te was recently named as one of America’s Top Doctors in 2011.
**WORK-LIFE BALANCE:**
Organization and efficiency is key to effective time management. Time is the most precious commodity in balancing a busy work and personal life (which includes raising three children). Dr. Te makes quality family time out of the two hours that she has regained each day since her family’s move from the suburbs to the Hyde Park-Kenwood neighborhood.

**ADVICE TO WOMEN FACULTY:**
Ask for it... that may be all that stands between you and what you want, or what you deserve.

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**Yu-Ying He, PhD**  
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Section of Dermatology  
Balancing Act: Researcher, immigrant, mother of two, wife

**PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**
Dr. He’s research focuses on the molecular pathogenesis and prevention of skin cancer, the most common cancer in the US. Her recent study on the role of PTEN in removing UV-induced DNA damage was selected for Press Release by the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) and many other news outlets. She recently received the Outstanding New Environmental Scientist Award from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

**WORK-LIFE BALANCE:**
Having a good work-life balance is challenging. Dr. He is fortunate to have strong family support, lives near campus, and has supportive colleagues at work.

**ADVICE TO WOMEN FACULTY:**
Stay efficient and clearly prioritize career and life goals. Get support from family.

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**Monica Peek, MD, MPH**  
Assistant Professor of Medicine, Section of General Internal Medicine  
Balancing Act: Clinician-researcher, non-profit organization founder, mother of twins, wife

**PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**
Dr. Peek is a general internist and health services research who focuses on patient/physician communication, patient empowerment and diabetes health disparities. She is the Associate Director of the Chicago Center for Diabetes Translation Research and an inaugural faculty fellow of the Bucksbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence. She is currently funded by NIH and the Merck Company Foundation to conduct translational diabetes research in the South Side of Chicago. Dr. Peek was named one of Chicago’s ‘40 Under 40’ by Crain’s Business Magazine and one of the Top Female Physicians in Chicago in 2005.

**WORK-LIFE BALANCE:**
Prioritize doing those things that only you can do—both at home and at work. If you can afford it, pay for help at home with errands, cleaning and cooking to free up quality time with your family. Get comfortable letting go and delegating tasks at work that can be done by staff or trainees. And don’t necessarily shoot for balance but rather serial imbalance—sometimes work may require more of your time, but be sure to make it up later. If I’m out of town for more than 4 days for work (which is much more rare nowadays), I’ll take a day off work to be home with my kids. It all works out in the end.

**ADVICE TO WOMEN FACULTY:**
Don’t miss out on the important things in life (e.g. kids, good friendships) because of work. But don’t be afraid to strive for your highest potential at work because of personal obligations either.
past/future events

PAST
March 27, 2012:
Department of Medicine Women’s Committee sponsored DOM Grand Rounds. Elizabeth Travis, PhD, the Mattie Allen Fair Professor in Cancer Research and the Associate Vice President, Women Faculty Programs at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center presented the topic “Advancing Women Faculty...Lessons learned From a Dedicated Initiative”. She discussed the need for targeted programs for the promotion and development of women faculty to benefit all faculty.

FUTURE
June 12:
Conversations with Dean Kenneth Polonsky–Medicine Grand Rounds–Noon (P117)

June 26:
Annual Departmental Address & Awards Ceremony by Everett Vokes, MD–Medicine Grand Rounds–Noon (P117)

links

Report on the Status of Women at the University of Chicago
http://provost.uchicago.edu/initiatives/academicwomensreport.shtml

For Women at the University
http://women.uchicago.edu/wlcmain/

Office of Academic Affairs
http://oaa.bsd.uchicago.edu/