



Participating Mentors

Annual Medical

Student Research Colloquium

Current Research in Health Disparities

Medical Student Research Thesis Program

Charles R. Drew University
Of Medicine and Science

Friday, March 1, 2019

The CDU/UCLA Medical Student Research Thesis Program

The CDU/UCLA Medical Education Program is committed to preparing excellent physicians by providing exceptional clinical research and practical training for individuals interested in serving urban, medically disadvantaged populations. Students enrolled in the College are required to engage in longitudinal research activity under the auspices of the Medical Student Research Thesis Program (MSRTP), which culminates in the submission of a thesis. In accordance with a bench-to-bedside approach to translational research, students have many options when choosing a health disparities-related, mentored research project, including basic, clinical, bio-behavioral/psychosocial, environmental, quality improvement, public policy, and/or educational research. Each year, the senior class presents their research findings at the annual medical student research colloquium.

Dear Mentors,

As Chair of the Medical Student Research Thesis Program, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for your dedication and commitment to the education of Medical Student Class of 2019.

Shahrzad Bazargan-Hejazi, PhD



A Private University with a Public Mission



Chizobam Ani, MD,



Dr. Bari specializes in the neurosurgical repair and restoration of brain and nerve function. Following his neurosurgery residency training at UCLA, Dr. Bari was awarded the prestigious William P. Van Wagenen Fellowship to train at the world-renowned functional neurosurgery program at the University of Toronto. He has extensive clinical and research experience in the use of deep brain stimulation (DBS) in the treatment of both movement and psychiatric disorders. Dr. Bari's clinical practice includes DBS surgery for Parkinson's disease, tremor, dystonia, depression and OCD. In addition, his clinical practice includes neurosurgery for brain tumors, pain, and peripheral nerve disorders.

Dr. Bari's research focuses on an interdisciplinary approach to studying the neurobiology underlying movement and psychiatric disorders and expanding the frontiers of neurosurgery to treat those disorders. As a part of his fellowship training, Dr. Bari studied the relationship between the motor and reward systems of the brain and the use of deep brain stimulation to modulate and treat disorders of these systems. A native of California, Dr. Bari completed his neurosurgery residency training at UCLA after receiving his MD and PhD degrees from Boston University. He completed his undergraduate training at UC Berkeley in the field of neurobiology.

DREW / UCLA Class of 2019



Arroyo-Galvan, Yosselin



Aswad, Yvorn



Barajas Nuño, Saul



Brown-Moran, Charisse



Castro, Ruben



Correa, Kevin



Dong, Huan



Escobar, Marcos



Eugenio, Felisha



Frazier, Krystle



Ivey, Rasheed



Lopez, Melissa



Marcia, Lobsang



Martinez, Leonel



Mendoza, Gabriel



Partida, Diana



Penaloza, Rosa Lina



Ramos, Roberto



Runcie, Mariama



Williams, Ashely



Chen, Ethan



Hampton, David



Oforjebe, Ogechukwu (Agatha)



**Theodore C. Friedman, MD,
PhD**
Internal Medicine

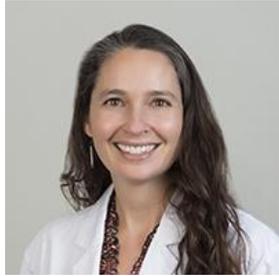
Dr. Friedman is the Chair of Medicine and Chief of the Division of Endocrinology, Molecular Medicine and Metabolism at Charles R. Drew University (CDU) and a professor of Medicine at both UCLA and CDU. He is board certified in Internal Medicine and Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism. He is also the Director of the CDU Metabolic and Cardiovascular Diseases Research Cluster. He holds an Endowed Professorship in Cardio-Metabolic Medicine.

Dr. Friedman's basic science research interests are in pro-hormone processing as related to drug addiction, diabetes, thyroid disease, and obesity as well as substance abuse and the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis. He also is studying how glucocorticoids and enzymes that regulate their tissue levels are involved in diabetes and obesity. His clinical research interests are adrenal and pituitary disorders and he has an NIH-funded clinical trial giving testosterone to women with hypopituitarism. His clinic interests include difficult to diagnose pituitary, adrenal and thyroid disorders. He is one of the world's experts on Cushing's syndrome. He also wrote a popular lay book on thyroid diseases.



