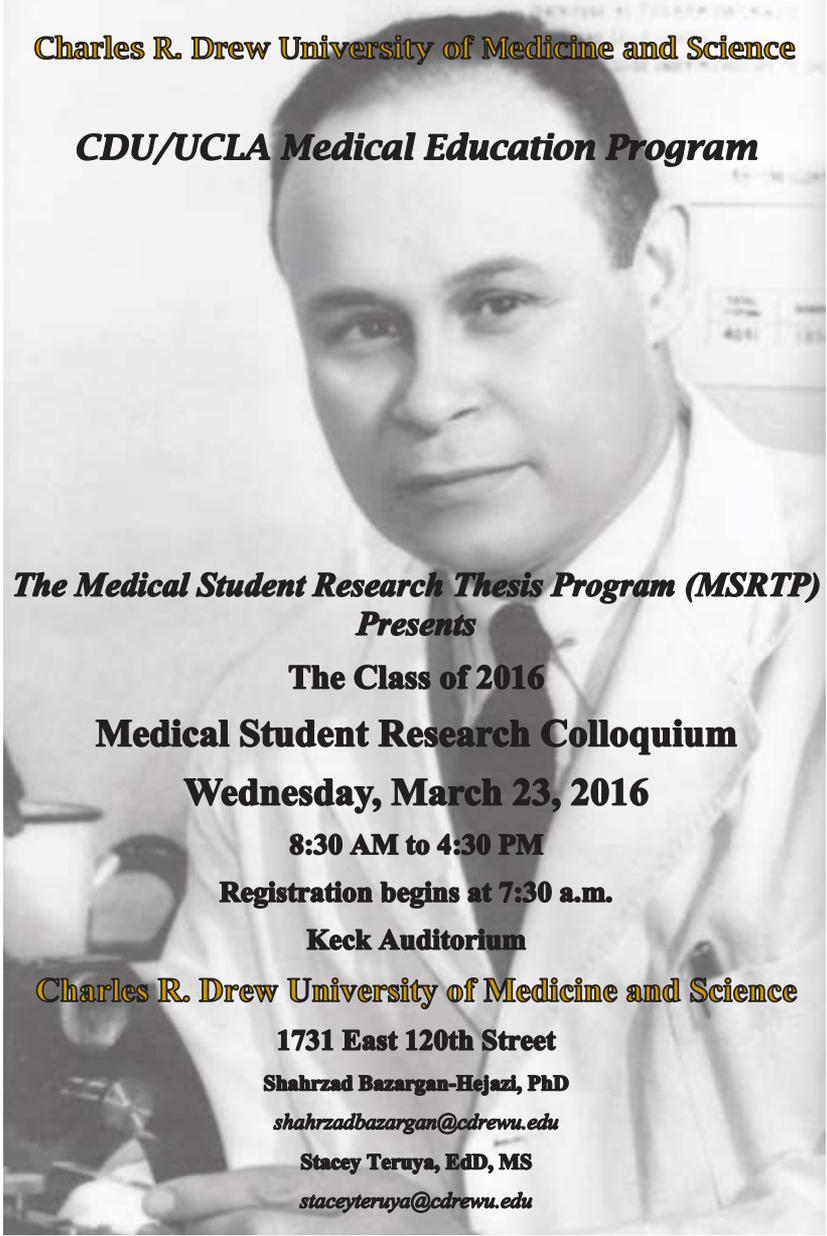




**Annual Medical Student Research
Colloquium
Participating Mentors**

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and
Science

Medical Student Research Thesis Program
Wednesday, March 23, 2016



Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

CDU/UCLA Medical Education Program

***The Medical Student Research Thesis Program (MSRTP)
Presents***

The Class of 2016

Medical Student Research Colloquium

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.

