On April 4, 2018, Dr. Caroline Vitale, Director of the Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program, and Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, was presented the Anthony V. DeVito II Memorial Award for her outstanding service, dedication and commitment to excellence in geriatrics education in Michigan.

Dr. Vitale joined the Division in 2009. Now serving as Director of the University of Michigan Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program, she is involved in geriatric curriculum development, teaching and mentoring. She enjoys caring for geriatric patients and is also board certified in Hospice and Palliative Medicine. Her teaching and academic areas of interest include ethical decision-making, geriatric palliative care, and efforts to understand physician and health provider roles in care decisions affecting older adults, especially those with dementia.

Dr. Vitale is Vice-Chair of the American Geriatrics Society’s Ethics Committee, and has been committed to improving care of older adults through her work on several national workgroups. She has authored publications covering ethical issues and palliative care concepts. Her clinical and academic efforts are focused on enhancing geriatric palliative care practices and training the next generation of geriatric physicians.
### Meet Our New Faculty!

**Julie Bynum, M.D., M.P.H.,** Professor of Internal Medicine, Division of Geriatric & Palliative Medicine and Margaret Terpenning Collegiate Professor will be joining our division on April 1st. Dr. Bynum earned a BS from Union College, an MPH from The Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene & Public Health, and an MD from Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. One of Dr. Bynum’s major contributions to the field has been to develop a method of creating “virtual” physician-hospital networks that allow the measurement of care delivered and its outcomes for a population served by a specific group of providers. These networks were used in the conceptual development of the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) legislation. Dr. Bynum joins us from The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy & Clinical Practice (TDI), Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth in Lebanon, NH.

**Evan Morrison, M.D.,** Clinical Instructor in Internal Medicine, Division of Geriatric & Palliative Medicine will be joining our division on May 1st. Dr. Morrison grew up in Pennsylvania and received his undergraduate BA at Haverford College, Haverford, PA; and his MD at Hahnemann University, Philadelphia, PA. After practicing medicine and holding academic appointments in New York State, he came to St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI in 1994, as a Core Faculty member of the Department of Medicine. In 1998 Dr. Morrison began to specialize in Geriatric Medicine, and has served as Medical Director at two skilled nursing facilities.
Dr. Jo Wiggins elected as Incoming President-Elect for Clinical Excellence Society

Dr. Jocelyn Wiggins, Associate Chief of the Division of Geriatric and Palliative Medicine, Medical Director of the Geriatric Inpatient Consult Team, and Professor of Internal Medicine has been elected as the incoming President-elect for the Clinical Excellence Society.

The Clinical Excellence Society includes faculty, as recognized by their peers and their division, who practice and demonstrate clinical excellence towards their patients and colleagues. The purpose of the Society is to honor clinical excellence of faculty in the Department of Internal Medicine and to promote improvement in clinical care of patients at Michigan Medicine.

Retirements

Karen Hall, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, UM-SJMH ACE Unit
Professor, Internal Medicine
Dr. Hall graduated from the University of Toronto Medical School in 1986. She received a Ph.D. in physiology from the University of Toronto. Her residency was in internal medicine with a fellowship in gastroenterology and geriatrics. She is board-certified in internal medicine and geriatric medicine. In addition to Dr. Hall’s appointment at the University of Michigan Geriatrics Center, she is a research scientist at the Ann Arbor Veterans Affairs Healthcare System. She is also the Medical Director of the Michigan Medicine/St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor ACE Unit (Ambulatory Care for Elders). Dr. Hall retired from the VA in January 2018 and will be retiring from the division on June 30, 2018.

Georgia Hazlett, R.N., B.S.N.
Registered Nurse, East Ann Arbor Health and Geriatric Center
Georgia Hazlett has worked at the University of Michigan since 1988, and at the Geriatrics Center clinic for the past nine years. She loves her job, her coworkers on the clinic staff, and especially working with older patients. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband, her four daughters, their husbands, and 12 grandchildren, and enjoys visiting her cottage on Houghton Lake. Georgia will be retiring from the division in July 2018.

Brant Fries, Ph.D.
Research Professor, Institute of Gerontology
Professor, Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health
Chief, Health Systems Research, VA GRECC
Brant Fries received his Ph.D. in operations research from Cornell University and completed his Ph.D. from Columbia University. Brant is a Research Professor for the Institute of Gerontology, Professor of Health Management and Policy for the School of Public Health and the Chief of Health Systems Research at the VA GRECC. His area of interest includes using personal level data to make clinical and policy decisions about the care of elderly and frail individuals. Dr. Fries will be retiring from the division on June 30, 2018.

Mary James, Ph.D.
Associate Research Scientist, Internal Medicine
Mary James received her Bachelors in Humanities and Masters in Counseling from Michigan State University. Mary is an Associate Research Scientist in the Division of Geriatric and Palliative Medicine. Her areas of interest include long-term care, outcomes measurement, resource allocation systems, quality of life and translation of research into policy. Mary will be retiring from the division on June 30, 2018.
To make an appointment: Phone (734) 764-6831
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24 Hour Careline: (734) 764-6831
Referring Physicians: Contact M-LINE at 1-800-962-3555

Monthly Seminar Series

Clinical Epidemiology Seminars
1st Thursday of every month
4:00-5:00 PM
Location: 300 North Ingalls, 9th floor, Room 906

Interdisciplinary Research Conference (IRC)
2nd Thursday of every month
4:00-5:00 PM
Location: VA/GRECC Conference room

Research Career Development Core (RCDC)
3rd Thursday of every month
4:00-5:00 PM
Location: 300 North Ingalls, 9th floor, Room 906

GRECC Interdisciplinary Clinical Conference (ICC)
4th Thursday of every month
3:00-4:00 PM
Location: VA/GRECC Conference room

Palliative Care Research Seminars
3rd Thursday of every month
4:00-5:00 PM
Location: VA/GRECC Conference room


This year’s edition ranks U-M Geriatrics 7th in the top adult geriatrics hospitals in the country, with U-M Hospitals and Health Centers ranking 6th on the Honor Roll of Best Hospitals 2017-2018.

This is the 24th year in a row that Michigan Medicine has been recognized for strong across-the-board performance on a national level.

If you would like to make a gift to support geriatrics training and research, please visit: http://victors.us/geriatricsgiving


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