



California University of
Science and Medicine
School of Medicine

Faculty Affairs Newsletter

Volume 05
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News from the Office of Faculty Affairs

Greetings CUSM Faculty,

As we approach the season of gratitude, we want to thank you for your contributions as we continue building our medical school. During the next year we will work towards full accreditation by the Liaison Council for Medical Education (LCME), with a site visit scheduled for September 2025. More details are in the Accreditation Update section below.

Also, a reminder that the Office of Faculty Affairs is here to help you with your growth and development as a faculty member. We have recently completed an update to our faculty website: <https://www.cusm.edu/faculty/index.php>. You will find current versions of our Faculty Handbook and Bylaws on our new Faculty Policies and Governance page. We have archived our newsletters and updated our resources and information related to promotion. Our Faculty Development Office has also been working on new content including a YouTube page to house video resources for clinical faculty.

Please remember that as a CUSM faculty member, you are a member of our Faculty Assembly. This year's Chair is Dr Rodney Borger, Department Chair and Professor of Emergency Medicine at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. Our Vice Chair is Dr Ou (Ozzie) Zhang, Associate Professor of Medical Education/Microbiology. Our Fall Faculty Assembly meeting is at noon on Thursday October 23rd. You may attend online and the link is posted below and in your email. We will distribute a summary following the meeting.

Please keep us updated on your news and events (facultyaffairsoffice@cusm.edu), and we look forward to featuring them in the February newsletter.

Best wishes,
The Faculty Affairs Team

University News

Office of Accreditation and Continuous Quality Improvement Updates

LCME Full Survey Visit Announcement: Save the Dates!

The Office of Accreditation and Continuous Quality Improvement (OACQI) is pleased to announce that the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) will conduct a full survey visit at California University of Science and Medicine (CUSM) next year, scheduled for Monday, September 15 through Wednesday, September 17, 2025. Please mark these important dates in your calendar.

This full survey visit is a critical step in ensuring that CUSM continues to meet the highest standards in medical education. The LCME will conduct a comprehensive review of our medical education program, covering all aspects including curriculum, student services, faculty engagement, facilities, and institutional support. The aim is to ensure that our program is well-equipped to prepare students for successful careers in healthcare.

Your Participation Matters:

During the visit, the LCME team will meet with students, faculty, staff, and administration to assess the program. Your involvement as faculty is vital for a successful review. Here's how you can contribute:

- Engage with the ongoing LCME Self-Study Committees, offering your expertise to strengthen our program.
- Attend and actively participate in meetings scheduled during the survey visit.

If you are interested in getting involved with the self-study process or have any questions, please reach out to Dr Tsugio Seki, Associate Dean of Accreditation & CQI at tsugio.seki@cusm.edu or (909) 498-1682.

Your support and participation are crucial to the success of this process, and we look forward to showcasing the excellence of CUSM's medical education program!



AAMC Resident Readiness Survey

CUSM recently received the results of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Resident Readiness Survey, and while the details of individual results are confidential and cannot be shared widely, we use the data to evaluate our curriculum. The survey results include feedback from residency program directors regarding the readiness of their Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY-1) residents. The overall results were positive for our second graduating cohort (Class of 2023). Compared to all U.S. residents, our graduates were found to have a higher rate of "exceeded expectations" on several areas including "Demonstrated professionalism when interacting with patients and family members,"

"Demonstrated patient-centered interview skills," "Admitted one's own errors and accepted responsibility for personal and professional development," and "Demonstrated how to access and use available evidence and incorporate patient preferences and values into delivery of care." We appreciate your hard work in preparing our students for residency training!

Office of Accreditation and Continuous Quality Improvement
<https://cusm.edu/about/accreditation.php>

White Coat Ceremony Milestone

On July 19, 2024, the California University of Science and Medicine welcomed 130 new medical students into the profession during its traditional White Coat Ceremony. With family and friends in attendance, the MD Class of 2028 took the Hippocratic Oath and donned their white coats, marking their official entry into the medical field.

Ninety-eight percent of new students are from California and thirty-one percent are from the Inland Empire region.

Each student received their white coat from Dr Lyons and Dr Prem Reddy, CUSM's Founder and Chair of the Board, during the ceremony.



MD Class of 2028 alongside some of the CUSM faculty at the White Coat Ceremony.

ARMC Vascular and Endovascular Surgery Residency program

ARMC has launched a new Integrated Vascular and Endovascular Surgery residency program. Approved in April 2024, the program officially began with its first resident in July 2024. It is approved to train one resident per class, with the total training program spanning five years.