Keck Auditorium

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

1731 East 120th Street

Shahrzad Bazargan-Hejazi, PhD

shahrzadbazargan@cdrewu.edu

Stacey Teruya, EdD, MS

staceyteruya@cdrewu.edu



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YEARS
1966 / 2016



CHARLES R. DREW UNIVERSITY

OF MEDICINE AND SCIENCE

A Private University with a

Public Mission



Bitá Amani, PhD, MHS

Dr. Bitá Amani reminds us of the role that structural inequalities and social injustices play in producing health inequalities. Looking at the relationship between health and injustice from varied perspectives, Dr. Amani wants to better understand how ideologies and institutions produce poor health. In pursuing her research and teaching goals,

Dr. Amani uses a variety of methods and cross-disciplinary approaches. Dr. Amani has both US-based and international experience working on racial health inequalities, HIV, and reproductive justice. Her current research projects focus on the health impact of criminalization. Dr. Amani has a BS from Johns Hopkins University as well as a Master of Health Science from their School of Hygiene & Public Health. She went on to complete her Ph.D. in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of California, Los Angeles Fielding School of Public Health, where she was also a National Institutes of Mental Health Postdoctoral Fellow. Since 2010, Dr. Amani has served as Assistant Professor in the Urban Public Health Program at CDU. She is also a board member of the Youth Justice Coalition, an organization that is working to build a youth, family and prisoner-led movement to challenge race, gender and class inequality in Los Angeles County's and California's juvenile injustice systems.



Chizobam O. Ani, MD
Internal Medicine

Dr. Chizobam Ani is an internist, epidemiologist and researcher. He completed his medical school training at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria and Internal Medicine Residency Training at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda California. He also has a Master's in Public Health from the University of Kansas and Wichita State University in Kansas and is currently an Epidemiology Doctoral (PhD) candidate at the Loma Linda University in Loma Linda. He currently works as an Internal Medicine hospitalist at the Providence Holy Cross Hospital in Mission Hills, Glendale Adventist Medical Center and Kaiser Hospital Woodland Hills. He is also a medical researcher with a research faculty appointment at Charles R Drew University of Medicine and Science Los Angeles since 2006. His primary research interests are in the epidemiology, clinical care and prevention of chronic diseases especially cardiometabolic diseases especially among minority populations. His current research is focused on the understanding of the spectrum, risk factors and pathology of cardiomyopathy among individuals with diabetes. He has authored or coauthored several peer reviewed research publications, a book chapter and participated in several research grants.



Shahrzad Bazargan-Hejazi, PhD

Shahrzad Bazargan-Hejazi Ph.D.,
Professor of Medical Sociology in the
Department of Psychiatry, College of
Medicine, Charles R. Drew University of
Medicine and Science, and an Adjunct

Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Bazargan-Hejazi has been the lead NIH investigator and co-investigator in several projects related to the misuse of alcohol in patients who present in emergency departments.

She is a member of the Global Burden of Disease collaborator network participation in the production, analysis, and improvement of the Global Burden of Disease, and has also collaborated in other projects related to the social aspects of disease and illness, youth empowerment health advocacy, family and community violence prevention for teens and adolescents, health services utilization improvement for Head Start families, and for underserved minorities, particularly those affected by alcohol problems, depression, injury, and violence.

She is the Associate Editor for the *Journal of Injury and Violence Research*, and an editorial board member for *BioMed Research International, Medicine, and Clinical Medicine Insights; Women's Health Journal*, among others. In addition, Dr. Bazargan-Hejazi is a member of the SafetyLit ("Safety Literature") Science Advisory Committee, a member of the World Suicidology Network, and represents Asia in the International Society for Child and Adolescent Injury.



Anne Coleman, MD, PhD
Ophthalmology

Anne L. Coleman, MD PhD is the Fran and Ray Stark Professor of Ophthalmology in the Stein Eye Institute of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA as well as Professor of Epidemiology in the Fielding School of Public Health. She is Director of the Stein Eye Institute Center for Community Outreach and Policy, UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic and the Vice-Chair for Academic Affairs for the Department of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Coleman received her medical degree from the Medical College of Virginia, completed her Residency in Ophthalmology at the University of Illinois School of Medicine, completed her fellowship training in glaucoma at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University, and received a PhD in Epidemiology from UCLA.



