

Behavioral and Social Science Teaching and Learning at David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA



Margaret L. Stuber, M.D.

March 2009



Who are we?

- UCLA and UCR and CDU
- Diversity of students
- Commitment to underserved
- PRIME program



My roles

- Director of Behavioral and Social Science curriculum
- Director of Medical Student Education for Psychiatry
- Co-Chair of Medical Education Committee



Institute of Medicine Reports

- NIH funding for 9 schools to develop curriculum in behavior and social sciences
- NIH funding for 12 schools to develop curriculum in health disparities and health care disparities



Topics to address

- Doctor-patient interaction
- Patient behavior
- Physician behavior
- Mind-body
- Medical economics
- Health care systems
- Medical ethics
- Health care disparities
- Cross-cultural issues



LCME and ACGME

- Accreditation of medical schools and residency training programs
- Emphasis on professionalism
- This includes communication, honesty, openness to feedback



To quickly review

- Health disparities and cultural diversity thread
- Doctoring (behavioral and social sciences) thread
- Neuroscience curriculum
- Future ventures



Health disparities and diversity

- First day of medical school: ½ day on cultural diversity, presentation and small group discussions
- Threaded in Doctoring throughout
- Day at start of first year of medical school on health disparities
- Thesis project for CDU students



History of Doctoring at UCLA

- Started at UCLA in 1993
- Three year required curriculum
- Small groups of medical students
- Two faculty tutors, one an MD, the other from behavioral and social sciences (modeling partnership)
- Focus on skills and reflection



Year One: practice in

- Getting a history (nonverbal too!)
- Sexual history (consider diversity)
- Giving information
- Health behavior counseling
- Writing a SOAP note
- Working with families
- Adherence to medical instruction



Clinical experience in the first two years

- Panel of cancer survivors
- Home visits to families of chronically ill children (including autism)
- Teaching by people with RA, bipolar disorder, AA groups
- Video of people with developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injury



Year Two: practice in

- Interacting with “difficult” patients
- Interacting through a translator
- Telling someone there is no cure
- Assessing people with cognitive disabilities
- Integrative medicine
- Integrating the history with the physical



Year Three: reflection and application while on wards

- Self-care (mindfulness, yoga, nutrition)
- Teamwork (with other disciplines too!)
- Medical error and apologies
- Moral decision making
- Health care disparities (unconscious bias)
- Hospice and end of life
- Disabilities (cognitive and psychiatric too)
- Integrative medicine (CAM, spirituality)



Consortium

- NIH extending funding to 9 medical schools to develop curriculum in social and behavioral sciences
- Focus moving beyond medical students to residents and faculty
- NIH is expanding this to other schools



Inter-professional Education

- Pilot with advanced practice nursing students integrated with third year medical students
- Now to become a regular course for advanced practice nursing students



Professionalism

- National Board of Medical Examiners pilot of 360 degree formative feedback about professional behaviors
- Five schools creating tools for assessing medical students and faculty
- Huge emphasis on this in graduate medical education accreditation



Health Care Systems

- Identified by medical students as an area which they felt was not adequately covered in the curriculum
- Identified by the Macy Foundation as an area of concern
- A major focus of the new Doctoring 3 curriculum



NCCAM funding

- Integrative medicine curriculum
- Collaborative with UCSF
- Work with other training centers



Marcus Family Foundation

- Funding a medical school to develop teaching for faculty about students with disabilities
- Expands beyond sensory and orthopedic disabilities to learning and psychiatric disabilities
- Will be funded next year