FALL/WINTER 2019 ISSUE

01 Meet Dr. Diana Bolotin

02 Dr. Diana Bolotin, continued

03 Trainee Spotlight

04 New Faculty

05 Recent Promotions

06 New Appointments

07 Honors and Awards

08 Institutional/Departmental Honors/Awards

09 New Federal Grants

10 Gender Matters...Still

11 New Faculty, continued

12 MEET DIANA BOLOTIN, MD/PhD

Chief, Section of Dermatology

Diana Bolotin, MD/PhD, was named as Chief of the Section of Dermatology in August 2019. Dr. Bolotin served as an interim Chief for 17 months where she demonstrated remarkable leadership, fortitude and thoughtful academic vision. Under her leadership, the Section of Dermatology successfully recruited multiple new faculty members, as well as demonstrated clinical growth at both UCM and off-site satellite clinics, and expansion of the Section’s research portfolio.

Additionally, Dr. Bolotin has played a key role in the planning of the new Center for Advanced Care at River East where Dermatology will be one of the primary specialties when it opens in 2020.

Dr. Bolotin currently serves as Associate Professor of Medicine, Medical Director of the Dermatology Ambulatory Practice and Director of the Dermatologic Surgery Program. She received her BA with honors from University of California at Berkeley in 1998. She then entered Pritzker School of Medicine’s Medical Scientist Training Program where she earned her PhD in Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology in Dr. Elaine Fuchs’ laboratory in 2004, and her MD in 2006. Subsequent to her dermatology residency training at UCM, she completed an advanced ACGME-approved procedural dermatology/Mohs micrographic surgery and cutaneous oncology fellowship at Northwestern University. In 2011, she was recruited back to the faculty and named as the Director of Dermatologic Surgery. She is an active member of multiple service committees within the Department and the hospital including the Department of Medicine Quality Committee and Women’s Committee, Ambulatory Medical Directors Committee and Patient Experience Provider Advisory Group and is actively engaged in patient care, resident teaching and clinical research.

As a fellowship-trained Mohs micrographic surgeon, Dr. Bolotin has expertise in a wide range of medical and surgical treatments within cutaneous oncology, including Mohs surgery, and other surgical and non-surgical treatments of cutaneous neoplasms. Her clinical and academic interests span the field of cutaneous oncology and resident education. Having graduate training in skin biology, she is particularly interested in translational research in carcinogenesis and novel skin cancer therapies.
DIANA BOLOTIN, CONTINUED

**WF: What helped you develop leadership skills and be named to leadership positions throughout your career?**

DB: It happened organically, just by taking opportunities that came along and growing from every situation. In my first leadership opportunity in procedural dermatology, I had to hire and interface with staff, trainees and referring physicians and grow the dermatologic procedures services at UCM. My experience with this led learning how to build productive interactions with administration and opportunities to represent the Section in the larger hospital environment. When I took on the position of Ambulatory Practice Director for Dermatology, I had to learn to get things done and move projects forward while being a liaison between the clinical practice leadership and the faculty and section leadership. All of these experiences provided unique opportunities to grow and learn and have led to further growth into new roles. As the interim Section Chief, I was accepted into and completed the BSD Leadership Academy which helped hone my knowledge and skills in budgeting, faculty recruitment and retention and leading a group of diverse faculty in an academic medical center. There is always something new to learn and the university and medical center are a fertile ground to explore your strengths and hone your skills and knowledge. You never know where it will lead you but it’s worth it.

**WF: What advice do you have for women faculty in the Department of Medicine?**

DB: I have found it to be important to have a number of different role models and mentors throughout my career that I can bounce ideas off of and go to for advice. I think that having a mix of individuals both within and external to the institution and both within and outside your specialty is very important. I also actively work on maintaining a work/life balance, and am very fortunate to have a supportive husband and kids who are my touchstones for all that I do.