Rebecca Dudovitz, MD
Pediatrics

An Assistant Professor in General Pediatrics and Vice-Chair of the Primary Care College in the David Geffen School of Medicine who works as part of the Faculty Practice at the Santa Monica 12th St Clinic and as a Faculty Researcher for the UCLA Children's Discovery & Innovation Institute. Dr. Dudovitz graduated from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA in 2005 and completed her residency training in the UCLA Pediatric Community Health and Advocacy Training (CHAT) program in 2008.

After residency, she served as a chief resident before entering a health services research fellowship through the UCLA Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars program. Through the Clinical Scholars Program she gained experience in community based participatory research and received a Master's degree in health services. Following her fellowship training she joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor in the division of General Pediatrics.



Gilberto Granados, MD
Family Medicine

Gilberto Granados attained his medical education at the UC Irvine School of Medicine. He trained in Family Medicine at White Memorial Medical Center and went on to obtain his Masters Degree in Public Health at the UCLA School of Public Health where he studied Health Policy and Maternal and Child Health. He is currently Associate Clinical Professor with the Department of Family Medicine at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. He is also the Director of the Summer Urban Health Fellowship and is involved in community based research mostly in the community of Wilmington. He has served on the admissions committee at the David Geffen School of Medicine for several years as well as the PRIME program. His interests are in immigrant health access and poverty medicine. Dr. Granados has also been involved in international health and is a member of Doctors for Global Health. He has published in the American Journal of Public Health and the Journal of Family Medicine. He is a cofounder of Doctors for Peace. He is currently serving on the Conference Committee for the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine



Stanley Hsia, MD
Internal Medicine

Dr. Hsia is an Associate Professor of Medicine at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. He is also a Health Sciences Associate Clinical Professor with the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a consultant endocrinologist for the Diabetes Clinic at the Martin Luther King Jr. Multi-Service Ambulatory Care Center. He has served as a program director for residents and endocrinology fellows, and as a clerkship director for CDU/UCLA medical students. Dr. Hsia has been conducting clinical research over the past 13 years, including both industry and investigator-initiated trials, funded by grants from National Institutes of Health and the American Diabetes Association. He has also published original research, book chapters, and review papers on the management of lipid disorders, insulin resistance, and diabetes mellitus.



Diana Jochai, PhD

Dr. Diana Jochai, PhD, is the behavioral science faculty member at the Family Medicine Residency Program at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in Harbor City, CA. After receiving a doctorate degree in clinical psychology with a minor concentration in neuropsychology at Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, CA, she completed a fellowship in health and rehabilitation psychology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, MD.

As the behavioral medicine curriculum coordinator, Dr. Jochai assists residents and fellows in their professional development and integration of the essential evidence based findings and modalities in to their clinical practice as future patient-centered care providers. Dr. Jochai is also involved in program and curriculum development, implementation, and empirical evaluation with emphasis on resident-physician wellness, chronic pain, substance abuse disorders, and adolescent health and obesity. Her professional affiliations include memberships with the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) and the California Society of Addiction Medicine (CSAM).



Elizabetha Nemeth, PhD

Elizabetha Nemeth is a Professor of Medicine at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and Director of the UCLA Center for Iron Disorders.

Dr. Nemeth received her BS in Molecular Biology at the University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, and a PhD in Cell, Molecular and Neurosciences at the University of Hawaii. Dr. Nemeth came to UCLA for a postdoctoral fellowship in 2002, and has been studying the pathobiology of the iron-regulatory peptide hepcidin ever since. She has made major contributions to the understanding of iron homeostasis and of its dysregulation in many diseases. In 2007, Dr. Nemeth received the Grace Goldsmith Award from the American College of Nutrition for "significant achievements in the field of nutrition by a scientist under the age of 50 years".

Dr. Nemeth's laboratory has been continuously funded by the National Institute of Health and grants from biotechnology sector. Dr. Nemeth is currently serving as a standing member of the Molecular and Cellular Hematology Study Section of the National Institutes of Health, a member of the Board of Directors of the International Bioiron Society, and a member of the Editorial Board of Blood. She helped start three biotechnology companies: Intrinsic LifeSciences, focused on developing iron diagnostics, Merganser Biotech, focused on developing hepcidin peptide therapeutics, and Silarus Therapeutics, focused on developing erythroferrone-targeted therapeutics.



