Residency Notes
For the Employees of Desert Regional Medical Center

July 2013

I joined the UCR faculty in March 2013, after moving from Belton, Texas (near Austin), where I practiced in academic medicine for nearly 10 years. I completed my residency at Texas A&M School of Medicine – Scott & White Family Medicine Residency and was Chief Resident of my class. I stayed on as Senior Staff and was an Associate Program Director for the Scott & White Family Medicine Residency from 2007 – 2012.

My professional interests include academic medicine, health maintenance, preventive medicine, women’s health, chronic disease management, and outpatient procedures. Personally, I am married to a fabulous husband and have two wonderful boys, ages 4 and 5.

The primary purpose of this newsletter is to help strengthen our relationship with the staff at DRMC and provide updates regarding the progress of the residency. I am happy to say that we are well underway in bringing the first residency training program to Desert Regional Medical Center. The application or “PIF” (Program Information Form) has been submitted and we are waiting to have a site review scheduled, which we anticipate will be in September – October of this year. If approved for accreditation, we will interview resident candidates from October 2014 through January 2015 and will have our first intern class start on July 1, 2015.

With the commencement of the residency, we hope to improve access and strengthen primary care in the Coachella Valley while providing personalized care of the highest quality to the underserved populations of Inland (continued on page 3)

From the Program Director —

Residency Policy Highlights:

ACGME Duty Hour Requirements

Duty Hours

- Duty hours are defined as all clinical and academic activities related to the residency program, i.e., patient care (both inpatient and outpatient), administrative duties related to patient care, the provision for transfer of patient care, time spent in-house during call activities, and scheduled academic activities such as conferences. Duty hours do not include reading and preparation time spent away from the duty site.

- Duty hours must be limited to 80 hours per week, averaged over a four-week period, inclusive of all in-house call activities.

- Residents must be provided with 1 day in 7 free from all educational and clinical responsibilities, averaged over a 4-week period, inclusive of call. One day is defined as one continuous 24-hour period free from all clinical, educational, and administrative activities.

- Adequate time for rest and personal activities must be provided. This should consist of a 10 hour time period provided between all daily duty periods and after in-house call.
Faculty Spotlight

The current faculty at UCR Health Family Medicine Center consists of five physicians — Dr. Gemma Kim, Dr. Tae Kim, Dr. Andrew Alexander, Dr. Charles Gonzales and Dr. Michael Hughes. All of the physicians practice full spectrum family medicine and see patients from pediatrics to geriatrics.

The clinic is currently located at 555 Tachevah Drive, 3W-105, Palm Springs, 92262 (Tel: 760-318-4730, Fax: 760-416-7639) and physicians are actively seeing patients. The new clinic is anticipated to open in January 2014 and will be located in the same building, but at 2E-107. The clinic will have more than 13,000 square feet, which will consist of 20 patient exam rooms, a triage room, and two procedure rooms. We will keep you posted as to when it will be completed.

Dr. Tae Kim is the Medical Director of UCR Health in the Coachella Valley. He is a Family Medicine physician who specializes in diagnosing and treating all age groups with a special interest in women’s health, preventive medicine, minor surgeries, chronic medical management, and academic medicine. He was trained at Texas A&M School of Medicine/ Scott & White Hospital, where he was selected as Chief Resident. After completing his residency, he stayed on as Senior Staff and Assistant Professor and continued to teach medical students and resident physicians. This past March, he joined UCR School of Medicine to not only continue to educate future physicians but to expand primary care in the Coachella Valley.

Dr. Andrew Alexander grew up in the western U.S. and attended college on a gymnastics scholarship at Washington State. After a short stint of mandatory military service, he entered medical school at USC. His internship was in Internal Medicine at the LAC/USC Medical Center with his residency completed in Family Medicine at the University of Texas, Houston. His final year was spent as chief resident, after which he returned to California and accepted an assistant clinical professorship at UC San Francisco while beginning the private practice of medicine. Dr. Alexander values his doctor-patient relationships as well as his doctor-community relationships. As a full time faculty member of the new UCR School of Medicine, he enjoys building learning opportunities for his community, students, and most importantly, his new patients.

Dr. Charles Gonzales graduated with an undergraduate degree in Psychology in 1991. He then graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Madison in 1999. He completed his residency and is board certified in Family Medicine since 2002. He went on to complete a fellowship in HIV Medicine in 2003. He is currently board certified in Hospice and Palliative Care since 2010. Dr. Gonzales is a fitness enthusiast and loves helping his patients lose weight. He has found with a motivated patient he is quite successful. He is a voracious reader which is probably a good thing as he has not had a television set since 2002.

Dr. Michael Hughes has been in private practice for the past 15 years in the Pacific Northwest. He has been in a busy full-scope family practice office caring for all ages. He is skilled in a number of office procedures including minor dermatology surgeries, and vasectomy. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with family, cooking, hiking, camping, exercising, cycling and participating in triathlons. His philosophy of medicine is that of being a patient advocate, listener, and guide to help one make informed choices for their health.

From the Program Director

(continued from page 1)

Southern California that is patient, family, and community-centered.

The faculty at UCR our excited to be here and so appreciative of the support we have received. We will continue to reach out to the faculty for assistance to build the curriculum for the various rotations. If you have any interest in participating as one of the faculty, please feel free to contact me anytime. I am enthusiastic about our partnership with Desert Regional Medical Center and look forward to meeting each and every one of you.