**WF: What is your vision for Section of Dermatology over the next few years?**

DB: My vision for the Section is for us to establish a national reputation for excellence both in general and procedural Dermatology as well as in specific faculty interests and niches within the field. This includes the establishment of a Comprehensive Skin Cancer Program (CSCP) for diagnosis, treatment and comprehensive care of patients with non-melanoma skin cancers, as well as the creation of interdisciplinary programs for autoimmune cutaneous diseases (AISD), cutaneous drug reactions and supportive oncodermatology, and a Center for Hair Loss. I am committed to maintaining a high level of educational excellence within the Section’s residency and fellowship training programs, and further enhancing the Section’s research programs. I think the Section’s future is very bright; we have already made some headway in our goals, and we’ve only just begun.

THE EDITORS

WOMEN IN THE NEWS: FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

**KIMBERLY TROTTER, MD**

**Assistant Professor of Medicine, Section of Rheumatology**

Dr. Kimberly Trotter is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Section of Rheumatology at The University of Chicago. She completed her medical degree at The University of Maryland School of Medicine and her internal medicine residency and rheumatology fellowship at The University of Chicago. After fellowship, she continued her career at The University of Chicago as a clinical rheumatologist with a special focus in systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE). She serves as the co-director for The Lupus Clinic at The University of Chicago where she follows a large cohort of lupus patients. She also serves as a preceptor for the rheumatology fellows’ clinics and as an attending physician for the inpatient rheumatology team.

Dr. Trotter is passionate about lupus and improving the outcomes for her patients. She believes that clinical trials can help provide valuable information about this disease process. As co-director of the Lupus Clinic, Dr. Trotter is involved in several ongoing clinical trials. She is currently the primary investigator for two novel drug therapies for treating patients with Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. In addition, Dr. Trotter serves as the clinical director for the Lupus Clinical Trials Consortium Data Registry (LCTC), a multicenter, national longitudinal lupus database. She is also the co-investigator for the University of Chicago’s Lupus Clinic’s longitudinal clinical and biological sample repository. The information being collected will be used to determine predictors of outcomes in SLE, look at damage accrual, as well as obtain information regarding demographic, medication, and other trends which will provide insight into lupus disease activity.

Clinical trials can only be of assistance if a wide variety of patients enroll to participate. While lupus affects certain racial and ethnic minorities at higher rates with more severe symptoms and worse outcomes, those same racial and ethnic minorities are also less likely to enroll in clinical trials. Thus, the clinical trials may not be clinically applicable to this subset of lupus patients. To help bridge this disparity, Dr. Trotter is also working with the American College of Rheumatology Lupus Clinical Trials Training (LuCTT) program, a national program focused on increasing minority patient participation in lupus clinical trials.

In addition to her clinical duties, Dr. Trotter serves as a mentor to fellows and is a speaker for The American College of Rheumatology Fellows in Training Round Table discussion. She also serves as a mentor for undergraduate students in the University of Chicago Careers in Health Professions (UCHIP) program, and is the Director of the medical student Rheumatology Physical Diagnosis Day. On a personal level, Dr. Trotter enjoys spending time with her husband and their two children, exploring Chicago, and traveling.
Kimberly Beiting, MD  
Fellow, Section of Geriatrics & Palliative Medicine

Dr. Beiting attended the University of Chicago where she received her bachelor’s degree in Comparative Human Development. After graduation, she worked as a research coordinator in medical education at the University of Chicago under Dr. Vineet Arora, and then went on to medical school at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She completed her residency at McGaw Northwestern Family Medicine Residency at Humboldt Park where she nurtured her passion for medical education and geriatrics by designing a longitudinal geriatrics didactic curriculum for her residency program for which she recently won the 2019 Illinois Academy of Family Physicians Resident Teacher of the Year award. She is currently a geriatric medicine fellow interested in medical education, curriculum development, and opioid and substance use disorders in older adults.

