

New series aims to help faculty develop better teaching methods



The desire to help CCLCM improve instruction of students has led to the creation of a new Faculty Development Series that targets faculty who presently teach (or are interested in teaching) third-year students in the Cleveland Clinic longitudinal clerkship. The series is also available as an onboarding tool for new faculty.

The aim of the series is to provide professional development for these faculty and to offer support in developing, using and assessing effective instructional strategies, toward a goal of “fostering a teaching community of practice.”

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According to Neil Mehta, MBBS, MS, Professor of Medicine and Associate Dean for Curricular Affairs, the program's genesis was simply to give faculty an orientation to best practices in clinical education. "Physicians never formally learn how to teach," he says. "They often propagate the methods they were exposed to when they were in medical school."



Dr. Neil Mehta

"CCLCM is a unique learning environment, with no grades or tests, and with a portfolio-based assessment system. The role of the faculty is not to judge or compare students, but to help each student become the best they can be. We felt a series of focused interactive sessions would orient the faculty to a better way of clinical education and enhance our students' learning during clerkships."

The 10-week program, which begins on March 30, encompasses a variety of topics. The opening session, "Creating an Effective Learning Environment," taught by Bud Isaacson, MD, Professor of Medicine and Executive Dean, and Craig Nielsen, MD, Associate Professor of Medicine and Assistant Dean for Clinical Education, sets the tone for the series. In this course, faculty will be provided the opportunity to learn how to create a welcoming learning environment; for instance, the importance of getting to know the students via their backgrounds and finding out about students' expectations and learning needs.

From there, the series delves into the experiences of medical school and of life as a physician — specifically, examining such challenges in the learning environment as implicit bias, harassment and the need for diversity — and making the most of the outpatient visit, including using the electronic medical record.

Another course deals with inpatient concerns, including such issues as working in teams, adapting to interruptions and dealing with unexpected morbidity and mortality with families and patients. Keeping in mind the mental health of the future practitioner, the course also stresses the need to create a safe space for debriefing and reflection.

One of the aims of the program, says Dr. Mehta, is to teach faculty how to give a student immediate feedback and to assess them in real time, based on the faculty's observation of the student's performance. "The role of an educator is to help the student become better," he says. "The clerkship period is an apprenticeship where students learn under the guidance of their preceptors. Providing specific, timely and useful feedback to students is critical to this process. This new program will provide faculty an opportunity to learn and practice this skill."

Dr. Mehta stresses that the program is not merely didactic. "The courses are designed to be interactive, so we will have breakout sessions in which the faculty can practice these new teaching skills and learn how to set the right tone with the students."

Each session will be presented twice in 50-minute blocks, at 7:30 a.m. and at noon, and will offer continuing medical education credit. Faculty who participate in all appropriate sessions will receive a certificate of completion.

Dr. Mehta notes that the team is planning a future series. "We may also find that this program may be relevant in other areas, such as research or for students in other years in the school."

[Learn more about this series and sign up.](#)

Make plans to attend the 2021 virtual CWRU EDUCATION RETREAT

April 29, 2021, 12:30 – 6 p.m.

This year's theme is Diversity and Inclusion in Education, and here's the tentative agenda:

- 12:30 p.m.** Meet and Greet
- 1 p.m.** Welcoming Remarks
- 1:15 p.m.** Plenary Speaker - [Monica Vela, MD](#), Professor of Medicine, Associate Dean of Multicultural Affairs, Pritzker School of Medicine, and Associate Vice Chair for Diversity and Inclusion, Department of Medicine, University of Chicago
- 2:20 p.m.** Skill Development Workshops and Poster Session with Oral Presentations
- 3:20 p.m.** Networking
- 3:30 p.m.** Skill Development Workshops and Poster Session with Oral Presentations
- 4:40 p.m.** Speed Mentoring and Presentations
- 5:40 p.m.** Awards Ceremony and Closing Remarks
- 6 p.m.** Adjourn



Dr. Monica Vela

We look forward to seeing you there!

Get your CCLCM Faculty Affairs questions answered!

The easiest way to get your questions answered is to join us for our new virtual Faculty Affairs Q&A Hour:

- TUESDAYS, 7-8 A.M.
- WEDNESDAYS, NOON-1 P.M.
- THURSDAYS, 5-6 P.M.

To reserve your spot and to get the link to the virtual Q&A session, email facultyaffairsCCLCM@ccf.org. If you cannot make it during the days/times listed, you can always contact facultyaffairsCCLCM@ccf.org or [visit our website](#) to get helpful links, documents and information to begin the faculty appointment process.

CCLCM faculty/students: Apply for funding to promote interprofessional education and collaboration

The Healthcare Delivery and Implementation Science Center (HDISC) and Office of Interprofessional Learning (OIPL) are pleased to announce the 2021 Interprofessional Learning (IPL) grant opportunity.

The goal of the awards is to support projects involving the study and implementation of innovative approaches that promote IPL in health professions education. This may be accomplished through the study of new or existing IPL opportunities within the Health Education Campus or hospital clinical services.

Projects should focus on one of the following areas:

- › Creating learning environments that enable professionals to share their views and learn from one another in a way that is meaningful to their practice.
- › Defining competencies that facilitate IPL and identifying strategies to foster the development of such competencies.
- › Piloting innovative, theory-driven teaching approaches to maximize learning and minimize barriers to IPL implementation.
- › Designing programs that enhance the IPL collaborative practices

Eligible applicants can apply for a funding award of up to \$10,000.

How do I apply?

[Submit a Letter of Intent](#) by Monday, March 15, to be considered for the 2021 award cycle. (Google Chrome is the recommended browser.)