Jyoti Puvvula, MD, MPH
Family Medicine

Associate Clinical Professor at the Harbor-UCLA Department of Family Medicine and David Geffen, School of Medicine at UCLA. She directs the community medicine curriculum there with a focus on Health & Human Rights, Social Injustice, and Care of Vulnerable Populations. Dr. Puvvula also leads Youth Opportunities for Life Options (YOLO), a comprehensive intervention targeting obesity among inner-city youth. It brings youth, families, schools, academic institutions and community partners together to address the epidemic at the individual level, while advocating for healthier environments.



Paul Robinson, PhD
Geography

Dr. Paul Robinson, PhD is the director of the Charles R. Drew University GIS lab and has established collaborative relationships with researchers at California State University, Northridge (CSUN), University of California Los Angeles, and the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, CA. His research has covered homicide clusters and gang violence in Los Angeles, alcohol outlets in inner cities, and racial and ethnic disparities in preventable hospitalizations in California.

Paul Robinson received his BA degree in geography from Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, Virginia in 1989, his MA in Geography from the University of South Florida (Tampa, Florida) in 1993, and a Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Southern California (Los Angeles, California) in 2001.



Steven Schwartz, MD
Orthopaedic Surgery

Steven Schwartz, M.D., FAAOS earned his M.D. degree from the University of Southern California after previously being awarded a Master of Science degree from Baylor University. He was in the private practice of orthopaedic surgery in Los Angeles until 2005. During his career he served as chief of orthopaedic surgery in the Daniel Freeman Hospital Regional Rehabilitation Center and was the principal orthopaedic consultant for several international airlines.

In 2005 he broadened his career to include both Attending Staff orthopaedic surgeon in the Contra Costa County Health Care System and Instructor in orthopaedic surgery in the Contra Costa County Family Practice Residency. He has also practiced in several other regional health care systems including the Mayo Clinic System, the Winona Health Care System, and the Kern County Medical Center.

In 2013, Dr. Schwartz joined the Orthopaedic Surgery Department at CDU and the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery in the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. He is currently devoted to undergraduate medical education and research in local health care in orthopaedics and rehabilitation.



**Efrain Talamantes, MD,
MBA, MSHPM**
Internal Medicine

Efrain Talamantes, M.D., is the medical director of hospital medicine, a full-time leadership position at the Martin Luther King Jr., Community Hospital. To that end, Dr. Talamantes leads a team of carefully selected and specially trained physicians who will care for hospitalized patients, in collaboration with their patients' primary care physicians.

Dr. Talamantes completed the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars program at UCLA and the Veteran Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. He received his medical degree from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and a Master of Science in Health Policy and Management from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. Dr. Talamantes earned a bachelor's degree in psychobiology from UCLA and an MBA from Emory University's Goizueta School of Business.



Stacey Teruya, EdD, MS
Internal Medicine

Dr. Teruya is an assistant professor of Medicine in the College of Medicine at Charles R. Drew University and at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. His research interests include health disparities among racial and ethnic minorities, and professional and career development for biomedical researchers and research faculty.



Lonnie K. Zeltzer, MD
Pediatrics

Lonnie Zeltzer, M.D., is a Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, Anesthesiology, Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Director of the UCLA Pediatric Pain and Palliative Care Program. She is a co-author on the Institute of Medicine report on Transforming Pain in America and is a member of the national steering committee assigned to provide directions for pain research at NIH. She has received, among other awards, a Mayday Pain and Policy Fellowship and the 2005 Jeffrey Lawson Award for Advocacy in Children's Pain Relief from the American Pain Society (APS). Her UCLA integrative pediatric pain program received a 2009 Clinical Centers of Excellence in Pain Management Award from APS and a 2012 award from the Southern California Cancer Pain Initiative. She is also a member of the national Autism Think Tank. Her research includes yoga, mindfulness, hypnotherapy, and other self-help interventions, including mobile technologies, to help children and adolescents who have chronic pain, as well as understanding pain mechanisms in irritable bowel syndrome, cancer, sickle cell disease, headaches, dysmenorrhea, and other conditions. She has over 350 research publications on childhood pain and complementary therapies, has written more than 80 chapters, and published her first book for parents on chronic pain in childhood (HarperCollins, 2005).



