

University of Central Florida

College of Medicine

AcCOMplishments



July - September 2019 Edition

Brought to you by the Faculty Life Office

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Welcome to this quarter's edition of UCF College of Medicine's Faculty AcCOMplishments! This newsletter is designed to highlight our faculty's hard work and dedication to the medical field and the value it adds to our university and community. In addition to highlighting these endeavors, the content also acts as a resource for research collaborations and interests among fellow faculty members. Take a few moments to discover the amazing contributions that our faculty have accomplished.

FEATURED ARTICLE



*Caridad Hernandez, MD
Honored with UCF Women of
Distinction Award*

Dr. Caridad Hernandez was named one of UCF's "Women of Distinction" for her efforts to bridge the healthcare gap suffered by Orlando's homeless. The award, given yearly by UCF's Center for Success of Women Faculty, honors achievements in teaching, research and community service. As founder and director of the Chapman Humanism Initiative in Medicine at UCF, Dr. Hernandez worked with medical students to establish the Chapman Compassionate Care for the Homeless Clinic. It provides skin and wound care for downtown Orlando's homeless population and connects them with local healthcare resources. The outdoor monthly clinics have cared for more than 100 patients since it opened in January.

"The initiative is really led by the students — they really were the impetus for it," explained Dr. Hernandez, an associate professor of internal medicine. "But I've always had a passion for service and I live downtown, so I'm very aware on a daily basis of the needs of people who find themselves in really unfortunate circumstances. So this is really a way to help address a problem that I see daily."

The program aims to deliver healthcare to homeless and medically vulnerable people directly where they are located, while linking them to community services and resources. Held in a pop-up tent equipped with

"Access is a problem for many, and if you bring the services to people, they will use the services."

essential medical equipment and supplies, the clinic provides treatment for skin conditions and wounds, over-the-counter medications and hygiene kits. The UCF College of Medicine students and faculty also partner with the Orange County Health Department to administer Hepatitis A vaccines to help curb Orlando's current outbreak.

Unsheltered homeless patients are especially at risk for the disease.

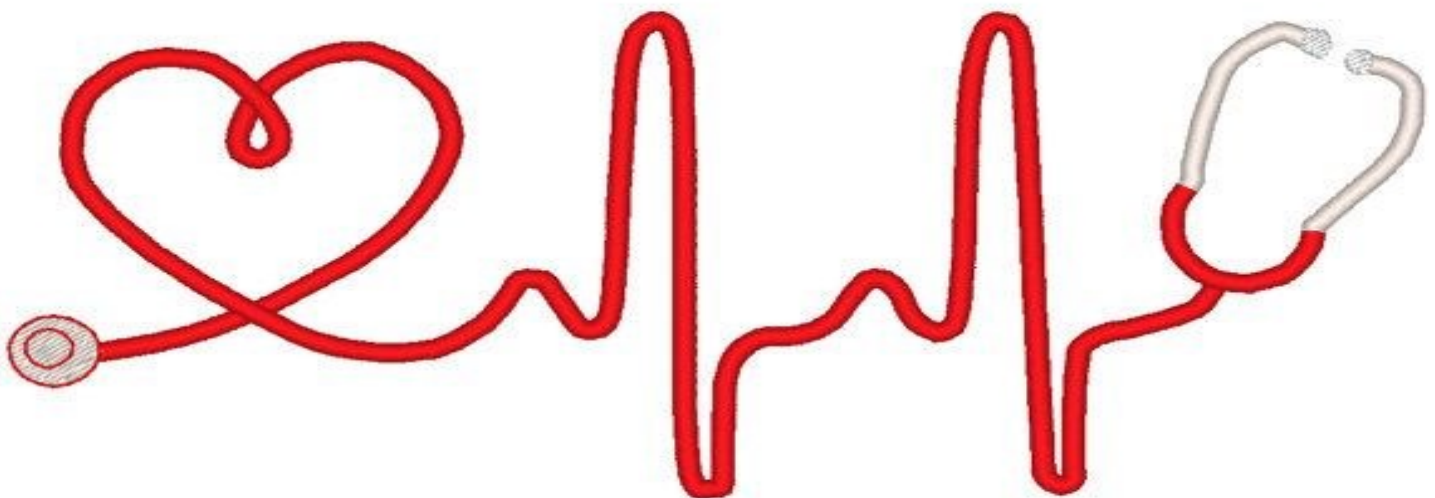
"Access is a problem for many," Dr. Hernandez said, "and if you bring the services to people, they will use the services. They do want to get vaccinated, they want their blood pressure or diabetes treated. So it's made me even more aware of the needs and want to do more to help.

