Program Overview

The UCLA Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship, one of the oldest and largest in the country, is a major component of the nationally acclaimed UCLA Geriatrics Program, which is perennially listed among the best in US News and World Report rankings. Strong collaborative relationships with Geriatric Medicine, Neurobehavior, and Neuropsychology are a hallmark of the fellowship, which has a rich tradition focusing on excellence in education, patient care and research. The UCLA faculty is involved nationally in geriatric psychiatry program curriculum development. Trainees are exposed to the full range of late-life psychiatric disorders in a variety of clinical settings and receive close supervision from experienced faculty. Advances in research on aging and geriatric mental health by our renowned faculty informs clinical care and exposes fellows to the most innovative approaches to psychiatric care of the older adult. Graduates of the fellowship are poised to pursue successful careers in private practice, academia, or industry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAMPLE ROTATION SCHEDULE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 months ECT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuropsychiatric Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuropsychiatry (Geropsychiatry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outpatient Clinic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West LA VA 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing Home Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit/Dementia Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sepulveda VA 20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEC 300 UCLA Medical Plaza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective rotation or Research project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO APPLY, PLEASE CONTACT:

Ronald Lopez, Administrative Director
UCLA Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior
Department of Psychiatry, Office of Education
760 Westwood Plaza, Room 37-384
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1759
RonaldLopez@mednet.ucla.edu

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
http://www.semel.ucla.edu/fellowship/geriatric
Program Description

The UCLA Geriatric Psychiatry Fellowship is an ACGME-accredited 1-year clinical training program and has up to six positions to offer to qualified applicants at the PGY5 level. After successful completion, the fellow is able to apply for subspecialty certification in Geriatric Psychiatry to the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Pass rates of former graduates taking the exam far exceed the national norm.

Training at UCLA includes instruction in the most recent technologies and psychiatric treatments, legal and ethical issues relevant to care of the older adult, and psychosocial aspects of geriatric psychopathology. In addition to advanced clinical training, the fellowship fosters development of future education leaders and researchers. Opportunities for clinical or basic research and clinician-educator paths are also available to fellows interested in academic psychiatry.

Program Faculty

Stephen Chen, MD
Linda Ercoli, PhD
Ran dall Espinosa, MD, MPH
Denise Feil, MD, MPH
Jaime Fitten, MD
Jason Jalil, MD
Lissy Jarvik, MD
Aaron Kaufman, MD
Helen Lavretsky, MD
Mario Mendez, MD, PhD
Randy Mervis, MD
Karen Miller, PhD
Stephen Rea d, MD
David Reuben, MD
Benjamin Shapiro, MD
Gary Small, MD, Director
James Spar, MD
David Sultzter, MD
Amy Walston, MD
Nancy Weintraub, MD
Pauline Wu, DO

Objectives

The overarching goal of the fellowship is to provide the applicant the requisite training and clinical experiences to function upon graduation as a most highly qualified expert in the field of geriatric psychiatry. This goal is accomplished through a weekly advanced didactic series, case supervision of clinical activity, and tailored clinical rotations. Other required educational activities include journal club, case conferences, individual scholarly projects, and Departmental Geriatric Psychiatry Grand Rounds.

Rotations

Clinical rotations occur at UCLA Medical Center in Westwood, which encompasses the Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital and 300 UCLA Medical Plaza Outpatient Clinics, and at the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System, which includes the West LA and Sepulveda campuses. In addition, fellows may arrange for elective clinical experiences at other local treatment facilities. Rotations may last 3 or 4 months and flexibility is built into the schedule to allow for individual needs, electives or research projects. Clinical experiences cover consultation in acute inpatient, intermediate and long-term care settings, electroconvulsive therapy, and both short-term and longitudinal outpatient management. A sample schedule is provided for illustration purposes:

Sample rotation schedule on back panel

Didactics

An advanced seminar series covering all the major topics in Geriatric Psychiatry is held weekly throughout the year and attendance is required. Instruction begins with tutorials on interview techniques with the older adult, basic and advanced neuropsychological assessment, and fundamental neurobehavioral examination. Clinical neurodiagnostics (structural and functional neuroimaging, EEG) is reviewed. Advanced geriatric psychopharmacology covers management of mood, psychotic, cognitive, anxiety, and other late-life behavioral disorders. Advanced psychotherapy modalities and behavioral management is also included with the option of separate individual case supervision. Each rotation also provides embedded lectures to cover individual topics more in-depth.

Research and Academic Training

While each fellow receives instruction on critical appraisal of the medical literature and application of evidence-based medicine, additional opportunities exist for those interested in pursuing an academic or research path. For those fellows wishing to pursue empirical research, the Geriatric Psychiatry Program has a number of faculty engaged in research, supported by grants from NIH, industry, and foundations. Extensive faculty collaborations exist throughout the Department of Psychiatry and the UCLA School of Medicine. Areas of expertise include: depression, dementias, neuroimaging, mental health services research, and community-based interventions. Full-time postdoctoral research fellows are supported by two Departmental T32 NR SA grants and other intramural programs. A second year of training is also possible through a Bureau of Health Professions fellowship in coordination with the Division of Geriatric Medicine. The fellowship is part of the UCLA Academic Geriatric Resource Center.

Life in Los Angeles

Whether in art or music, dining or shopping, LA sets national trends. As America’s second largest city with more than 3.6 million residents, life in Los Angeles offers the full range of cultural and culinary experiences and is an international destination. LA is home to exciting sports franchises, world class museums, acclaimed restaurants, and major artistic institutions. Over 90 languages are spoken in LA and diversity is welcomed and found among its many quaint and varied neighborhoods. Situated in Southern California, LA is known for natural beauty and less than 2 hours separates mountains, beaches, and desert. Weather is usually temperate year-round.

Salary and Fringe Benefits

- Competitive PGY5 level salary
- 4 weeks paid vacation
- Up to 5 days conference leave
- Educational resource support and stipend
- University and government holidays
- Malpractice (for fellowship-related duties); health, dental, vision, legal (individual, family or domestic partner plans) and group disability insurance
- Free attendance to the UCLA Geriatric Medicine Board Review Course
- No in-house call duties