Rural-PRIME Alumni

Where are they now?

We have alumni in a wide variety of specialties. It is great to see how diverse our Rural-PRIME family is!

Emergency Medicine

Oregon Health Sciences, Portland OR
Texas A&M, Temple TX
UC San Francisco Medical Center
University of Arizona Hospital, Tucson, AZ

Family Medicine

University of Colorado, P. Collins, CO
Alaska Family Medicine Residency, Anchorage, AK
Mercy Medical Center, Redding, CA
UC San Francisco Medical Center
Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Glendale, CA
White Memorial Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA
Swedish Medical Center, Seattle, WA
Sutter Health, Sacramento, CA
Sutter Medical Center of Santa Rosa, Santa Rosa, CA
Ventura County Medical Center, Ventura, CA
University of Minnesota Medical School, Duluth, MN
Shasta Community Health Center, Redding, CA
Central Washington Family Medicine, Yakima, WA

Internal Medicine

Yale, New Haven CT
UC Davis Med Ctr

Obstetrics and Gynecology

Kaiser Permanente, Oakland CA
Santa Clara Valley Medical Center
University of Washington, Seattle WA
UC Davis Medical Center

Pediatrics

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM
University of Arizona Hospital, Tucson, AZ
Children's Hospital, Oakland, CA

Ophthalmology

Harbor Medical, Baltimore MD

Psychiatry

San Mateo Behavioral Health

Learning Opportunities in Puerto Rico

Dr. Bruce Greenberg, Mee Memorial Hospital

Rural-PRIME students are invited to participate in an elective opportunity at Hospital Castaner in Puerto Rico. The hospital is located a couple of hours from the capital city of San Juan, and is the most rural hospital on the Island, situated in the mountains.

The Hospital was built in the 1940s by the US Public Health Service, because of the isolation of the community from medical services. They have a small inpatient facility, multiple primary care clinics, an ER, and several outreach programs that serve the farming community. The hospital currently has a handful of family practitioners, a pediatrician, and a gynecologist on staff. Dr. Jose Rodriguez is a Family Physician and the Medical Director and can be reached at: joseor@coqui.net. He is a friend of mine and would be particularly excited if a UCD student is seeking information.

For more information about the hospital, please visit the website at: hospitalcastaner.com. If you are would like additional information about elective opportunities, please contact Dr. Greenberg or Dr. Rodriguez directly.

Bruce Greenberg, M.D.
bgreenberg@meememorial.com

Jose Rodriguez, M.D.
joseor@coqui.net
Rural-PRIME Class of 2018

Who joined us in 2014?

A group of 10 incredible students joined us this year. They came from all over California and are an inspiring group! Here is a little bit about them:

Chelsea Gong, Visalia - By practicing in a rural area, I believe that I will be able to serve the hard-working people who live there as well as be able to build strong relationships with my patients in order to serve them in the best way possible. I hope to practice family medicine in a rural area of California, possibly specializing in geriatrics.

Daniel Hernandez, San Diego - I believe Rural-PRIME will enrich my medical education by providing me with the appropriate tools to serve rural communities and to help decrease health disparities in these areas. I am excited to incorporate innovative technologies such as telemedicine into my practice in primary care.

Emanuel Jaramillo, Live Oak - Growing up in a small farming town and having to travel long distances to receive high quality healthcare has impacted my motivation to pursue a career in rural medicine. I feel that Rural-PRIME will provide me with the skills necessary to become an influential physician leader who will help address these health disparities.

Melanie Koppula, Turlock - While working in a rural hospital near my home town, I recognized the need and limited access of high quality health care in underserved areas. I felt inspired to pursue a medical care that emphasizes care for underserved populations.

Fiona Scott, Davis - Through graduate research on farmworker health and my time as co-director of a clinic, which serves a large farmworker population, I have developed a comprehensive understanding of the challenges accompanying life in a rural area.

Daniel Ayala-Ortiz, Ukiah - My goal is to serve the underserved Latino population in California. I would like to return to Ukiah, California, and work as a primary care physician who specializes in diabetes management.

Maria Gonzalez, San Mateo - I am excited to contribute to the Rural-PRIME program though my experiences in community-based health research and patient-focused volunteer activities. My long-term goal is to practice medicine in a rural location.

One of my goals is to establish a sustainable model for affordable medical services in low-income communities.

Sundip Jagpal, Yuba City - I chose Rural-PRIME because my family background pushes me to work in an agricultural setting similar to my hometown. I believe the extra training and support provided in the program will help me become a great doctor for whatever small community I end up serving. I hope to develop skills that I will need to help rural communities overcome obstacles that may be limiting its members from accessing the best available treatments in medicine.