She is working to expand the clinic's services indoors to a new Orlando Rescue Mission facility downtown. She believes a permanent location will allow the medical school to offer more services.

"We really want to expand this program," she said, "and my goal is really to have a mobile unit so that we can increase the frequency of our services and improve access in areas where there's great need."

Dr. Hernandez is also part of an Orange County group working to establish a needle exchange program to help stem the high rates of new HIV and Hepatitis C cases among IV drug users.

Board certified in internal medicine, Dr. Hernandez joined UCF in 2011 after holding previous faculty appointments at the University of Florida and the University of Pittsburgh. She received her M.D. from the University of California, San Francisco and completed her internal medicine residency training at Yale-New Haven Hospital. In 2017, the UCF Center for Success of Women Faculty named her a "Woman Making History".



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

- ◆ **Gotschall T.** Review of Pediatric Care Online. *Journal of Electronic Resources in Medical Libraries*. 2019, 16(2), 67–74. doi: 10.1080/15424065.2019.1638867
- ◆ **Kay D, Pasarica M.** Using technology to increase student (and faculty satisfaction with) engagement in medical education. *Advances in Physiology Education*. 2019, 43:408-413.
- ◆ Garcia DN, Saccon TD, Pradiee J, Rincón JAA, Andrade KRS, Rovani MT, Mondadori RG, Cruz LAX, Barros CC, **Masternak MM**, Bartke A, Mason JB, Schneider A. [Effect of caloric restriction and rapamycin on ovarian aging in mice](#). *Geroscience*. 2019. doi: 10.1007/s11357-019-00087-x.
- ◆ Gmerek L, Martyniak K, Horbacka K, Krokowicz P, Scierski W, Golusinski P, Golusinski W, Schneider A, **Masternak MM**. [MicroRNA regulation in colorectal cancer tissue and serum](#). *PLoS One*. 2019, 14 (8):e0222013. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0222013. eCollection 2019
- ◆ Dhahbi J, Nunez-Lopez Y, Schneider A, Victoria B, Saccon T, Bharat K, McClatchey T, Atamna H, Scierski W, Golusinski P, Golusiński W, **Masternak MM**. [Profiling of tRNA halves and YRNA fragments in serum and tissue from oral squamous cell carcinoma patients identify key role of 5' tRNA-Val-CAC-2-1 half](#). *Frontiers in Oncology*. 2019, 9. doi:10.3389/fonc.2019.00959.
- ◆ Colon G, Saccon T, Schneider A, Cavalcante MB, Huffman DM, Berryman D, List E, Ikeno Y, Musi N, Bartke A, Kopchick J, Kirkland JL, Tchkonja T, **Masternak MM**. The enigmatic role of growth hormone in age-related diseases, cognition, and longevity. *Geroscience*. 2019. doi: 10.1007/s11357-019-00096-w.
- ◆ Rupa M, Golusinski P, Golusinski W, **Masternak MM**. Human Papillomavirus and the use of Nanoparticles for Immunotherapy in HPV-Related Cancer: A Review, Special issue Nanoparticle and Immunotherapy in Reports in Practical Oncology and Radiotherapy.
- ◆ Blom A and **Mejia C.** Team –Based Learning: Developing Online Collaboration. *UCF Faculty Focus*. 2019 18(2):12-15.
- ◆ **Pasarica M, Denise K,** Cameron R. Using Active Pedagogies to Advance Learning for Lifestyle Medicine: an Approach for Medical Students. *Adv Physiol Educ*. 2019, 43(2):191-195. doi: 10.1152/advan.00195.2018.
- ◆ Weinstein M, **Pasarica M.** A case of the forgotten thyroid: The sequelae of chronic untreated hypothyroidism. *Cureus*. 2019, 11(3): e4240. DOI 10.7759/cureus.4240.
- ◆ Kushner RF, Horn DB, Butsh S, Brown JD, Duncan K, Fugate C, Gorney C, Grunvald E, Igel L, **Pasarica M**, Pennings N, Soleymani T, Velazquez T- Development of Obesity Competencies for Medical Education: A Report from The Obesity Medicine. *Obesity (Silver Spring)*. 2019, 27(7):1063-1067. doi: 10.1002/oby.22471.
- ◆ **Simms-Cendan J,** Adeyemi-Fowode O. Screening and Management of Bleeding Disorders in Adolescents With Heavy Menstrual Bleeding. *Obstetrics & Gynecology*. 2019;134(3). doi:10.1097/aog.0000000000003411.
- ◆ **Taliaferro LA,** Jang ST, Westers NJ, Muehlenkamp JJ, Whitlock JL, McMorris BJ. Associations between connections to parents and friends and non-suicidal self-injury among adolescents: the mediating role of developmental assets. *Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 2019:1-13. doi: 10.1177/1359104519868493 [Epub ahead of print].
- ◆ **Taliaferro LA,** Mishtal J, Chulani VL, Acevedo M, Middleton TC, Eisenberg ME. Communicating effectively with sexual minority youth: perspectives of young people and healthcare providers. *Acta Scientific Paediatrics*, 2019; 2(10): 32-39.

