As the oldest medical school in Southern California, the University of Southern California has been a leader in the delivery of care, education and services to patients and families in the region and around the world.
LETTER FROM THE CHAIR, LAURA MOSQUEDA, MD

As the oldest medical school in Southern California, the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California has been a leader in the delivery of care, education and services to patients and families in the region and around the world. The founder of the Department of Family Medicine, Dr. Peter V. Lee, oversaw the creation of the new Department of Family Medicine and was committed to social justice, increasing diversity among medical students and encouraging interdisciplinary teaching. For over 30 years, these commitments have been the hallmark of the department.

I am honored to lead the department as Chair and am proud of what our extraordinary team has accomplished, particularly since I arrived two years ago.

The Department of Family Medicine is committed to a person-centered, family-focused approach to care and to improving the lives of vulnerable populations. Since assuming leadership of the department in 2014, I have hired 13 new faculty members and launched several innovative initiatives. Clinical programs have been reinvigorated and the department has become the home for student groups interested in care for the underserved.

Professor Emeritus Peter V. Lee, MD, former Chair of the Department of Family Medicine
One of our most significant accomplishments has been creating a national profile for the Keck School and USC in elder justice and healthy aging, conducting research in these areas and providing care to meet the needs of aging patients. The Keck School of Medicine was named the sole grant recipient to become the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA), a vital clearinghouse created by the Administration on Aging. As the director of the center, our department is helping to develop effective prevention, intervention and response efforts addressing elder abuse.

In the last two years, the department has experienced unprecedented growth. We have 19 active grants fueling research, education and clinical programs. The combination of government grants, philanthropic gifts and foundation support allows us to produce meaningful results that make the world a better place.
As an academic medical center, our faculty is the core of our department. Over the last two years, our faculty members have published 38 papers in 24 prestigious academic journals, such as Academic Medicine, Social Work & Health Care, The Gerontologist, Journal of American Geriatrics Society, Journal of Evidence-Informed Social Work and Maternal and Child Health Journal. These publications reflect important contributions to the field and our commitment to improve the health of every member of the family, young and old.

The pages that follow provide more highlights of what the Department of Family Medicine has achieved in the last two years. On behalf of the entire department, thank you for your continued interest and support of our important work. With your help we will continue to innovate, educate and provide personal care and direct services to patients and their families. We are deeply grateful for your support.

Sincerely,
Laura Mosqueda, MD
Associate Dean of Primary Care
Chair, Department of Family Medicine
Keck School of Medicine of USC

As a philanthropic partner, you have been vital to the great strides we have made in strengthening the department and enhancing the quality of life for the people we serve.
Caring for our patients and their families is at the heart of everything we do.
Care For The Whole Family

Caring for our patients and their families is at the heart of everything we do. We are proud to serve our patients, many of whom come to the USC Health Sciences Campus, as well as offices in Pasadena and La Cañada Flintridge. Recognizing that the interaction between mind and body is key to good health, we have hired psychologists and licensed clinical social workers in addition to growing our physician workforce, which includes fellowship-trained physicians. Philanthropic support continues to provide the resources that fund training programs and expand our services to meet the needs of our community.

GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Supported by funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration, the new Geriatric Assessment Program at Keck Medicine of USC is focused on care for people over the age of 65. Patients are evaluated by a team of specialists in geriatric care with the goal of developing an effective plan that supports each patient’s highest level of functioning. Oftentimes our “patient” becomes the whole family as the health needs of older adults affect those who love them as well as themselves.

The interprofessional assessment team includes faculty from medicine, physician assistant studies, psychology, social work, dentistry, occupational therapy, physical therapy and pharmacy. It is designed to address the specific needs of seniors who have multiple medical conditions and memory loss. Services include medical screenings, functional screenings, screenings for depression, gait and balance assessments, memory impairment assessments and psychosocial evaluations. This one-stop shop creates a comprehensive treatment plan tailored to each patient, so that the recommendations and interventions enhance all aspects of the patient’s health.
Preparing medical students, residents, fellows, physician assistants and community physicians to be future primary care practitioners, researchers and leaders is a top priority for the Department of Family Medicine.
Educating Future Generations of Compassionate Family Physicians

Preparing medical students, residents, fellows, physician assistants and community physicians to be future primary care practitioners, researchers and leaders is a top priority for the Department of Family Medicine. Over the past five years, the number of USC medical students choosing family medicine as their specialty has tripled, making it one of the most popular specialty choices.