Jason Ortiz, Salinas - I strongly believe in UC Davis school of Medicine’s efforts to train physicians to serve rural underserved populations. It is my goal to work in an underserved community as a physician to improve the quality of health of my future patients. It is my hope to inspire the youth of these areas to pursue careers in medicine to practice in a rural underserved community.

Steven Russo, Livermore - My interest in rural medicine grew from my experiences coaching underserved youth soccer players in my hometown of Livermore. I founded TEEM – a nonprofit organization focused on preventing youth sports injuries and improving athlete access to healthcare. With Rural-PRIME’s focus on telemedicine and unique community rotations, I will learn the skills and knowledge to bring healthcare to any community.
Welcome!

New Rural-PRIME Faculty

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Blanca Solis, our new Associate Director of Pre-Clinical Curriculum and Faculty Advisor. Dr. Solis obtained her bachelor’s degree in Peace Studies from Claremont McKenna College in 1990. She earned her medical degree at the University of Davis, School of Medicine in 1997. Dr. Solis was the first to complete the integrated Family Medicine and Obstetrics Residency at the University of Davis in 2001.

During this time, Dr. Solis was awarded the 1998 UC Davis Family Medicine Resident of the Year, inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, and bestowed with the Outstanding Resident Award from the California Academy of Family Physicians. During her medical school and residency tenure at UC Davis, Dr. Solis was a leader at the UC Davis student-run clinic, Clinica Tepati. She served as a preceptor, medical director, and ultimately the instructor of record. In 2005, Clinica Tepati bestowed on her the Angel de La Guardia Award.

While at UC Davis, Dr. Solis was known as a dedicated teacher. She taught in the residency clinics in Ob/Gyn, on Labor and delivery, and in the Pediatrics Adolescent clinic. She was a regular instructor in the 3rd year Ob/GYN clerkship, teaching physical exam and adolescent health. Most recently, she worked at The Permanente Medical Group as a Women’s Health provider. She is happy to be back at UC Davis working with medical students and residents. She will work with Drs. Eidson-Ton and Fancher on the Rural-PRIME, San Joaquin Valley PRIME and TEACH-MS program curriculum and advising for Rural-PRIME students.

The Interview Trail!

Current fourth and fifth year students have been interviewing all over the country, searching for the perfect residency program. Everyone is excited to find out where they will spend the next chapter of their lives. We have students applying for residencies in family medicine, emergency medicine, general surgery, and pediatrics. Alumni- if you are interested in connecting with students applying to your program, please contact Alexa Calfee at alcalfee@ucdavis.edu. She will try to connect alumni with applicants. It is the first year we are doing this!

Research Publication

Congratulations to Dr. Kathleen Rooney, Rural-PRIME alumna, on the publication of her resident research project. Dr. Rooney presented this abstract at an academic meeting for the North American Forum on Family Planning in Fall, 2014. LARC utilization based on type of medical abortion follow-up at an academic center. Kathleen A. Rooney, Ashleigh E. Denny, Melody Y. Hou, Mitchell D. Creinin.

Upcoming Events

Match Week- March 16-20
UC Davis School of Medicine Commencement Ceremony- May 29
Rural-PRIME Orientation for Class of 2019- July 23-24

This newsletter is provided as an informal update for students, alumni and rural partners to share current events, opportunities and program updates. If you would like to contribute information to the newsletter or if you would like to be added to the distribution list, please send an email to alcalfee@ucdavis.edu or heather.mora@ucmc.ucdavis.edu.

Rural Clerkship Rotations

Rural clerkship rotations are one of the best and most distinguishing aspects of the Rural-PRIME program. They are highly regarded for their teaching and unique experiences. Each year we work to expand the program. Our sites now include:

- Tahoe Forest Hospital, Truckee CA- Primary Care, Pediatrics, and Surgery (new!)
- Shasta Community Health Center, Redding, CA- Primary Care and Pediatrics
- Oak Valley Hospital, Oakdale CA- Primary Care and Pediatrics
- San Joaquin General Hospital, Stockton, CA- Surgery
- Mee Memorial Hospital, King City CA- Primary Care, Pediatrics and OB/GYN
- Sutter Amador Hospital, Jackson CA- Primary Care and Pediatrics
- Mammoth Hospital, Mammoth Lakes, CA- Pediatrics (new!)

Preceptor Update

Welcome to our NEW PRECEPTORS! We are so glad to have you join us!

Letitia Bradford, Obiloh Egu, Liz McCraven, James McGhee, Jan Eperiesi, Julie Conyers, Amy Conrad and Marcia Nelson.