

Dear Colleagues:

I'm very pleased to announce that Mitchell Feldman, MD, MPhil has accepted my offer to become the chief of the Division of General Internal Medicine (DGIM), based at our UCSF Health sites.

Mitch received his BA from Johns Hopkins, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa. He completed a Masters in Philosophy (in social anthropology) from Cambridge University, and received his MD from UCSF. He joined our faculty after completing his residency at UCSF in the early 1990s.



Since joining our faculty, Mitch has made contributions in many areas. In addition to being a superb clinician and teacher, he has had a distinguished career as an investigator and a leader.

His research has focused on the identification and management of behavioral and psychiatric issues in medical patients. His more than 100 peer-reviewed papers have been published in prominent journals, and his research has been funded by the NIH and major foundations such as Robert Wood Johnson. He is currently co-editor of the *Journal of General Internal Medicine*, the leading academic journal in the field, and lead editor of the book, *Behavioral Medicine: A Guide for Clinical Practice*, now in its fourth edition.

Mitch has also been a pioneer in the promotion of mentorship. In 2006, he became the Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Mentoring at UCSF. In this role, Mitch established UCSF's Faculty Mentoring Program, a widely admired initiative that has served as a model for many other institutions.

Mitch has received a number of honors, and they illustrate the breadth of his contributions, both at UCSF and around the world. They include the Crede Award for Teaching Excellence from the DGIM, the "Article of the Year" from both Academy Health and the Society of General Internal Medicine, and a Fulbright Research Scholarship for study in Kyoto, Japan.

Our DGIM is known as one of the premier divisions of general medicine in the U.S. Its primary care residency program is at or near the top in the nation, it provides superb clinical care to tens of thousands of patients (including many of our own faculty, staff, and trainees), and it is a leader in medical education. Its research contributions span many fields, including health disparities, quality improvement, medical education, informatics, epidemiology of chronic diseases, and behavioral health, to name just a few.

Yet primary care is undergoing a major transformation: shifting to a population health perspective, focusing increasingly on both classic medical as well as social determinants of disease (and wellness), and beginning to integrate the fruits of precision medicine research. Moreover, we all recognize that longitudinal care will increasingly be delivered in settings other than the classic office visit, including many facilitated by new technologies ranging from telemedicine to home sensors. The electronic health record has added a new enabler of care, and also a major stressor. It's a time of great change, and with it comes exciting opportunities as well as real threats.

In this environment, both the search committee and I believed that it was vital to have a DGIM chief with the skills to redesign the practice for the needs of the future, to promote mentorship, to improve the engagement and morale of our people, and to continue to support our world-class research and

educational enterprises. Mitch not only has these skills, but, in 18 months as interim chief, has demonstrated them amply. Many DGIM faculty members and staff went out of their way to tell me what a superb job he has done.

My thanks to the search committee (chaired with great skill by Christine Ritchie), to the DGIM faculty, staff, and trainees for their input and patience, to the UCSF Health leaders (particularly Josh Adler, Susan Smith, Coleen Kivlahan, Kevin Grumbach, and David Morgan) who have supported this search and the DGIM more generally, and to the prior DGIM chiefs, including Steve Schroeder, Steve Cummings, and Eliseo Perez-Stable, who have built such a strong foundation for the future. I am confident that under Mitch's leadership, the division will continue to lead, innovate, and inspire.

-- Bob

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