**Shahrzad Bazargan-Hejazi,
PhD**
Medical Sociology

Shahrzad Bazargan-Hejazi PhD is the Professor of Medical Sociology in the Department of Psychiatry, the Research Director in the Psychiatry Residency Training, and has been the Chair of Medical Student Research Thesis Program, in the College of Medicine at CDU since 2006. She is also an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. She is a member of the Global Burden of Disease collaborator network, participating in the production, analysis, improvement, and presentation of the Global Burden of Disease. Dr. Bazargan has led and collaborated in several emergency-department and community-based studies related to the social aspects of disease and illness as they relate to misuse of alcohol, mental disorders, injury, and violence. In addition, she is interested in investigating the intersection of mindfulness, emotional literacy, and social capital, and the ways in which these practices and concepts build resiliency and promote well-being. Dr. Bazargan is a prolific writer and is on the editorial board of several journals, including *Medicine*; *BioMed Research International*; and *Journal of Injury and Violence Research*.



**Elizabeth Barnert, MD,
MPH, MS**
Pediatrics

Elizabeth Barnert, MD, MPH, MS is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at The David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Through the UC Berkeley – UCSF Joint Medical Program, she received her medical degree from the UCSF and earned a Master's of Science degree from the UC Berkeley School of Public Health. Her public health Master's thesis used ethnography to examine the process of family reunification of the “disappeared” children of El Salvador. She then completed residency training in pediatrics at Stanford University Medical Center. She came to UCLA in 2012 as a Clinical Scholar in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars Program. During fellowship, she also completed training in health policy and earned a Master's of Public Health (MPH) degree from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. Dr. Barnert's clinical work is in general pediatrics. A Cuban-American born and raised in Los Angeles, she is passionate about improving health outcomes of vulnerable youth, especially Latino children and adolescents. Dr. Barnert's research focuses on youth involved in the juvenile justice system, commercially sexually exploited youth, youth undergoing family separation and reunification, and youth with medical complexity. Her current projects examine the health needs of youth transitioning home after incarceration, including commercially sexually exploited youth; and population health approaches to children with medical complexity. Dr. Barnert serves as a policy advisor for the California state legislature on legislation to protect commercially sexually exploited youth.



**Senait Teklehaimanot,
MPH**
Statistician

Senait Teklehaimanot is a biostatistician and a faculty at Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science. She received her Master's degree in Biostatistics from Loma Linda University school of Public Health. She has participated in a wide variety of NIH funded research studies in various capacities and provided statistical support to researchers, Community Faculty, Medical, MPH and Nursing students. Her expertise includes designing survey studies, power and sample size calculation, data management, data analysis, authoring statistical section in research protocols, manuscripts, abstracts and presentations. She also have more than 20 years of experience using or analyzing large data sets sponsored by National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and National Cancer Institutes (NCI). She enjoys collaborative research and has special interest in health disparity research. As a team member of the study Design Biostatistical and Data Management Core at CDU, Senait Teklehaimanot is an experienced biostatistician primarily supports the Core's research methodology and study design services.



Jared Sun, MD, PHD, MBA
Emergency Medicine

Dr. Sun graduated from Stanford University in 2009 and completed a Fulbright the following year in Cape Town, South Africa, where he established and directed South Africa's very first emergency first responder system for the EMS, and obtained a PhD in Emergency Medicine at the University of Cape Town for researching pre-hospital emergency care in developing countries. He then obtained his MD at the Yale School of Medicine, and an MBA at the Stanford Graduate School of Business, and is now completing his residency in emergency medicine at the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center. Originally, from Southern California, Jared initially trained as an EMT and lifeguard in high school, and continued to sail for the Stanford Varsity Sailing team during his undergrad. After completion of residency, Dr.'s ultimate goal is to take the lessons he is learned from all of his experiences to improve healthcare on a global scale, and positively impact the lives of others.



Peyman Benharash, MD
Surgery

Dr. Peyman Benharash is a surgeon in Los Angeles, California and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including UCLA Medical Center and UCLA Medical Center Santa Monica. He received his medical degree from David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and has been in practice between 11-20 years. He is one of 101 doctors at UCLA Medical Center and one of 39 at UCLA Medical Center Santa Monica who specialize in Surgery. He also speaks multiple languages, including Farsi and Hebrew.