Gregory M. Yoshida, MD
Orthopedic Surgery

Dr. Yoshida is an orthopedic surgeon specializing in the Spine, Cervical, Thoracic, Lumbar, and Trauma of the Spine, Degenerative Disease, and Scoliosis. Dr. Yoshida received his medical degree from the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine. He then completed his residency in orthopedic surgery at Harbor-UCLA. Dr. Yoshida has been in practice for 22 years.



**Kabir Yadav, MD, MS,
MSHS, FACEP**
Emergency Medicine

Dr. Kabir Yadav is emergency medicine faculty in the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and an Associate Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles. Having completed residency at SUNY Downstate Medical Center and a clinical research fellowship at the Jacobi Medical Center, he is one of the first board-certified Clinical Informaticians in the country and holds Masters degrees in Clinical Research Methods, and Clinical & Translational Research. With a broad research interest in supporting medical decision making through technology, he has conducted funded research on developing clinical decision aids, extracting outcomes data from free text electronic health record data, developing workflow-sensitive electronic clinical decision support systems, and using mHealth to enhance patient engagement. He has 30 peer-reviewed publications and over 40 published abstracts.



Margaret Stuber, MD
Psychiatry

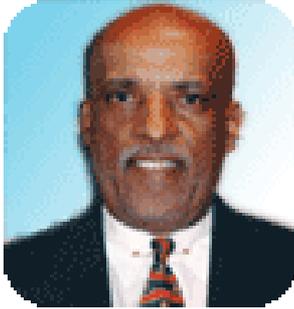
Margaret L. Stuber, M.D. came to UCLA in 1980, after completing her medical training at the University of Michigan, to do her residency training in Psychiatry. After receiving further training in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, she joined the faculty in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences to pursue her interest in work with medically ill children and their families, and medical education. She is now the Daniel X. Freedman Professor and Vice Chair for Education in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences. Her research has focused on traumatic stress responses of pediatric cancer survivors, pediatric organ transplant recipients, and their parents. This research has led to her involvement in the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, a group of over 70 sites across the United States dedicated to development of prevention, assessment, and treatment for psychologically traumatized children and adolescents. Dr. Stuber is the Assistant Dean for Well-being and Career Development of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.



**Magda A. Shaheen, MD,
PhD, MPH, MS**
Internal Medicine

Dr. Shaheen is an Associate Professor and the director of the CDU Research Design and Biostatistics and Co-Leader of the UCLA CTSI, Biostatistics, study design and clinical data management program.

She has 25 years' experience in research and has 20 years' experience in teaching clinical, translational and community research at UCLA and CDU. She has the wealth of expertise to successfully provide rigorous basic/advanced methodological support in biostatistics, research design, epidemiology and other technical domains with practical guides for clinical/community/translational types of research. Dr. Shaheen conducted community participatory surveys among minority communities and collaborated with other researchers. Dr. Shaheen has extensive experience in utilizing and analyzing the public use data bases/large databases in research especially related to health and health care disparities taking into considerations the design, sampling and statistical analysis issues. Dr. Shaheen earned her M.D. and Masters Degree in Internal Medicine from Cairo University. She received her PhD and MPH from UCLA with extensive doctoral and post-doctoral training in epidemiology and biostatistics. She has a professional membership in the Society of Epidemiologic Research, American College of Epidemiology, UCLA Alumni Association, American Public Health Association, American Diabetic Association. , and the American Association for Cancer Research.



**Lawrence D. Robinson, Jr.,
MD**
Pediatrics

Graduating with honors in 1968 from Howard University Medical School, Lawrence Robinson was the first African American accepted for an internship in Pediatrics at John Hopkins Hospital. After his residency in 1971, Dr. Robinson served in the US Army as a Major in the Medical Corp, where he developed a Sickle Cell Disease screening and education program. In 1973, Dr. Robinson moved to California to begin an Allergy and Immunology Fellowship at Martin Luther King Jr. Medical Center, where he remained until his retirement in 2006. He continues his academic activities as Professor of Pediatrics at UCLA School of Medicine and is double Board Certified in Pediatrics, Allergy and Immunology.



