

Dean's Teaching Awards

Allison Grayev, MD

Jeannina Smith, MD

Erick Tarula, MD

Susan Wenker, PT, PhD, GCS

Dean's Award for Excellence in Medical Student Research Mentorship

James Conway, MD, FAAP

Dean's Teaching Awards



Allison Grayev, MD

Department of Radiology

Dr. Grayev joined the neuroradiology faculty at UWSMPH in 2010. Over the past 11 years, she has held numerous leadership positions within undergraduate and graduate medical education. Dr. Grayev currently serves as the Associate Program Director for Resident Assessment, Director of Resident Education in Neuroradiology, Assistant Block Leader, and Director of Phase 1 Radiology Curriculum. She has demonstrated a high level of teaching and mentoring effectiveness, as well as played an important role in designing innovative curriculum such as integrating Anatomy and Radiology through the iRA sessions for medical students along with her involvement in creating the new ForWard Curriculum. Dr. Grayev completed her bachelor's degree and medical degree at Pennsylvania State University.



Jeannina Smith, MD

Department of Medicine

In 2012, Dr. Smith returned to UWSMPH as faculty in the section of infectious disease. During her time here she has devoted much of her energy towards the UWSMPH educational mission. She assumed the role of Co-Course Director for the Foundations of Medicine 2 and 3 courses in 2013 and served in that role until the transition to the ForWard Curriculum in 2018. Dr. Smith made significant contributions to designing the new ForWard Curriculum, creating teaching materials and activities for the Invaders and Defense Block. Along with her leadership role as a founding Assistant Block Leader for Invaders and Defense, Dr. Smith is also the Program Director for the Infectious Disease Fellowship Program. Dr. Smith received her bachelor's degree and medical degree from the University of Wisconsin.



Erick Tarula, MD

Department of Neurology

Dr. Tarula joined the faculty at the UWSMPH in 2016. In only a few years, Dr. Tarula has taken on numerous teaching and leadership roles across all phases of the medical student curriculum. He was an initial member of the Mind & Motion design team and played an important role in conceptualizing the new curriculum. He stepped into the Assistant Block Leader role in 2017 and has continued to develop and improve the course each year. Dr. Tarula's teaching also extends into the Phase 2 Acute Care Block, Phase 3 Neurocritical care and student teaching electives, MEDiC volunteer and teaching faculty as well as currently serving as a Longitudinal Teacher Coach. Dr. Tarula is also an advocate for under-represented minority students at SMPH as well as part of national conversations, using his own experiences as a URM physician to guide his teaching and mentoring of students and residents. Dr. Tarula received his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of California.



Susan Wenker, PT, PhD, GCS

Department of Family Medicine and Community Health, Doctor of Physical Therapy Program

In 2005, Dr. Wenker joined the UWSMPH as Director of Clinical Education in the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program. She has sought out education and leadership opportunities across campus and has devoted time to a broad range of teaching efforts at UWSMPH that includes physical therapy students, PTAs and interprofessional health students. Her major contributions span the institution where she is currently the co-chair of the Teaching Academy's Clinical Affiliate Program, founding member of the Peer Feedback on Teaching (PFoT) program, and a member of the executive board of the Vice Provost for Teaching and Learning for the Collaborative Advancing Learning and Teaching. In addition, Dr. Wenker is actively involved in the Center for Interprofessional Education and also designs and teaches continuing education to help grow effective clinical instructors. Dr. Wenker received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and graduate degrees from the University of Wisconsin.

Dean's Award for Excellence in Medical Student Research Mentorship



James Conway, MD, FAAP

Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Conway joined the Pediatrics department in 2005. He is a nationally and internationally respected infectious disease expert who has spent last year leading various COVID-related efforts. He has also played a central role in the growth of global health education both on and off campus. Dr. Conway has proven to be an outstanding research mentor to students in the Shapiro Summer Research Program, Research Honors, and Path of Distinction in Research. Dr. Conway received his undergraduate degree and medical degrees from Cornell University and his residency at Northwestern University-Children's Memorial Hospital. He completed his fellowship at University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Medicine.