Finalists will be notified in April, and their Requests for Proposals will be due in May. Awardees will be notified by July 1.

Questions? Please email IPL@ccf.org.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Nathan
Radakovich



Passionate about medicine from both clinical and academic standpoints, Nathan Radakovich ('21) found himself at a crossroads in 2016 about whether or not to pursue his MD or PhD. At the time, he was a post-baccalaureate fellow at the Vaccine Research Center at the National Institutes of Health. When a colleague suggested he study at CCLCM, Nathan found that the program “struck the perfect balance” between gaining clinical experience and teaching.

In his past five years pursuing an MD, Nathan, who is from Bellingham, Wash., has been involved with various machine learning research projects in the fields of oncology and cancer immunology. In September 2020, he successfully defended his thesis, which proposed an artificial intelligence approach to evaluating treatment responses for patients with myelodysplastic syndrome.

“People who are treated for this disorder often have to wait about six months before it’s clear whether or not they are going to benefit from chemotherapy,” says Nathan. “By looking at patients’ blood counts over time, we found a way to make earlier assessments about whether or not they should pursue other treatment options.”

Nathan continues to immerse himself in research opportunities related to machine learning as he approaches graduation in May. In 2020, he won an American Society of Hematology’s Abstract Achievement Award and presented his thesis, along with some corollary work, at the organization’s annual meeting.

Inspired by the mentorship he’s encountered at Cleveland Clinic, Nathan’s career goal is to one day run his own research lab while also seeing patients.

“All of the people I’ve encountered at Cleveland Clinic have been really happy to give their perspective and help figure out options based on one’s level of training,” he says. “Whatever you happen to be doing, there’s the opportunity to teach and get involved with education for students or fellows.”

Nathan graduated summa cum laude from Whitman College in Walla Walla, Wash., where he majored in biochemistry, biophysics and molecular biology. After graduation, he moved to the east coast – Bethesda, Md., – to work on HIV vaccine research at the NIH.

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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT Nathan Radakovich *continued*

Now in the Midwest, Nathan enjoys running and biking at Cleveland Metroparks, especially the North Chagrin Reservation. Still, he says his favorite route is a six-mile stretch from Cleveland Heights to Lake Erie, through the Cleveland Cultural Gardens on Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Nathan also spends his free time playing jazz and bluegrass music, on his own and in small groups. He took up bass and guitar around the age of 8 and recently taught himself how to play the mandolin.

“Learning how to play mandolin in the past six months has been a fun quarantine project for me,” he says.

In terms of what he is most proud of during his time at CCLCM, Nathan says it’s his ability to navigate through uncertainty.

“In the past the five years, we’ve seen big changes in medicine, and I’m sure that’s going to keep happening throughout my career,” he says. “I’ve gotten comfortable with the idea of not knowing everything at once and figuring out how to make the most of it.”



Ventilator project article named Article of the Year

Congratulations to Jacob Knorr ('22), Megan Sheehan ('22), Daniel Santana ('22), Sergey Samorezov, MSME, Ibrahim Sammour, MD, Michael Deblock, PhD, Barry Kuban, BS, Neal Chaisson, MD, and Robert Chatburn, MHHS, RRT-NPS, for having their article, "[Design and performance testing of a novel emergency ventilator for in-hospital use.](#)" selected by the *Canadian Journal of Respiratory Therapy* editorial board for its CJRT Article of the Year: Informing Practice Award for 2020.

The article details how the team developed the CleVent Emergency Ventilator last year to address a ventilator shortage during a pandemic. Jacob, Megan and Daniel participated as first authors on the manuscript.

The team's article will be displayed on the CJRT homepage throughout 2021, and the team has been invited to present their work during the pre-conference week of the journal's 2021 virtual conference, April 26-30.

Congratulations, team!



Jacob Knorr



Megan Sheehan



Daniel Santana



Sergey Samorezov



Dr. Ibrahim Sammour



Dr. Michael Deblock



Barry Kuban



Dr. Neal Chaisson



Robert Chatburn

Two students selected for AMEF scholarship

Jacob Knorr ('22) and Lauren Larkin ('21) were each selected to receive a scholarship award from the Academy of Medicine Education Foundation (AMEF) Board of Trustees to assist with their 2020 academic year.

Among other criteria, applicants must demonstrate academic achievement and an interest in community activities as well as possess leadership skills.

The announcement of their and other students' awards appears in the AMEF [Foundation Facts](#) newsletter, beginning on page 6.

Congratulations, Jacob and Lauren!



Jacob Knorr



Lauren Larkin

Lauren Larkin named Mover & Shaker

Congratulations to Lauren Larkin ('21) who was named one of Northeast Ohio's Top 25 under 35 Movers & Shakers. The award is given by the Cleveland Professional 20/30 Club, the longest-running young professionals group in Northeast Ohio, to recognize young leaders who demonstrate excellence in their work, community engagement and philanthropic efforts.

Lauren will be honored at a virtual award ceremony on March 25.

Congratulations, Lauren!



Advancing Our Mission

The Education Institute welcomes donations to advance its mission of educating those who serve. Individuals, families, foundations and corporations that believe in the value of education are making a difference in the future of patient care with their generosity. To learn how you can help, please contact Theresa Holthaus at 216.444.1839 or at holthat@ccf.org.

Alumni: Share Your News

We'd like to hear about what you've been doing since graduation. If you have news to share (maybe you're involved in an interesting research project or you recently returned from a global health mission), please email Laura Greenwald at greenwl@ccf.org.

InSight

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21-EDU-2068160