Shobita Rajagopalan, MD
Infectious Disease

Dr. Shobita Rajagopalan, MD is a board certified infectious disease specialist in Los Angeles, California.

She is affiliated with Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and is a Professor at the Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA.



David Martins, MD, MS
Internal Medicine

Dr. David Martins is a graduate of the University College Hospital in Ibadan, Nigeria. He completed his Residency training in Internal Medicine at Charles Drew University and obtained a Master of Science degree in Clinical Research from the Department of Biomathematics in UCLA.

Dr. Martins is a Clinical Hypertension Specialist and a graduate of the Healthcare Leadership Fellowship of the Center for Health Professions in UCSF. He was the Medical Director of T.H.E. (To Help Everyone) Clinic for about 10 years and continues to see patients with hypertension at the Clinic. He is a Clinical Researcher and has participated as a Principal Investigator and a Co-Investigator in several National landmark studies on Hypertension and Kidney Disease. He has published a significant number of articles on hypertension in many peer-reviewed medical journals and has contributed on several book chapters on hypertension to many professional textbooks in Medicine.

Dr. David Martins is currently the Assistant Dean for Clinical and Community Affairs at the Charles Drew University and a recipient of the Best Teaching Resident and the Best Clinician Awards from Charles Drew University. He is a member of the research team investigating the role of Vitamin D in the onset and progression of chronic diseases particularly among the racial ethnic minorities at the Charles Drew University.



Peter Lawrence, MD
Chief, Vascular Surgery

Dr. Lawrence graduated from Dartmouth College and was awarded his M.D. degree with honors from Harvard Medical School. His surgical residency and vascular fellowship were done at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City. In 1978, he joined the faculty at the University of Utah, where he served as chief of surgery at the Veterans Administration Hospital, chair of the Division of Vascular Surgery and president of the medical staff. He moved to UC Irvine in 1998 to become the associate dean for clinical affairs, vice president for specialty services, and professor of surgery. In 2003, he moved to UCLA to become the chief of vascular surgery and director of the Gonda (Goldschmied) Vascular Center, as well as the Bergman chair in vascular research.



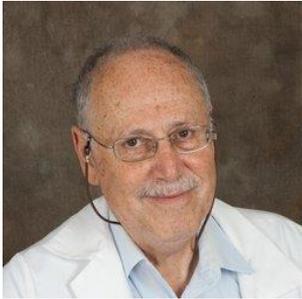
Risa Hoffman, MD
Infectious Disease

Dr. Hoffman graduated from Stanford University and received her MD from UCLA, and MPH from the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Hoffman completed her adult Infectious Disease training at UCLA in 2008 and has remained with the Division as junior faculty where she works closely with both the UCLA Program in Global Health and the CARE Center. Her research focus is in the area of optimizing care for HIV-infected women.



Nicole Green, PhD

Dr. Green is the Director of the Los Angeles County Public Health Laboratory. She is an accomplished scientist with more than 15 years of experience working in the field of Microbiology. Her training includes molecular biology, bacterial pathogenesis mechanisms, molecular epidemiological surveillance studies, and design of laboratory developed tests. The majority of her projects have combined the use of epidemiological data with state-of-the-art laboratory technology such as PCR and DNA sequencing to study large numbers of clinical isolates. She came to Public Health because it represented an opportunity for her to integrate techniques and technology that she learned from scientific research to improve community health and patient outcome as well as fulfill the need for qualified Public Health Laboratory Directors.



Mayer B. Davidson, MD
Internal Medicine

Dr. Davidson is Professor of Medicine at Charles R. Drew University, Los Angeles, and at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. The author of more than 450 articles, book chapters, reviews, editorials, and abstracts and 3 books on diabetes, Dr. Davidson has lectured extensively at medical meetings, conferences, and symposia in the United States and abroad. He received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts, and trained at Bellevue Hospital, New York, New York and the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. He is a past President of the American Diabetes Association (1997-1998), past Editor-in-Chief of *Diabetes Care* (2002-2006) and received their Outstanding Physician-Clinician in Diabetes Award in 2016.



