It’s hard to believe that it has been a little over a year since we received accreditation for our program.

I am happy to say that after reviewing over 500 applications for eight first year positions and an extensive interview season, we were able to match with our top choices. Therefore, it is with great excitement that we share with you the inaugural class of the UCR School of Medicine Family Medicine Residency program.

I am confident that our incoming residents, who are featured in this newsletter on page 6, will bring to our program not only diversity but also share a commitment to our mission to improve access to health care and provide personalized care of the highest quality to the underserved populations of the Coachella Valley.

Since our last newsletter, we have also added great faculty to our program, Drs. Domagalski, Oandasan and Streletz. They each bring unique experiences from other teaching programs to help expand the educational experience for the residents and also improve the care and services that we are able to provide to our patients. With our new faculty and continued partnerships with the community physicians, we will remain dedicated to maintain and fulfill the mission of our program as we move forward and to embrace innovative ideas for education, patient care, and service to our community.

Our new UCR Health Family Medicine Center in the Las Palmas Center has been open since July 2014. All of the providers continue to grow their patient panels, and we appreciate all of the referrals. We look forward to when the residents start this July so that we will continue to improve access to primary care. As a training program, our clinic is able to provide services to all age groups from pediatrics to geriatrics. We are also (continued on page 2)
I am Dr. Randy Culbertson, the Chief Development Officer for Desert Regional Medical Center as well as a board certified family practitioner. I take particular pleasure in seeing the University of California Riverside Family Practice Residency Program come to fruition here in Palm Springs. The hard work that Dr. Tae and Dr. Gemma Kim have put into building the structure for the program will pay dividends for many years to come. Dr. Mahendr Kochar has been wonderful to work with and we are so excited to see our first residents in July of 2015. The entire hospital is dedicated to making this residency one of the best in the country.

The new residency program is housed in a beautiful new 13,000 square foot facility next door to the hospital. It is as fine a facility as you will see around the country for Family Medicine residents. I know that our faculty is very proud of the facilities. The seven full-time faculty members have been very busy building practices so there will be plenty of patients for residents to see once they arrive. They have been very supportive of every opportunity we have proposed to increase their patient load. As we embark on this new adventure, our hope is that many of those we train at Desert Regional will want to stay and work in our area since we have a critical shortage of primary care physicians. They will be very well prepared, I am sure, based on the curriculum set forth by the program and I am confident we will have a great first class here in July.

We stand very supportive and excited about the new UCR School of Medicine. We anticipate seeing many of the students from the UCR School of Medicine here at Desert Regional during their third and fourth years for clinical clerkships. Having students and residents around your facility makes every physician better and creates a great atmosphere for tremendous quality of care.

I have previously been a part-time clinical professor of family medicine at two residencies in the Kansas City area and hope to have an opportunity to work some with the residents here. It is a joy to see young physicians continue to advance their skills and show why we all went into medicine in the first place. It’s always about taking care of the patient with excellent quality, humility, honesty and compassion.

From the Program Director

(continued from page 1)

equipped to perform outpatient procedures, including skin lesion biopsies, removals, cryotherapy, joint injections, casting/splinting, toenail removals, circumcisions, vasectomies, colposcopies, IUD placements/removals, and endometrial biopsies.

We are currently planning for the next faculty development presentation and will likely be focused on levels of supervision and what to document while you are precepting. We will be sure to notify all of the staff as soon as it is scheduled. I cannot stress enough how appreciative I am of the continued support and commitment to the residency from the medical staff at DRMC. In addition, please feel free to continue to provide any comments or suggestions on how we can continue to improve our program. Your feedback and support is essential to us and very much appreciated.

Dr. Gemma Kim
 gemma.kim@ucr.edu
(760) 561-7327
Volunteer Faculty Spotlight

Maher Abdallah, MD, FACOG
Chair, Ob/Gyn at Desert Regional Medical Center
Board Certified in Reproductive Endocrinology/Infertility and Obstetrics/Gynecology

Q: Where did you go to medical school and do residency?
A: I attended the State University of New York (SUNY) Upstate Medical University in Syracuse for medical school and at the University of Louisville- Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility for residency.

Q: What are you looking forward to most about teaching residents?
A: As a previous assistant professor and director of medical student education in Obstetrics/ Gynecology, I miss teaching and watching young doctors develop their skills. Understanding the challenges of infertility and menstrual disturbances is essential for family physicians and I look forward to teaching these complex topics in a simple fashion.

Q: How do you de-stress? Do you have any hobbies?
A: I enjoy boxing both for exercise and as a fan. I enjoy travel and understanding and relating to other cultures different from mine.

Q: What book(s) are you currently reading?
A: Gone Girl

Q: What is your favorite restaurant?
A: Indian Oven, Monsoon Indian Cuisine, Aladdin, LG steak house (even for a vegan like myself - good appetizers).

Q: What do you like the most and least about medicine?
A: What I like most about medicine is my independence while helping couples have children. I am captain of my ship and I make all business and clinical decisions. This autonomy drives me most and I would never agree work for anybody.

