

# General Internal Medicine NEWSLETTER

January- March 2019

## *Message from Division Leadership*

What a great start of the year we have had, GIMers! We recruited another outstanding group of talented physicians into our Clinical Scholars Class of 2020 and expanded our programs at Lower Manhattan Hospital. We had excellent students from top medical schools match into the primary care track of our Internal Medicine residency program. We converted our monthly administrative GIM faculty meetings into monthly GIM Grand Rounds with CME, which are well attended by all of you. Weill Cornell Medicine ranked 9<sup>th</sup> nationally in medical schools for research by US News and World report, and our growing research group contributed to this fantastic outcome. We continue to look for creative ways for all of our division members to get to know one another, which many of you expressed, was an important goal for you during our small group discussions three years ago. We have a great opportunity to add to the extraordinary excellence in clinical care, education, and research you all already have achieved, and through collaborative innovation, to positively impact our profession together. As a step in this direction, we will be issuing a request for collaborative proposals to improve the hospital to home transition. Stay tuned! On March 7<sup>th</sup> and March 30<sup>th</sup> we also celebrated the inaugural National Hospitalist Day and National Doctors' Day, respectively; I congratulate all of you for your hard work and for keeping our community healthy. I look forward to seeing you at the GIM Monthly Mixer in May on Lasdon 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

**Monika M. Safford, MD** | Chief, General Internal Medicine

## *Primary Care Innovation (PCI) Program*

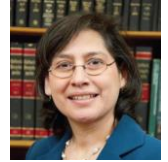
The Primary Care Innovation symposium held during the **ProudtoBeGIM** week was a huge success with over 100 attendees from Weill Cornell Medicine, NYP Brooklyn Methodist, NYP Queens, and presentations from past PCI Seed Grant awardees and abstract winners. The month of February hit 1.3M Twitter impressions with #PTBGIM.



## *Cornell Center for Health Equity*

We are pleased to invite you to **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cornell Center for Health Equity Symposium**, to be held April 11 and 12 in Ithaca, NY. The day and a half symposium's goal is to

create new cross campus and community collaborations through "academic speed dating", 5-minute lightning talks, a poster session, and collaborative discussions. Keynote speaker **Wilma Alvarado-Little, MA** is the Director of the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities Prevention and Associate Commissioner of New York State Department of Health.



**Erica Phillips, MD** Director of the CCHEq-NYC Community Engagement Core was invited to the WeWork Cancer Collaboration Hub in New York City on March 26<sup>th</sup> to meet and discuss inequities in cancer care among New Yorkers, with former Vice President Joe Biden.

## *Diversity Center of Excellence (DCoE)*

The CCHEq-NYC Education Core has been very busy thanks to the resources provided by the HRSA-funded Diversity Center of Excellence. This work could not have been made possible without the contributions of **Susana Morales, MD, PI**, **Monika Safford, MD, Co-PI**, **Daisy Torres-Baez**, **Benedict Harvey**, and a host of faculty and students.

The new **Diversity Mentoring Cascade** program is led by the DCoE and co-sponsored by the Office of Student Diversity and the Department of Medicine. The objectives of this new program are to facilitate professional growth and development, influence diversity and experiences, create a supportive community for participants, and facilitate growth in mentoring skills for all participants. If you are interested in participating, contact [Benedict Harvey](#).

The DCoE is launching **Faculty Development Circles** in partnership with Office of Diversity and Inclusion, a two-year collaborative mentoring program aimed to increase the retention and ascension of WCM faculty from underrepresented groups in medicine at WCM. The program launched on March 26<sup>th</sup> with 14 faculty members.

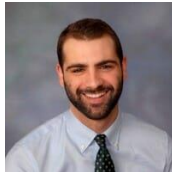
The inaugural DCoE **Pre-Medical Conference** was held on March 30<sup>th</sup> for undergraduate and gap year students of linkage schools including Cornell University, Columbia University, Fordham College, Hunter College, St. John's University, and The City College of New York. The conference entitled, "Towards Health Equity and Beyond: Building a Career in Medicine," consisted of welcoming remarks, keynote speaker **Anthony Carl Watkins, MD**, a panel of

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individuals at different stages of the pipeline, workshops, and small group mentoring with medical students and physicians.

**Christopher Gonzalez, MD** has been selected as the first health disparities research fellow as part of a new fellowship program made possible by the DCoE and led by **Martin Shapiro, MD**. Dr. Gonzalez studied Neuroscience and Creative Writing in Spanish at New York University and received his MD from Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons and is completing his Internal Medicine residency training at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center. We are excited to have Dr. Gonzalez join our team in July!



Results of the DCoE's efforts are already emerging: we matched 25% underrepresented minorities in our internal medicine residency, and half of the matched psychiatry residents are underrepresented minorities. While multiple factors contributed, undoubtedly the numerous new programs played an important role.

## Honors & Awards

The American Holistic Nurses Association elected **Stasi Lubansky, DNP** of New York to the Board of Directors. She will be installed at the organization's 39th Annual Conference held in Tulsa, Oklahoma in June 2019. Her responsibilities in this position will include determining the vision, direction and guidance for the specialty association and representing holistic nurses nationally and internationally.