Dr Samuel Schwartz, MD, the program director, is supported by the following faculty: Keith Glover, MD, Sam Lee, MD, Dev GnanaDev, MD, Milton Retamozo, MD, Prince Esiobu, MD,



Faculty News

Faculty Development Week - August 2024

On behalf of the Offices of Faculty and Professional Development and Faculty Affairs, we extend our sincere thanks to all who participated in Faculty Development Week, held from August 5-9, 2024. The week was filled with insightful sessions aimed at fostering professional growth and leadership within the CUSM faculty community.

Sessions included discussion of tools and programs to help faculty in their teaching such as “Giving Constructive and Critical Feedback to Adult Learners” and “Innovations in Education” presented by Dr Jonathan Townsend, Director of Faculty Development. There were also information sessions on the CUSM Promotion process and Faculty Committee member orientation presented by Dr Linda Connelly, Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs.

We were fortunate to be able to host a guest speaker at the end of the week, Dr Sue Stein, DHEd, MS, BS Pharm, RPh, who presented on how to “Navigate Your Time and Attention” and “Leading, Managing and the Power of Delegation”. Faculty who attended both sessions were presented with certificates in faculty leadership development (see photo below).

The successful presentation of this week of activities was made possible by the work of Luke Ridout, Faculty Development Coordinator and Stephanie Diaz, Faculty Affairs Analyst I, pictured below. Overall there were nine sessions presented and many faculty attended multiple sessions. We are proud of our faculty's dedication to continuous improvement and leadership.

If you would like to view any of the recorded sessions, need further information, or have any questions, please reach out to Jonathan Townsend (jonathan.townsend@cusm.edu) or Luke Ridout (luke.ridout@cusm.edu).



Photographed from left to right: Fauzia Nausheen, Emad Mishriki, Mohsin Yakub, Maiyon Park, Jonathan Townsend, Vanessa Orozco, Lisa Schwartz, Shazia Sheikh, Deborah Wright, Tsugio Seki, and Daryoush Javidi. Not in Photograph: Maegen Dupper, Aaron Jacobs, Hina Mohsin, Amelia Murray, Davinder Sandhu, Rubiel Urbina-Lopez, Madhu Varma, and Ou Zhang.



Faculty gathered for an engaging keynote session led by Dr Sue Stein on August 8th,

where strategies for managing time and attention were discussed.



Luke Ridout (Faculty Development Coordinator) and Stephanie Diaz (Faculty Affairs Analyst I).

CUSM Faculty Assembly

Faculty Assembly Updates

The Faculty Executive Council (FEC), the administrative branch of the Faculty Assembly, has new leadership for the upcoming academic year. Due to departure of a faculty member from the school and in line with the Faculty Bylaws, Dr Rodney Borger, Professor and Chair of Emergency Medicine, stepped from the Vice Chair/Chair elect role to be the Chair for 2024/25. A special nomination and election process was held and Dr Ou Zhang, Associate Professor of Medical Education, has been elected as our new Vice Chair/Chair Elect.

For a detailed overview of the faculty committee memberships, please refer to the organogram linked here: [Faculty Organogram](#)

If you are a new faculty member interested in learning more about opportunities to participate in the Faculty Assembly or its Committees, please contact Linda Connelly, Associate Dean of Faculty Affairs, at Linda.Connelly@cusm.edu.

Dean's Townhall and Faculty Assembly Meeting

The Faculty Assembly will have its first Dean's Townhall and Faculty Assembly Meeting of the academic year on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. This hybrid event will take place in Lecture Hall 125 on the CUSM campus, with an option to attend virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Please find the link and agenda below.

Microsoft Teams Link



Faculty Assembly Meeting: 12:00 PM-12:40 PM

- 1 Faculty Committee Reports**
Presentation/discussion of Faculty Committee Annual Reports for AY 2023-2024
- 2 MD Curriculum Update**
18-Month Pre-Clerkship Curriculum and Professional Development Semester overview and update
- 3 Time spent in Meetings Poll Results and Discussion - Employed faculty**
Review data of the meeting hours poll that was conducted via email

**Wednesday,
October 23rd
12:00 PM-1:00 PM**

**This will be a
hybrid session
held in LH #125 on
the CUSM campus
or online via
Microsoft Teams**

Dean's Townhall: 12:40 PM-1:00 PM

- 1 Dean's Updates**
Dr. Lyons will share the latest university updates

**** Lunch will be
provided for
in-person attendees***

Microsoft Teams Link: [Click Here](#)

Faculty Spotlights

2024 Suskind Clerkship



Teaching Award

Dr Greg Fenati, recipient of the Suskind Clerkship Teaching Award and Dr Rodney Borger, Chair of the Faculty Assembly and Faculty Executive Council.