Arleen Brown, MD, PhD
Internal Medicine

Arleen Brown, MD, PhD is a Professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research (GIM and HSR) at the University of California, Los Angeles. She serves as Chief of GIM and HSR at Olive View-UCLA Medical Center.

Dr. Brown co-directs the Community Engagement and Research Program (CERP) of the UCLA Clinical and Translational Science Institute and the Community Outreach and Education Core of the Los Angeles Stroke Prevention and Intervention Research Program in Health Disparities. In these roles, she works with teams of community and university partners to ensure that community and research priorities are aligned, to promote research in community settings, and to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise between all stakeholders.

Dr. Brown's research focuses on improving health outcomes, enhancing health care quality, and reducing disparities for adults with chronic conditions, among them diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and stroke. She has been PI or Co-PI on studies to improve diabetes care for older adults and minority patients and research to understand clinical, socioeconomic, and health system influences on chronic disease management in under-resourced communities. She is currently a Principal Investigator on a study to improve cardiovascular outcomes among persons with a history of trauma who are living with HIV and AIDS.



**Magda Shaheen, MD, PhD,
MPH, MS**
Epidemiology

ite Professor and the director of the CDU Research Design & Biostatistics and Co-Director of the UCLA/CDU CTSI, Biostatistics Core. She has the wealth of expertise to successfully provide rigorous basic and advanced methodological support in biostatistics, research design, epidemiology and other domains with practical guides for clinical/community/transitional research.

Dr. Shaheen conducted community participatory surveys among minority communities and collaborated with other researchers in clinical/translational research. Dr. Shaheen has extensive experience in utilizing and analyzing the public use/large databases in research, especially related to health and healthcare disparities to consider the design, sampling, advanced and special statistical analysis issues.

Dr. Shaheen earned her M.D. and Master Degree in Internal Medicine from Cairo University. She received her PhD and MPH from UCLA with extensive doctoral and post-doctoral training in epidemiology, research methods, designs, and biostatistics. She has a professional membership in the American College of Epidemiology, UCLA Alumni Association, American Public Health Association, American Diabetes Association, American College of Preventive Medicine, and the International Epidemiological Association.



Manisha Shah, PhD.
*Agricultural & Resource
Economics*

Ph.D. in Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley

M.S. in Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley

M.Sc. in Development Studies, London School of Economics & Political Science

B.A. in Economics and Development Studies, University of California, Berkeley

Manisha Shah is Vice-Chair and Professor of Public Policy at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. She is also a Faculty Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a Faculty Affiliate at UC Berkeley's Center for Effective Global Action, The Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, and The Bureau for Research and Economic Analysis of Development, and a Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor. She received her Ph.D. in agricultural and resource economics from UC Berkeley.

Shah is a development economist whose primary research and teaching interests lie at the intersection of applied microeconomics, health, and development. She has written several papers on the economics of sex markets in order to learn how more effective policies and programs can be deployed to slow the spread of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections. She also works in the area of child health and education. Dr. Shah has been the PI on various impact evaluations and randomized controlled trials and is currently leading projects in Tanzania, Indonesia, and India. She has also worked extensively in Ecuador and Mexico. Her research has been supported by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the World Bank, and the National Science Foundation among others.



Christian De Virgilio, MD
Surgery

Dr. De Virgilio is originally from Argentina, and moved to the U.S. as a child. He attended Loyola Marymount University as an undergraduate, medical school at UCLA, general surgery residency at Harbor-UCLA, and vascular surgery fellowship at the Mayo Clinic. He is currently Chair of the Department of Surgery at Harbor-UCLA, and Co-Chair of the College of Applied Anatomy at the UCLA School of Medicine. He particularly enjoys teaching and mentoring medical students and residents.

**Patrick T. Dowling, M.D.,
M.P.H.**
Family Medicine



is the Kaiser Endowed Professor of Community
A Department of Family Medicine (DFM). A
of Ohio, he completed his Family Medicine (FM)
hospital in Chicago and earned an MPH in Health
Services at Michigan. He is board certified in FM and Preventive Medicine/ Public
Health. In addition to medical school teaching, the DFM sponsors a FM residency
as well as fellowships in Sports Medicine and Addiction Medicine. Further, it
operates a NIH program with universities in S. Africa and Vietnam to address
substance abuse / HIV and is developing FM with the Mozambique health
ministry.