Your generosity helps us sustain an array of educational programs and projects that are key to this success:

✦ Family Medicine Clerkship
✦ Family Medicine Residency Program at California Hospital Medical Center in collaboration with the USC-Eisner Family Medicine Center
✦ Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center’s HIV Fellowship Program
✦ Longitudinal Clinical Community Medicine Experience
✦ Elective Rotation in Geriatric Medicine

ENCOURAGING MEDICAL STUDENTS IN PRIMARY CARE

The department’s Longitudinal Clinical Community Medicine Experience is designed to increase the number of Keck School medical students who enter community-based primary care. The project exposes medical students to community-based medical practices and neighborhood health centers throughout their four years of medical school. Students gain practical experience through long-term shadowing of community health care providers. The project introduces students to the challenges and rewards of community-based primary care, including the establishment of medical homes for low-income families and individuals, chronic disease management and public health disparities.
Each spring, students participate in an annual advocacy trip to Washington, D.C. In 2016, students met with Congresswoman Karen Bass, an alumna of the Primary Care PA Program.
Primary Care Physician Assistant Program

The Primary Care Physician Assistant (PA) Program at the Keck School of Medicine is a leader in PA education with a focus on high-quality education, diversity, service and leadership. The program is ranked among the top 20 programs in US News & World Report’s 2015 “Best Graduate Schools.” As a national frontrunner in interprofessional education, the program’s faculty teach future leaders to practice team-based medicine in underserved communities.

In 2015, the PA program received the Excellence Through Diversity Award from the Physician Assistant Education Association based on its commitment to recruiting, educating and graduating a diverse group of students. Part of this effort is accomplished through the USC PA Pipeline Program, which hosts workshops and seminars once a month to teach high school and undergraduate students about careers in health care. The USC PA Pipeline Program accommodated more than 300 underserved students in 2016.

Each spring, students participate in an annual advocacy trip to Washington, D.C. This experience is intended to promote leadership and inspire students to advocate for their profession and patients. USC is the only institution west of the Mississippi River that invites students to participate in such an experience.

The PA program is one of the few throughout the United States that emphasizes medical Spanish in its curriculum. Graduates report a doubling of their confidence in communicating with patients in Spanish at the completion of the course.

Each class is composed of 60 students, with a total of 180 students in the entire program. Students not only gain clinical experience but also a breadth of competencies necessary to be professional leaders.
Preparing Future Physicians to Care for Our Aging Society

TEAM-BASED CARE FOR OLDER ADULTS

A three-year, $2.5 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration enabled the department to develop training programs that emphasize interprofessional and team-based medical care. Along with the development of a new geriatric assessment program, the USC Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program (GWEP) is training the next generation of health professionals to better care for older adults. The project reaches across disciplines, incorporating partnerships with medicine, occupational therapy, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistant, psychology and social work.

The Senior-Student Partnership Program (SSPP) invites students to engage with older adults to broaden their understanding of aging and improve their relationship-building and listening skills. SSPP pairs medical students with older adults, who serve as mentors to help students develop new perspectives about healthy aging.

Interprofessional Geriatrics Curriculum (IPGC): Teams of seven students from different health professional programs are paired with an older adult living in a low-income community housing complex. Facilitated by a faculty member, team meetings are held in the older adult’s residence and discussions focus on geriatric health-related topics. In 2014, the IPGC program received the USC Civic Engagement Extraordinary Engagement Award.
Elder Justice

The department was named the sole grant recipient to house the National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA). The NCEA is a collaboration between the Keck School of Medicine and the Leonard Davis School of Gerontology. As a national authority, the NCEA provides up-to-date, pertinent and valuable resources, education and information on elder abuse and neglect.

In early 2016, the USC Center on Elder Mistreatment was created to serve as a coordinating hub of research, education, practice and policy.

Through a generous donation from Judith D. Tamkin, a series of symposia will bring experts together from around the world to share findings, strategize solutions, provide scholarships and propel the field of elder justice. The inaugural symposium was held in September 2016.
Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center at USC

The USC site of the Pacific AIDS Education and Training Center (USC PAETC) was established to increase the number of health care providers to counsel, diagnose and medically manage people with HIV and to help prevent high-risk behaviors that lead to HIV transmission. As the epidemic has changed over the past 28 years, so has our center. We now include programs in correctional and homeless HIV medicine, increasing HIV testing in all settings, including emergency departments, acute HIV and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for the Prevention of HIV (PrEP). The need to diagnose people who are infected with HIV and begin their treatments, along with helping those at the highest risk of exposure, is as great as ever.

It is extremely important to have enough well-qualified physicians to provide care, and to that end, our center established one of the first fellowships in HIV medicine for primary care providers in the U.S.