NEW FACULTY

Victoria Barbosa, MD  
Associate Professor of Medicine (Dermatology)

Dr. Barbosa is a general medical dermatologist and the Director of the Hair Loss Program at the University of Chicago. She is an expert in diagnosing and managing hair and scalp disorders and in treating skin of color. She has lectured nationally and internationally on these topics. She has authored scientific articles, textbook chapters, and has co-written a skin care book and co-edited a dermatology textbook. Dr. Barbosa enjoys educating and mentoring students and residents, and is interested in the use of social media as an educational resource for patients. Dr. Barbosa is the Immediate Past President of the Chicago Dermatological Society and serves on the Government Affairs Committee of the Illinois State Medical Society. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Dermatology, a member of the Chicago Dermatological Society and has been elected into the American Dermatological Association.

Ann Nguyen, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine (Cardiology)

Dr. Nguyen specializes in advanced heart failure, transplantation, mechanical circulatory support, and left ventricular assist devices. Her academic interests include metabolic dysfunction that occurs as the heart fails, alterations in the microbiome in patients with advanced heart failure, and the effect of diet and nutrition on the progression of heart failure. She attended medical school at the University of Texas at Houston, completed training in internal medicine at UT Southwestern, and cardiology and advanced heart failure fellowships at the University of Chicago.

Laura Dickens, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine (Endocrinology, Diabetes & Metabolism)

Dr. Dickens’s academic work focuses on endocrinology and women’s health throughout the lifespan. She has a particular interest in metabolic bone disease and is investigating sequential therapy for osteoporosis. Dr. Dickens also has an interest in monogenic diabetes and management of diabetes in pregnancy.

Pankti Reid, MD  
Assistant Professor of Medicine (Rheumatology)

Dr. Reid specializes in rheumatology. Her clinic cares for patients with an array of rheumatic conditions and autoimmune diseases. In particular, she is developing a clinic to evaluate and manage patients who suffer from adverse events secondary to cancer immunotherapy agents. Checkpoint inhibitors are types of cancer immunotherapy agents that harness patients’ own immune systems to combat their cancers. However, the use of these agents can sometimes lead to side effects called immune-related adverse events (irAEs) that are akin to autoimmune diseases. Dr. Reid is working to better diagnose and treat patients with irAEs. Her work also includes research in pharmacogenomics (how patients’ genetics affect their response to medications) and its impact on patient care within rheumatology. She has published in Clinical Rheumatology, Journal of Immunotherapy and American Journal of Kidney Diseases. She is the recipient of the Arnold P. Gold Humanism and Excellence in Teaching Award and has received support from the Institution of Translational Medicine at the University of Chicago.
NEW FACULTY, CONTINUED

IAZSMIN VENTURA, MD
Assistant Professor of Medicine (Rheumatology)
Dr. Ventura is a general rheumatologist with main interests in inflammatory myopathies, autoimmune lung diseases, and vasculitides. She is part of the multidisciplinary interstitial lung disease team, which also includes pulmonologists, radiologists, and lung pathologists experts in the field of interstitial lung diseases. This collaboration encompasses both patient care and clinical research. Dr. Bauer Ventura also provides expert care in inflammatory myopathies, in particular dermatomyositis, anti-synthetase syndrome, and polymyositis and closely collaborates with well-recognized professionals in the dermatology and pathology departments to achieve state-of-art medical care to these complex diseases. She is also a clinical educator and is involved in the teaching of medical students, internal medicine residents and rheumatology fellows.

MEGAN PROCHASKA, MD
Pathway to Independence Instructor (Nephrology)
Dr. Prochaska’s academic interest is in the epidemiology of kidney stones and physiologic mechanisms for urine acidification and supersaturation as they relate to kidney stone risk. She has a particular interest in how bariatric surgery and the gut microbiome influence the physiologic mechanisms that lead to increased kidney stone risk.