FACULTY PRESENTATIONS

- ♦ **Kay, D.** Making Learning Visible: Conceptual Change in Health Professions Interprofessional Education. Poster presented at the American Psychological Association Annual Meeting, August 2019, Chicago, IL.
- ♦ **Kay, D.** What Learning Theory Aligns with Your Teaching Style? An invited presentation at the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Educational Symposium, July 2019, San Antonio, TX.
- ♦ **Riding, K.** Crystal Clear: A Case of Green Neutrophil Inclusions. ASCLS Region III Triennial Meeting, September 2019, Pensacola Beach, FL.
- ♦ Sanchez K, Lampe N, Carter S, Nowakowski A, **Taliaferro L.** Barriers to quality healthcare among transgender and gender non-conforming young adults. GLMA Annual Conference on LGBTQ Health, September 2019, New Orleans, LA.
- ♦ Nowakowski A, Lampe N, Carter S, **Taliaferro L.** Lessons learned from health care experiences of trans and gender nonconforming young adults in Florida. U.S. Professional Association for Transgender Health, September 2019, Washington, DC.
- ♦ Lampe N, Carter S, **Taliaferro L.** Accountability structures in transgender healthcare experience. Society for the Study of Symbolic Interaction Annual Meeting, August 2019, New York, NY.

FACULTY AWARDS, SERVICE & RECOGNITION

- ♦ **Gillum, Shalu.** Recipient of the Academic Librarian of the year from SCMLA.
- ♦ **Hernandez, Caridad.** Recipient of the COM Faculty Service Award.
- ♦ **Hernandez, Caridad.** Recipient of the UCF Women of Distinction Award, the UCF office of Faculty Excellence.
- ♦ **Pasarica, Magdalena.** Editorial Board Member for Nutrition & Diabetes (a Nature-Springer publication with a 3.615 Impact Factor).
- ♦ **Periasamy, Muthu.** Recipient of the 2019 NSFT Poulsson Award.
- ♦ **Riding, Kyle.** Elected Secretary/Treasurer for the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science.
- ♦ **Southwell, Amber.** Awarded Research Grant: "The Role of the Gut Microbiome in the Clinical Progression of Huntington's Disease" in collaboration with the Director of the University of South Florida's Huntington's Disease Center of Excellence.
- ♦ **Taliaferro, Lindsay.** Awarded the 2019 NIH Sexual & Gender Minority Early Stage Investigator Award, from the Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office.
- ♦ **Toklu, Hale.** Selected as Co-Editor for the HCA Inaugural Editorial Board.