After completing training, he served as medical director at a United Farmworkers
(UFW) migrant health center for three years on the rural Californian border. Prior
to joining UCLA as the first Departmental chair in 1998, he chaired Family
Medicine at Harbor-UCLA for nine years.

His professional interests include health policy, and the linkage of medical
education to underserved, under resourced communities as a means of improving
access and reducing health disparities. Moreover, his research interests include
cross cultural and bi-national medicine and the integration of behavioral
medicine/substance abuse treatment within primary care. Finally, he has been on
the Charles R. Drew Board since 2004.

Alexander Rodgers, MD
Family Medicine



ant Clinical Professor for the CDU Family
Born and raised in Riverside, California,
lical training at the David Geffen School
of Medicine at UCLA and his family medicine residency at Kaiser
Permanente (Fontana center). During residency, Dr. Rodgers developed
an interest in health policy and pursued a fellowship in Minority Health
Policy, during which, he acquired a Master's in Public Health at The
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. With a strong desire for
justice in healthcare, Dr. Rodgers aims to merge his passion for high
quality patient care with a “health in all policies” approach in order to
serve the underserved and help create strong, healthy communities.
Areas of interest include health and housing policy, urban development
and health care for homeless individuals.



Paul Robinson, PhD
Geography & GIS

Dr. Paul Robinson, PhD is the director of the Charles 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.



**Rebecca Dudovitz, MD,
MSHS**
Pediatrics

Rebecca Dudovitz, MD, MSHS is 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. In addition to seeing patients at the UCLA General Pediatrics 12th Street Office in Santa Monica, she supervises resident physicians at the UCLA Children's Health Center in Westwood and the Venice Family Clinic. Her research interests include understanding the relationship between academic achievement and health and leveraging school environments to improve adolescent health and prevent substance use.



**Gilberto Granados, MD,
MPH**
Family Medicine

Dr. Gilberto Granados is an Associate Clinical Professor at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, Co-Director of the Summer Urban Health Fellowship and Director of the third- and fourth-year Family Medicine Clerkships. He received his medical degree from the University of California, Irvine College of Medicine and completed his Family Medicine residency at White Memorial Medical Center. Dr. Granados also received an MPH in Maternal and Child Health and Health Policy from the UCLA School of Public Health. His interests include community-based research, social determinants of health, health policy and immigrant health.



**Larissa Otero, M.D.,
M.P.H., Ph.D.**
Epidemiology

Larissa Otero, MD, MPH, PhD is an Epidemiologist at the Instituto de Medicina Tropical Alexander von Humboldt at the Cayetano Heredia Peruvian University (UPCH). She obtained a Master in Public Health at the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium where she also completed her PhD. Dr. Otero's doctoral thesis analyzed each step of the case detection process of tuberculosis and multidrug resistant tuberculosis patients in Lima, Peru. Understanding the gaps between policy and practice and implementing simple interventions can improve case detection rates and reduce delays between symptoms and treatment.



Gerardo Moreno, MD
Family Medicine

Associate Professor in Family Medicine and the Director of UCLA PRIME-LA (Program in Medical Education). He received his medical degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and completed his clinical residency training in Family Medicine at University of California, San Francisco. He received a Master of Science in Health Services from UCLA School of Public Health and completed a post-doctoral research fellowship in the Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Foundation Clinical Scholars Program at UCLA. Dr. Moreno is an educator and clinician investigator with formal training and expertise in community-based participatory research (CBPR) and health services outcomes research. Dr. Moreno is associate editor of the *Annals of Family Medicine* and serves on the Board of Directors for the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM). He was a 2015-2017 James C. Puffer M.D./ABFM Anniversary Fellow at the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and a recipient of a National Institute of Aging (NIA-NIH) Paul B. Beeson Career Development Award in Aging (K23). He has published studies that have increased our understanding of health disparities and the social determinants of health among Latinos and currently is PI for grant to evaluate healthcare services for undocumented persons in 13 California counties. Dr. Moreno has also published on other important issues addressing physician workforce diversity and medical education; has a continuity clinic; and trains family medicine residents and medical students.