ABIOLA FALILAT IBRAHEEM, MD
Pathway to Independence Instructor (Hematology/Oncology)
Dr. Ibraheem is a board certified medical oncologist at the University of Chicago whose research aims to reduce global health disparities by improving patients of African Ancestry access to innovative therapies. Dr. Ibraheem’s work is focused on implementation science, global oncology and global clinical trials to enhance clinical research in Nigeria by improving the quality of informed consent and empowering patients to enroll and participate in clinical trials. She received her medical education in Obafemi Awolowo College of Health Sciences (Shagamu), Nigeria and worked in the public and private healthcare system where she developed her passion due to dismal outcome of cancer patients in Nigeria. She went on to do her internal medicine residency training at Morehouse School of Medicine and subsequently Hematology- Oncology fellowship training at University of Chicago which was adapted to accommodate her training as a global oncologist. She is leveraging her training as a global oncologist and knowledge in implementation science to actively involve patients of African Ancestry in biomarker driven innovative clinical trials. Her research promises to give a better understanding of the tumor biology of patients of African Ancestry. Other interests include ensuring the conduct of ethical clinical trials in Africa and using implementation science to improve clinical practice and capacity building.

JADE PAGKAS-BATHER, MD
Pathway to Independence Instructor (Infectious Diseases & Global Health)
Dr. Pagkas-Bather is interested in HIV prevention efforts among minority men who have sex with men (MSM) using pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP). She is also interested in ways to combine PrEP with other STI prevention strategies among this population through community outreach, and collaboration with local organizations in order to make HIV and STI prevention efforts more patient-centered and less stigmatizing.

RECENT PROMOTIONS

Promoted to the rank of Professor
Uzma Siddiqui, MD (Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition)

Promoted to the rank of Associate Professor
Pamela McShane, MD (Pulmonary/Critical Care)
Anna Zisman, MD (Nephrology)
HONORS AND AWARDS

**National/Regional Appointments/Elections, Honors, and Awards**

Vineet Arora, MD (General Internal Medicine) – Elected to the National Academy of Medicine

Julie Oyler, MD (General Internal Medicine) – Recipient of the SGIM (Midwest Region) Leader in General Internal Medicine Award

**Chicago Magazine (October 2019) Top Cancer Specialists:**

Cardiovascular Disease: Jeanne DeCara, MD

Dermatology: Diana Bolotin, MD, PhD

Hematology: Sonali M. Smith, MD; Wendy Stock, MD

**Hospice & Palliative Medicine:** Monica Malec, MD

Medical Oncology: Gini Fleming, MD; Lucy Godley, MD, PhD; Olwen Hahn, MD; Hedy Kindler, MD; Rita Nanda, MD; Olatoyosi Odenike, MD; Olufunmilayo I. Olopade, MD.

INSTITUTIONAL/DEPARTMENTAL HONORS/AWARDS

**Bucksbaum Institute for Clinical Excellence**

Senior Scholars: Kamala Cotts, MD (General Internal Medicine) and Mary Strek, MD (Pulmonary/Critical Care)

Associate Junior Scholar: Joyce Tang, MD (Hospital Medicine)

**Pritzker School of Medicine Awards**

Monica Vela, MD (General Internal Medicine) - Recipient of the 2010 Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award and elected Master of the Academy of Distinguished Medical Educators

Keme Carter, MD (Emergency Medicine) - Elected Master of the Academy of Distinguished Medical Educators.

NEW FEDERAL GRANTS

Vineet Arora (GIM), 1U01 GM132375-01, Boosting Mentor Effectives in Training of Research Scientists (Mentors) Using Cognitive Career Theory to Support Entry of Women & Minorities into Physician Scientists Careers

Eileen Dolan (HO), 1R21CA222764-01A1, Modeling Vincristine-Induced Severe and Persistent Neuropathy

Bana Jabri (GI), 2R01DK098435-05A1, Viral Infections and Celiac Disease Pathogenesis

Funmi Olopade, 1R01 MD0134552-01A1, Etiology & Genomics of Breast Cancer Progression in Women of African Ancestry

Jessica Ridgway (IDPH), 1K23MH121190-01, Predictive Analytics for Retention in HIV Care, 1R03MH121226-01A1, Our Stories, Our Lives, Our Health: Refining an Automated Identification of HIV-Negative, PREP-eligible Women in the Emergency Department

Esra Tasali (P/CC), 1R01DK120312-01A1, Technology-Supported Treatment of Sleep Apnea in Prediabetes, 1R01HL146127-01, Mechanisms of Prediabetic States in Obstructive Sleep Apnea

Elizabeth Tung (GIM), 1K23HL145090-01A1, Community Violence as a Social Risk Factor for Cardiometabolic Diseases: Neighborhood Dynamics from Structures to Self.