Even with limited resources, we are able to train two physicians annually in the medical management of HIV/AIDS at all stages of disease, from initial diagnosis to advanced treatment of multidrug-resistant virus and opportunistic infections.
Award-Winning Faculty

Our faculty members seek to discover new knowledge that will improve the health of individuals and communities and also reduce disparities in access to health care and services. We are recognized for our innovative, immersive educational programs in a broad range of settings and with diverse, underserved populations.

Our faculty’s achievements are highlighted below.

LAURA MOSQUEDA, MD

Laura Mosqueda, MD, spoke at the White House Conference on Aging on the topic of elder justice. She was named among the “50 Most Remarkable Influencers on Aging” by PBS’s Next Avenue in 2015 and among the “Top Doctors of 2016” by Pasadena Magazine.

JO MARIE REILLY, MD

Jo Marie Reilly, MD, received two prestigious mentoring awards in 2015: the Barbara Harris Award for Educational Excellence from the California Academy of Family Physicians and the 2015 USC Mellon Mentoring Award.

KEVIN LOHENRY, PHD

Kevin Lohenry, PhD, director of the Division of Physician Assistant Studies, was named a distinguished fellow of the American Academy of Physician Assistants, a nomination reviewer for the Lincoln Awards and a primary care leadership program ambassador for the GE-National Medical Fellowship.
ANNIE NGUYEN, PHD, MPH

Annie Nguyen, PhD, MPH, has been elected as the Secretary of the Aging and Public Health Section of the American Public Health Association by her peers based on her excellence in leadership.

JENICA RYU, MD

Jenica Ryu, MD, has been providing care to HIV-positive patients at the Rand Schrader Clinic of LAC+USC Medical Center and its satellite site in Skid Row, which serves a predominantly homeless population. She has an interest in underserved populations with a specific focus on incarcerated persons living with HIV.

ALEXIS COLOURIDES-KOGAN, PHD

Alexis Coulourides-Kogan, PhD, is an outstanding postdoctoral scholar in the department whose research focuses on end-of-life care, care transitions and ethnic disparities in health services utilization.

KATHERINE GIBSON, MD

Katherine Gibson, MD, was recently appointed as the new Faculty Director for the Family Medicine Clerkship and is an award-winning teacher.
JEHNI ROBINSON, MD

Jehni Robinson, MD, is the Vice Chair for Clinical Affairs in the department. Focused on a collaborative patient-doctor relationship, Dr. Robinson is leading the charge on our interprofessional clinical care.

BONNIE OLSEN, PHD

Bonnie Olsen, PhD, is a clinical psychologist and Vice Chair for Academic Affairs. She is a passionate advocate and expert for the prevention of elder abuse and has lectured on the topic throughout the country.

KATHLEEN JACOBSON, MD

Kathleen Jacobson, MD, is a leader in HIV research and an award winning teacher.

We are recognized for our innovative, immersive educational programs in a broad range of settings and with diverse, underserved populations.
Dr. Han is one of the 13 experts selected from around the world to be on the inaugural Governance Committee of the Global Council on Brain Health.
HAN RESEARCH LAB

Recently, the Department of Family Medicine welcomed Duke Han, PhD, to the faculty. Dr. Han holds joint appointments in the Keck School of Medicine and the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, as well as dual appointments in family medicine and neurology. In addition to being one of the 13 experts selected from around the world to be on the inaugural Governance Committee of the Global Council on Brain Health, he serves on the editorial board of Archives in Clinical Neuropsychology and as associate editor of Journal of Alzheimer’s Disease.

Dr. Han’s research expertise is in the study of factors that affect cognition and decision-making in aging.

He has special interests in using novel neuroimaging and statistical approaches to better understand these factors. The collaboration with other departments and leading-edge resources at USC provide Dr. Han with a unique environment to conduct his research.
Thank You

Behind every great breakthrough, there are visionaries who serve as catalysts providing momentum at a crucial moment in time. Such a breakthrough is taking shape at the University of Southern California today. Philanthropic investments in our mission will help to reshape society, reduce suffering, and provide safer and healthier lives for millions of Americans.

The extraordinary support of our philanthropic partners enables us to do our part in making the world a better place. On behalf of our students, faculty, patients and their families, we thank you for your generosity and look forward to your continued partnership.

For more information, please contact:

Melany N. Duval
Senior Associate Dean
Associate Vice President
Health Sciences Development
1975 Zonal Avenue, KAM 516
Los Angeles, California 90033
Phone: (323) 442-1531
Cell: (310) 200-6192
Fax: (323) 442-2724
Melany.Duval@med.usc.edu

keck.usc.edu/family-medicine
To schedule an appointment, please call (800) USC-CARE (800-872-2273)