David Hindman, PhD
Psychology

Assistant Professor II, Academic Series, Department of Family Medicine at CDU and Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor, Department of Family Medicine, Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Hindman received his BA degree in 1995 from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and his PhD degree in Psychology in 2002 from the Graduate School of Psychology, Fuller Theological Seminary. He completed his APA approved internship at the Kaiser Permanente-Los Angeles Medical Center in 2002 along with a 2-year APA approved post-doctoral fellowship in Health Psychology & Multicultural Research at the Harbor-UCLA Medical Center in 2004. Dr. Hindman subsequently completed his fellowship in health care leadership with the California Healthcare Foundation in association with the Healthcare Workforce Development program at the University of California-San Francisco. A primary care psychologist by training and practice, Dr. Hindman currently serves as the Director of Clinical Standards & Training for the LA County-Substance Abuse Prevention and Control program in the Department of Public Health. His research focuses on chronic disease management, detection and treatment of depression in primary care, multidisciplinary treatment of obesity, effective models in assessing and addressing substance use disorders, and effective patient engagement in both research and treatment.



Basil Ibe, PhD
Pediatrics

Education

- BS, 1977, Pepperdine University, Los Angeles CA
- MS, 1979, Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID
- PhD, 1984, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Dr. Ibe's research intends to understand the role of inflammatory and anti-inflammatory proteins in pulmonary vascular injury. His work includes investigations into the role of NF-kB, intracellular kinases and retinoblastoma protein in the regulation of platelet activating factor receptor gene and protein expression. Dr. Ibe employs in vivo small, medium and large animal models and in vitro cell culture models to investigate perinatal pulmonary adaptation and the role of platelet activating factor in the pathology of persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn.

Dr. Ibe also studies the role of these lipid mediators in cardiovascular and pulmonary abnormalities of sickle cell disease. His sickle cell disease studies are primarily focused on understanding the consequences of abnormal erythrocyte-endothelium interaction in the pathogenesis of vaso-occlusion and pulmonary hypertension in sickle cell disease.



**Eva McGhee, Ph.D.,
M.S., FCOD**
Internal Medicine

Dr. McGhee is an Assistant Professor, in the College of Medicine (COM), Divisions of Cancer Research. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Kansas, in Cellular Immunogenetics. She completed a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) in Molecular Cancer Genetics, and a Clinical Fellowship at UCSF/Stanford University in Medical Genetics. Dr. McGhee held several faculty positions at UCSF. Through a competitive process, Dr. McGhee was selected to become a Visiting Professor at Harvard Medical School. While at Harvard, Dr. McGhee worked on cervical cancer-the human papillomavirus (HPV). Her research focus is on health disparities, Infectious Diseases, Cancer Genetics, and Vaccines. As a Postdoctoral Fellow at UCSF, Dr. McGhee discovered the candidate region for Coffin Siris, a rare Mendelian Syndrome; published in the Journal of Medical Genetics. In 2017, Dr. McGhee and her team published on the uptake of HPV Vaccines, which was later featured in an interview on oral cancer by CNN. Dr. McGhee is also leading research to expand awareness for Precision Medicine, in collaboration with the John Hopkins University. Chancellor Sam Hawgood honored Dr. McGhee at the UCSF 150th Anniversary Celebration for receiving the Chancellor Award for Research, Public and Community Service, and the Thomas N. Burbridge Award for Social Justice; Presented by Nobel Laureate J. Michael Bishop. Dr. McGhee is a Senator for COM, and the Academic Senate Chair for the Committee on Clinical and Community Programs. Dr. McGhee is the proud research mentor for Rasheed Ivey, Student-CDU/UCLA Medical Education Program.



**Darlene Parker-Kelly, MSLS,
PhD**
CDU Library Director

Director of Library/Learning Resource Centers at Charles Drew University of Medicine (CDU). Since 2009, Darlene has been involved in transforming the University Library to a place where the library partners with students and faculty in using reliable library resources. In addition, Darlene teaches Information Literacy and Research Methods for the College of Sciences and Health in the Department of General Education, and in the School of Nursing, RN to BSN program.

