



Welcome to OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY



MARY STEPHENSON, MD MSc
Theresa S. Falcon-Cullinan
Professor & Head

Welcome to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of Illinois at Chicago!

We are getting ready for our first year OB/GYN residents who will arrive in the middle of June. In the spring, an innovative OB/GYN Boot Camp for M4 medical students from University of Illinois at Chicago, University of Chicago and Loyola University who are entering an OB/GYN residency was held in our newly renovated OB/GYN Simulation Center.

Our first year residents include:

Rebecca A. Commito, MD, from Cooper Medical School of Rowan University

Carly S. Kruse, MD, MSc, from University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

Nicole N. Lugo Santiago, MD, from New York University School of Medicine

Jessica Morgan, MD, from New York University School of Medicine
James J. Morong, MBBS, from University of Queensland School of Medicine

Joanna M. Ryan, MD, from University of Illinois College of Medicine

Arielle B. Schultz, MD, from Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine at Florida Atlantic University



CONTACT US:

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology

820 S. Wood Street, M/C 808, Chicago, IL 60612

P 312.996.7006

F 312.996.4238

E uic.obgyn.dept@gmail.com

We look forward to also welcoming our new subspecialty fellows starting in July 2017:

Tia Jackson-Bey, MD, MPH, Fellow in Reproductive Endocrinology &

Infertility, completing OB/Gyn Residency at Duke University

Erin Cavanaugh, MD, Fellow in Global Women's Health, completing OB/Gyn Residency at Temple University

We have several new faculty members:

Catherine Wheatley, Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, who joined the Department in May 2017. Dr. Wheatley was awarded the CREOG National Faculty Award for Excellence in Resident Education in 2016.

Dr. Sophia Rodriguez, Instructor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, will join us in July 2017 after completing her residency at UIC. She has been recognized as an outstanding teacher.

Dr. Erica Hinz, Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, will join us in August 2017, after completing her fellowship in Family Planning at NYU.

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Dr. Jonah Fleisher, Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, will join us in August 2017. He is fellowship trained in Family Planning and has been active in residency education.

Dr. Aparna Ramanathan, Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, will join us in August 2017, after completing a two-year fellowship in Global Health Leadership and Innovations, primarily working in Kenya.

Dr. Catherine Ford, Assistant Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology, will join us in September 2017, after completing a two-year fellowship in Global Women's Health in Zambia.

Last year's Annual Conference was a great success, thanks to the outstanding contributions from our distinguished invited and Departmental faculty, along with our dedicated conference organizers and staff. Please visit our News & Events webpage which for a summary of our 2016 Department of OB/Gyn Conference [on here](#).

This year, our **Challenges in OB/Gyn: Pearls for Practice Conference** will be on **October 26-27, 2017**; please mark your calendar! More to come soon.

The Department was recently notified of our **2016-2017 Castle Connolly Top Ob/Gyns**. Please join me in congratulating the following clinicians for being peer-recognized regionally and nationally for their excellence in patient care!

Gloria Elam, MD, Top Doctors
William Kobak, MD, Top Doctors
Rajul Kothari, MD, Top Doctors, Gynecologic Oncology
Humberto Scoccia, MD, America's Top Doctors
Mary D. Stephenson, MD, MSc, America's Top Doctors
Sondra Summers, MD, Top Doctors
Mark Vajaranant, MD, Top Doctors

*Other **news...***

Several faculty will be go to Ayder Hospital in Mekelle, northern Ethiopia this spring as part of our Department's **MELA Project, which is our Department's Global Women's Health Initiative to reduce maternal mortality in Ethiopia**. We established a formal partnership with Mekelle University in Ethiopia in 2015 to support and improve the quality of their newly established OB/Gyn Residency Program. Since then, faculty from our Department, as well as other UIC Departments have been providing OB/Gyn educational support and research development. **Dr. Gelila Goba, Assistant Professor and Director of the OBGYN Global Women's Health Fellowship**, leads the MELA Project, with support from the IDP Foundation, Chicago IL, and a UIC Chancellor Seed Grant. **Funding is crucial to build sustainability for our Global Health initiative, so please consider giving to the Mela Project!**

The renovation of the **OB/GYN Simulation Center** is now complete! Through a generous donation from **Dr. Howard Grundy, the Women of Steel Obstetrical Simulation Lab was inaugurated in July 2016**. **Further funding is needed, so please contact me if you are interested in donating to this educational initiative!**

We continue to expand our Department and we are actively recruiting faculty. Please check out the links below:

**Open Rank Faculty, Maternal Fetal Medicine
 Genetic Counselor**

Our diverse faculty and staff are committed to moving the Department forward through their hard work and passion for excellence in patient care, education and research. Feel free to stop by my office to discuss the exciting changes taking place in our thriving Department.

Best regards,

Mary Stephenson, MD MSc

Theresa S. Falcon-Cullinan Professor & Department Head

University of Illinois at Chicago

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