**William E. Cunningham,
MD, MPH**
Internal Medicine

Dr. Cunningham is a Professor jointly appointed in Medicine – Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research, and Public Health-Department of Health Policy and Management. He is a nationally known lead investigator addressing health care in HIV/AIDS, primarily on disparities for racial/ethnic minorities, socioeconomically disadvantaged persons, substance users, and other vulnerable populations who are at risk for or infected with HIV. Currently he is PI of several NIH projects, including a NIDA-funded R-01 RCT study of an intervention to improve linkage and retention in HIV care for HIV+ men released from Los Angeles County jail. In the past, he has led a variety of local and national studies on HIV care and outcomes.

He has authored more than 120 peer-reviewed papers, many of which address engagement and retention in HIV care, viral suppression, and social determinants of health such as access to care and competing subsistence needs. He also has extensive experience with teaching and mentoring. Among several other director positions, he is the Associate Director of the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program at UCLA. He teaches graduate-level courses on racial disparities and health, health services organization, and outcomes and effectiveness research.



Mohsen Bazargan, PhD

Dr. Mohsen Bazargan is Professor, President of Academic Senate, and Director of Research at Department of Family Medicine and Public Health program at Charles R. Drew University of Medicine & Science.

He is a Medical Sociologist with extensive training in the fields of aging, research methodology, evaluation, and statistics. He is currently Assistant Editor for the *Journal of the American Geriatric Society*.

He received his Ph.D in Medical Sociology from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He has been a member of the Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science faculty since 1993, and was previously on the faculty of the Xavier University. Dr. Bazargan entire research related activities are concentrated around the health status and health disparities experienced by racial/ethnic minorities and socio-economically disadvantaged populations. He has conducted several large population and community based surveys on access and utilization of health services by underserved minority older adults.

Dr. Bazargan has authored almost 100 scientific papers many of which address access to care, barriers to medical care, use of health services, racial disparities, and health outcomes among older adult African Americans. During the last ten years, he has been funded by several federal agencies including the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), the Administration for Children and Family (AHF), and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to conduct research and interventional study among minority populations.



Emma Barnard, PhD

Emma Barnard obtained her PhD in molecular biology from the Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK, and currently serves as an assistant project scientist at the David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles. Her main research interests are to understand the human microbiome in health and disease at both the molecular and systems levels. She is currently involved in a number of projects to investigate the human skin microbiome and its interaction with the host in health and diseased states, including the common and disfiguring skin complaint, acne vulgaris.



**A. Lenore Ackerman, MD,
PhD**
General Surgery-Urology

Dr. A. Lenore Ackerman was born in Los Angeles, CA, but grew up in cities throughout the U.S. from Southern California to Maine. She settled in New Haven, CT, where she earned a degree in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry at Yale University. She continued at Yale to complete a Ph.D. in Immunology. After realizing a desire to pursue translational medicine, she joined the Medical Scientist Training Program at Yale, receiving an M.D. degree. She completed her internship in General Surgery and began residency in Urology at the University of California, Los Angeles. During residency, her research focused on central nervous system changes in an animal model of interstitial cystitis induced by psychological stress. After the completion of residency, she continued on at UCLA as a fellow in Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery. She now specializes in the treatment of men and women with incontinence, voiding dysfunction and pelvic floor disorders in Los Angeles.



CDU/UCLA Medical Student Research Thesis Program

A distinguishing component of the Charles Drew/UCLA Medical Education Program is the required medical research thesis. The thesis requirement of Charles Drew University is among a few select medical programs nationally providing research training as a requirement in the medical education curriculum. The Medical Student Research Thesis Program assists student in the third and fourth years in developing and completing an independent research project. While the overall theme of the MSRTP is healthcare disparities, students have wide latitude to choose research projects including biobehavioral/psychosocial, health services research and public policy with application to underserved communities. Fourth-year students present their research findings at the annual medical student research colloquium held each spring.

***Dear Mentor, as the Chair of Medical Student Research
Thesis Program, I would like to express my appreciation for
your dedication and commitment to the Medical Students
Class of 2016***