Darlene is passionate about information literacy and its role in health information which is critical to all. She believes education and information are effective tools to empower each of us in becoming healthier individuals and to becoming advocates for others. She actively participates in scholarly publications, is the recipient of several Express Awards through the Pacific Southwest Regional Medical Library at the Louise M. Darling Biomedical Library at UCLA, and frequently participates in local and national conferences. Prior to the CDU appointment, Darlene was employed at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia for 21 years in library administration.



**Jeffrey D. Klausner, MD,
MPH**
Internal Medicine

Internal Medicine in the Division of Infectious Diseases and the program in Global Health. He earned his Medical Degree from Cornell University Medical College and completed Residency in Internal Medicine at the New York University, Bellevue Hospital Center. Dr. Klausner earned his Master's in Public Health at the Harvard School of Public Health. Among many roles in his professional career, Dr. Klausner was the Deputy Health Officer, Director of STD Prevention and Control Services at the San Francisco Department of Public Health. While in San Francisco Dr. Klausner helped to identify key factors associated with the increased spread of HIV and STDs and implemented multiple novel public health prevention programs. He helped to create the St. James Infirmary, the first occupational health and safety clinic for sex workers and Magnet, a community-based peer-run sexual health clinic for gay men. From 2009-2011 Dr. Klausner was Branch Chief for HIV and TB at the Centers for Disease Control in Pretoria, South Africa, helping lead the South African PEPFAR program for care and treatment. Dr. Klausner's research interests are in applied epidemiology and the prevention and control of infectious diseases of public health importance like HIV, STDs, TB and cryptococcus. Dr. Klausner has a particular interest in the use of technology—information, digital, and laboratory—to facilitate access to treatment for disadvantaged populations. He has been funded by the NIH, CDC, private pharmaceutical and test manufacturers to study the benefits of new ways to find and treat infectious diseases, and has been a frequent advisor to the CDC, NIH and WHO.

Margarita Loeza, MD
Family Medicine



University of California, School of Medicine at San Diego where she completed a degree in Biology. Dr. Loeza worked at a hospital in the department of Family Medicine. During her residency, she was a resident. After residency, she returned to the Venice Family Clinic (VFC), a Federally Qualified Health Center, where she and her family were once patients. In 2001, Dr. Loeza started as a staff physician at the Venice Family Clinic. Dr. Loeza is currently the Chief Medical Information Officer at VFC. She is the physician consultant for Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District. Dr. Loeza has a school based teen clinic at Santa Monica High School. She is a strong proponent for reproductive justice for young women. Dr. Loeza is on the Board of Doctors for Global health. Since 2013, she has served as the faculty advisor for UCLA Flying Samaritans who run a monthly clinic in Tijuana. Dr. Loeza helps deliver free health care along with other volunteers to a small community. Because she is a proponent of social justice, Dr. Loeza volunteers at Homeboy Industries on a monthly basis-performing laser tattoo removal on former gang members. She is a mentor to medical and pre-health students. She joined Alliance in Mentorship and MiMentor to inspire young Latino students to study medicine. Dr. Loeza is currently the faculty advisor for the Latino Medical Student Association for UCLA and CDU. Dr. Loeza is also in the Board of Latino Physicians of California. Dr. Margarita Loeza is the daughter of Mexican immigrants, first in her family to attend college.

**Folasade P. May, MD,
PhD, MPhil**
Gastroenterology



Yale University with a degree in molecular, cellular, and integrative physiology. After college, she attended the University of California, San Diego and international health, earning a master's of science degree from the United States to attend Harvard Medical School. She completed her internship and residency in internal medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital and remained at MGH for one year as a clinical educator in the Department of Medicine and manager of trainee affairs for the MGH Multicultural Affairs Office. Dr. May came to UCLA in 2011 to begin her gastroenterology fellowship. As a fellow in the UCLA Specialty Training and Advanced Research (STAR) program, she earned a PhD in health policy and management from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and outcomes. Dr. May joined the digestive diseases faculty at UCLA as an assistant professor of medicine in 2015. She is a member of the UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center (JCCC) and research collaborator at the UCLA Center for Cancer Prevention Control Research (CPCR). Her research focuses on eliminating patient, provider, and system-level barriers to colorectal cancer screening. She is also a co-director for the Global Health Education Program in the David Geffen School of Medicine. She has participated in global health programs in Costa Rica, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, Malawi and Tanzania.