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Deborah Streletz is one of the Associate Program Directors for the UCR Family Medicine Residency Program in Palm Springs. Dr. Streletz currently practices as a primary care physician at the new UCR Health Family Medicine Center located in the Las Palmas medical offices across from Desert Regional Medical Center.

Dr. Streletz earned her medical degree from Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, Maryland. She completed her internship at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii in Internal Medicine. Her residency in Family Medicine was completed at Scott and White Memorial Hospital, Texas A&M University Health Science Center in Temple, Texas. She is a Diplomat of the American Board of Family Medicine.

She joined the UCR Faculty in April 2014 after moving from Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania where she practiced academic medicine for nearly five years at the Bryn Mawr Family Practice Residency Program. During this time, she worked as an outpatient primary care provider, an academic hospitalist and provided care at a local nursing home. Her areas of clinical interest include geriatrics, transitional care and inpatient medicine.

Dr. Streletz has moved to the Coachella Valley with her husband and three children. Dr. Streletz’s husband has recently retired from the US Army after serving our country for 20 years.
New UCR Health Family Medicine Center

The UC Riverside School of Medicine unveiled the headquarters for its new Family Medicine Residency Program at Desert Regional Medical last July 2014. The UCR Family Medicine Center is a newly remodeled, 13,000 sq. ft. structure that will serve as the headquarters for the new Family Medicine Residency program, providing care to patients and an educational platform for training and research.

The two-story facility includes 20 exam rooms, a triage room, family counseling room, smart classroom and two procedure rooms. The center is a result of a multi-year partnership between Desert Healthcare District, Desert Regional Medical Center, First Choice Physician Partners and the UC Riverside School of Medicine.

Ribbon cutting at the grand opening of the UCR Health Family Medicine Center - June 2014.

NEW Location
UCR Health Family Medicine Center
555 E. Tachevah Drive, 2 East Suite 107
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Contact Information:
Phone: (760) 561-7373
Fax: (760) 327-5140
ACGME’s Six Core Competencies:

**Patient Care**

Residents must be able to provide patient care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for the treatment of health problems and the promotion of health.

Residents are expected to:

- Communicate effectively and demonstrate caring and respectful behaviors when interacting with patients and their families.
- Gather essential and accurate information about their patients.
- Make informed decisions about diagnostic and therapeutic interventions based on patient information and preferences, up-to-date scientific evidence and clinical judgment.
- Develop and carry out patient management plans.
- Perform competently all medical and invasive procedures considered essential for the area of practice.
- Provide health care services aimed at preventing health problems or maintaining health.

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<th>1. Patient Care (PC)</th>
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<td>2. Medical Knowledge (MK)</td>
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<td>3. Interpersonal and Communication Skills (ICS)</td>
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<td>4. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement (PBL)</td>
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<td>5. Professionalism (P)</td>
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<td>6. Systems-Based Practice (SBP)</td>
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**Residency Policy Highlights:**

**ACGME Supervision Requirements**

The program must demonstrate that the appropriate level of supervision is in place for all residents who care for patients. The supervision policy covers the specifics that apply to Family Medicine residents and their work within the Family Medicine Center, nursing home, continuity obstetrics, home visit, and hospital service settings.

Level of Supervision:

- **Direct Supervision** - the supervising physician is physically present with the resident and patient.
- **Indirect Supervision** - the supervising physician is not physically present within the hospital or other site of patient care, but is immediately available by means of telephonic and/or electronic modalities, and is available to provide Direct Supervision.
- **Oversight** - The supervising physician is available to provide review of procedures/encounters with feedback provided after care is delivered.
UC Riverside Family Medicine Residency - Palm Springs
2015 Inaugural Class - PGY 1

It is with great excitement that we share with you the names and photos of our inaugural class that will be joining the residency family this summer. We are confident that we have chosen great leaders that will pave the way for future residents and that will truly represent the mission of the program.

Please join us in welcoming the UCR Family Medicine Residency, Palm Springs - Graduating Class of 2018!

Kenneth Acha
Medical School:
Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine
Undergraduate:
Rice University, Houston

Teresa Khoo
Medical School:
UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine
Undergraduate:
University of California, Riverside

Jin Seon Kim
Medical School:
University of Hawaii
John A. Burns School of Medicine
Undergraduate:
University of Hawaii, Manoa

Steven Nguyen
Medical School:
Albany Medical College, New York
Undergraduate:
University of California, San Diego

Charles Penick
Medical School:
Loma Linda University School of Medicine
Undergraduate:
Oakwood University, Huntsville, Alabama

Brian Petrie
Medical School:
Loma Linda University School of Medicine
Undergraduate:
California State University, Fullerton

Nelly Song
Medical School:
University of Texas Medical School at Houston
Undergraduate:
University of Texas at Austin

Jessica Youk
Medical School:
Loma Linda University School of Medicine
Undergraduate:
Pacific Union College at Loma Linda

Questions, comments or additions?
Please contact us at gemma.kim@ucr.edu or call (760) 561-7326.
We welcome your thoughts and feedback!