Gregory Fenati, DO

Arrowhead Regional Medical Center
Assistant Professor of Medical Education



Hispanic Heritage Month Honoree

Dr Alexandra Lopez-Vera, Assistant Professor of Medical Education and Director of the Vida Program, was recognized by Supervisor Baca for contributions to medical education, particularly in supporting the Spanish-speaking community in San Bernardino County.

This recognition highlights Dr Lopez-Vera's ongoing commitment to serving and fostering positive change in Southern California

Alexandra Lopez Vera, PhD

Assistant Professor of Medical Education

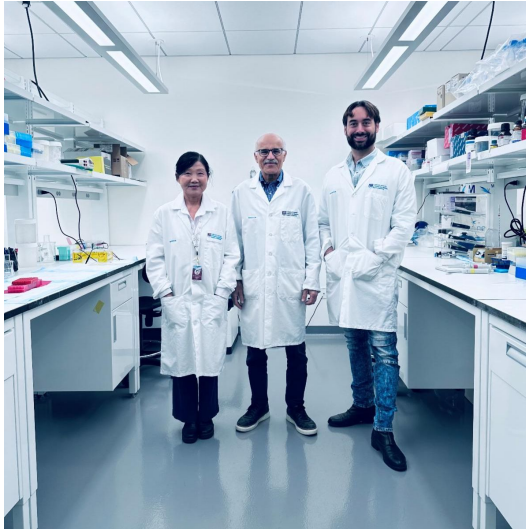


Stanford Medcast: Dr Stern Discusses Social Determinants of Health

Dr Stern recently appeared on a podcast to discuss social determinants of health, which aired on June 11th (Episode 86). In this episode, she explores the various factors that influence health outcomes and their significance for healthcare professionals and policymakers.

Click below to listen to the full episode.

Episode 86: Minority



Photographed from left to right: Maiyon Park, Joseph Dhahbi, and Sebastian Cano-Besquet (MD Class of 2025).

Joseph Dhahbi, MD, PhD
Professor of Medical Education

Maiyon Park, PhD
Professor of Medical Education

Faculty Publication

Dr Joseph Dhahbi has led a research team that recently published a manuscript titled "Gene and Transcript Expression Patterns, Coupled with Isoform Switching and Long non-coding RNA Dynamics in Adipose Tissue, Underlie the Longevity of Ames Dwarf Mice" which has been accepted in *Geroscience*, a peer-reviewed journal from Springer Publisher.

Coauthors included CUSM alumna Michelle Wang, Sebastian Cano-Besquet (MD Class of 2025), and Dr Maiyon Park, PhD, Professor of Medical Education. For more information on the research paper, please contact Dr Dhahbi.

[Click here for article](#)

Faculty Development

NIH Hosts Virtual Primer on Grants Process for New Administrators

NIH is hosting a two-part, virtual, interactive webinar titled "NIH Grants Process Primer: Application to Award" on November 13-14, 2024, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM ET. This event is designed for new grant administrators, institutional staff, and investigators who want to familiarize themselves with the NIH grants process. It will provide an overview of essential topics such as pre-award activities, peer review processes, and the roles of key NIH staff.

The sessions will include live demonstrations of NIH systems and resources, with opportunities to ask questions during the event. Attendees will gain insights into navigating NIH resources, understanding application materials, and using the necessary electronic systems.

For more information and registration, visit the NIH Extramural Nexus.

Upcoming Events

Dean's Townhall/Faculty Assembly Meeting
Wednesday, October 23, 2024

You are invited to attend the upcoming Dean's Townhall and Faculty Assembly Meeting on Wednesday, October 23rd, from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM. This will be a hybrid session, held in Lecture Hall 125 on the CUSM campus or online via Microsoft Teams. Please find the link and agenda below.

[Faculty Assembly Agenda](#)

[Microsoft Teams Link](#)

CUSM MD & MBS Commencement

Monday, May 19, 2025

SAVE THE DATE!

Commencement is scheduled for Monday, May 19, 2025. A digital Save the Date will be distributed via email in the coming weeks. Please stay tuned for further details!

Spring Faculty Celebration Event

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

SAVE THE DATE!

Save the date and plan to join us as we celebrate our faculty's year-round dedication and contributions. During this event we will present faculty awards, recognize leadership on faculty assembly committees, and celebrate spring promotions. More information to follow.



The Office of Faculty Affairs



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Please contact us for any faculty news items or spotlight submissions.

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