Claire Pomeroy, Vice Chancellor for Human Health Sciences and Dean of the School of Medicine, is pleased to announce the endowment of the Susan P. Baker-Stephen P. Teret Chair in Violence Prevention and the Vice Chancellor’s Chair in Violence Prevention.

First Baker-Teret chairholder: Garen J. Wintemute, M.D., M.P.H.

Vice Chancellor’s chair: under recruitment

About UC Davis Emergency Medicine and the Violence Prevention Research Program

The UC Davis Department of Emergency Medicine provides comprehensive emergency services for an area that includes 33 counties and 6 million people. The department serves as the primary teaching site for a fully accredited residency program, oversees one of the nation’s busiest adult and pediatric emergency departments and is the entry point for the region’s only Level I adult and pediatric trauma center.

The department is home to the UC Davis Violence Prevention Research Program, created to conduct research that will further America’s efforts to understand and prevent violence. Major areas of emphasis currently include the prediction of criminal behavior, the effectiveness of waiting period/background check programs, and the determinants of firearm violence.

Violence Prevention Research Program
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GAREN J. WINTEMUTE, M.D., M.P.H., professor of emergency medicine, public health epidemiologist, director of the UC Davis Violence Prevention Research Program and the world-renowned expert on the public health crisis of gun violence, is the first Susan P. Baker-Stephen P. Teret Chair in Violence Prevention at UC Davis Health System.

Dr. Wintemute is recognized as one of the nation’s foremost scholars addressing violence as a public health problem, and is a national expert on firearm violence and public policies and attitudes related to firearms. He has received numerous honors from professional and academic societies and the news media for his commitment to improve public health and safety, including selection by Time magazine as one of 15 international “heroes of medicine.” Not satisfied with saving lives as a front-line emergency medicine physician in a major urban trauma center, Dr. Wintemute works to prevent people from ever becoming patients in an emergency department. His research focuses on the nature of violence and the development of effective prevention measures, and he has published findings from numerous studies regarding firearm accessibility, connections between firearm ownership and violence, and related subjects. Dr. Wintemute often employs personal courage in his pursuit of data and insights, working undercover at gun stores, gun shows and pawn shops to investigate how illegal sales are made. Dr. Wintemute has testified before Congress, the California Legislature and various local governments and provided comments to Frontline, CNN, the New York Times, and other outlets. He has served as a consultant for the National Institute of Justice; the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; the World Health Organization; the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and the American Red Cross.

Dr. Wintemute earned his medical degree in 1977 from UC Davis School of Medicine, where he also completed his residency in family medicine. In 1981, he was medical coordinator at Nong Samet Refugee Camp in Cambodia, a remote area that had only recently been liberated from the governance of Pol Pot’s Khmer Rouge. Dr. Wintemute later returned stateside to merge his medical training with public policy, and earned an M.P.H. at Johns Hopkins in 1983.

As Violence Prevention Research Program director, Dr. Wintemute works to maximize the impact of current studies, advance research on multiple fronts and develop a program that will train the next generation of researchers in the field.

About the Susan P. Baker-Stephen P. Teret Chair in Violence Prevention

The purpose of the endowed chair is to give special recognition to the individual selected to serve as the director of the UC Davis Violence Prevention Research Program and to honor the named individuals, health policy professors Susan Baker and Stephen Teret, for their lifelong dedication to violence prevention and research and for serving as national role models in this critical field.

About the Vice Chancellor’s Chair in Violence Prevention

The purpose of the endowed chair is to give special recognition to the individual selected to serve as the inaugural associate director of the Violence Prevention Research Program, on the basis of excellence in research on violence, injury, or a related field. This chair is currently under recruitment.