The Society of Hospital Medicine's Fellow in Hospital Medicine Review Committee has conferred upon **Ernie Esquivel, MD** the Senior Fellow in Hospital Medicine designation based on his fulfillment of the application requirements and core hospital medicine competency criteria.

**Alexis Vien, MD** won the Lower Manhattan Hospital Department of Nursing Physician of the Year award, in recognition for her collaboration, dedication and hard work with nursing and her patients.

**Iris Navarro-Millan, MD** has been selected to the 2019 *Super Doctors New York Rising Stars* list, which will be published in

the Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> edition of *The New York Times Magazine*.

**Madeline Sterling's, MD** abstract, "Social Determinants of Health and 90 Day Mortality after Hospitalization for Heart Failure in the REGARDS Study," received the Paul Dudley White International Scholar Award from the American Heart Association (AHA). The award recognizes the author with the highest ranked abstract from the United States at the AHA-Quality of Care and Outcomes Research Scientific Sessions meeting, held on April 5-6, 2019. Abstract co-authors include DGIM members: **Parag Goyal, MD, Laura Pinheiro, PhD, Joanna Ringel, MPH, Erica Phillips, MD, and Monika Safford, MD**.

## Publications

**Amanda Carmel, MD** [Evaluation of the Patient Activated Learning System \(PALS\) to Improve Knowledge Acquisition, Retention, and Medication Decision Making among Hypertensive Adults: Results of a Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial](#)

**Laura Greisman, MD** [Control of Mosquito-Borne Illnesses: A Challenge to Public Health Ethics](#)

**Lisa Kern, MD** [Patients' and Providers' Views on Causes and Consequences of Healthcare Fragmentation in the Ambulatory Setting: a Qualitative Study](#)

**Lisa Kern, MD** [Fragmented Ambulatory Care and Subsequent Emergency Department Visits and Hospital Admissions among Medicaid Beneficiaries](#)

**Monika Safford, MD** had several publications during this period, click [here](#).

**Madeline Sterling, MD** [Home Care Workers are Essential to People with Heart Failure](#)

## Announcements

GIM research and administrative offices relocated from Baker 20 to Lasdon House, 420 East 70th Street, New York, NY 10021. The Division of GIM together with its neighbor, the Division of Geriatrics and Palliative Care, held an evening reception on March 6<sup>th</sup> for the opening of Lasdon House. GIM will host **Monthly Mixers** to foster camaraderie between division faculty and staff. Look for upcoming dates and times.

**Hospital Medicine Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) program** had a successful winter 2019 course. The summer 2019 course will take place in Lasdon House. The summer course registration is already at full capacity with physicians from around the globe. National and

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international POCUS leaders will be participating as faculty for this course. We look forward to another week of successful POCUS training.

**Prepare for Surgery, Heal Faster™** is a program provided by Integrative Health and Wellbeing at NewYork-Presbyterian. The FREE virtual webinar takes place every Monday from 3-4pm. To sign up contact [Benicia Fernandez](#) or call 646-697-9323.

**Jordan Metzl, MD** from the Hospital for Special Surgery presented his talk on *Prescribing Exercise to Patients* at our GIM Grand rounds on February 7<sup>th</sup>.



**Joseph Shin, MD** was one of the panelists at the NYS Health Foundation to discuss safety, rights, and health of immigrant detainees. To read more, click [here](#).

**Alice Tang, MD, Sydney Katz, MD, and Stephanie Tang, MD** had abstracts accepted at the Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine and the SGIM national meeting in May.

**Renuka Gupta, MD** is happy to announce the opening of an Ombuds office starting July 2019. The office will serve GIM faculty, medicine residents, and medicine fellows to help promote a positive climate. An ombudsman is an independent, impartial, informal, and confidential resource.



**Dhruv Khullar, MD** will be awarded the Distinguished Fellow Award at the *Ethical Leadership: an Evening to Benefit Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics* Gala on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. To read more or to register, click [here](#).

Check out the blogs and columns by **Fred Pelzman, MD** on [Building the Patient-Centered Medical Home](#) featured in MedPage Today.

The **GIM Summer Student Internship** application period is now closed. This year we received 137 applications for 12 participating programs. Program leaders are in the process of reviewing candidate resumes and scheduling interviews. For more information, contact [Arta Habili, MA](#).

Welcome to the Team!

## Academic

**Jaclyn Feltham, FNP**, Weill Cornell Internal Medicine Associates

## Staff

**Elizabeth Baquero, EdD**, Research Program Coordinator for Monika Safford, MD

**Kate Zarzuela, MD**, Research Program Coordinator for Parag Goyal, MD

**Francesse Antoine, MPH**, Research Assistant to the Community Engagement Core of the Cornell Center for Health Equity

## Farewell

**Savira Dargar, MS**, Research Program Manager for Monika Safford, MD

**Tina Dharamdasani, MPH**, Research Assistant for Parag Goyal, MD

**Harveen Kaur, MPH**, Research Assistant for Laura Pinheiro, PhD and Madeline Sterling, MD

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