DISCRIMINATION, ABUSE, HARASSMENT, and BURNOUT IN SURGICAL RESIDENCY TRAINING.


The topics of gender discrimination and sexual harassment in medicine have been increasingly recognized over the past decade. There have been a number of studies shining a light on the magnitude of these problems. Most recently, there was a study published in the NEJM in October 2019 that examined discrimination and harassment faced by surgical residents. Data was collected from the 2018 American Board of Surgery In-Training Examination and included responses from 7409 surgical residents (99.3% of all eligible residents). Gender discrimination was common among female surgical residents with 65.1% of female residents reporting experiencing discrimination based on gender, compared to 10% of male residents.
GENDERS MATTERS STILL, CONTINUED

These were often not just one-time experiences for these residents, with 26.9% of female residents reported monthly occurrences of gender discrimination. While we traditionally think of gender discrimination within the hierarchy of the medical structure, this study found that the most common source of reported gender discrimination was actually from patients and their families (49.2% from patients/families, 23.6% from nurses/staff, 17.6% from attendings). Sexual harassment was unfortunately common with 19.9% of women and 3.9% of men reporting sexual harassment. For female residents, this harassment came equally from patients or patients’ families (31.2%) and attendings (30.9%), but also came from other residents (15.4%) and nurses or staff (11.7%). This study also highlighted that exposure to any type of discrimination, abuse or sexual harassment was associated with higher rates of burnout, and that these risk factors may explain the higher burnout rate for female surgery residents compared to male residents (42.4% vs 35.9%, OR 1.33; CI 1.20 to 1.48), as the difference in burnout rate by gender disappeared when the analysis was adjusted for exposure to mistreatment.


THE BALANCING ACT:
HOW DO WOMEN BALANCE ACADEMIC SUCCESS WITH HOME AND PERSONAL LIFE? WHAT ADVICE WOULD WOMEN GIVE OTHER WOMEN?

Professional Accomplishments

Keegan Checkett, MD is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Section of Emergency Medicine and the Director of the International Emergency Medicine Medical Education Fellowship Program at the University of Chicago. She completed her internal medicine residency training at the University of California – San Francisco and worked as a hospitalist on Navajo Nation before matriculating into the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at the University of Chicago, where she joined the faculty after graduating in 2011. Dr. Checkett served as core faculty for the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam, and remains active on the Education Committee for the African Federation of Emergency Medicine.

Since 2014, Dr. Checkett has worked with Partners in Health in Haiti as the Emergency Medicine Residency Co-Director at University Hospital of Mirebalais, where she developed and implemented a unique curriculum for the first and only emergency medicine residency in Haiti. The three-year training program meets all international standards, has begun the ACGME-I accreditation process (making it the first low-income country EM program to do so), and recently graduated its third class, and completed a successful transition to local leadership.

Work-Life Balance

Living and working full-time in two different countries simultaneously requires routine and organization, particularly around packing and travel. Necessary tools include:

- InstaCart or PrimeNow: order from the Port au Prince Airport, and groceries are on my doorstep when I get home
- Eagle Creek zip-around Compression Bags: Cuts the bulk of clothes in half, no wrinkles
- Dr. Bronner’s Peppermint Soap: I haven’t tried brushing my teeth with it, but it does everything else!
- Starbucks Via Instant Coffee: zoom ➔
THE BALANCING ACT, CONTINUED

• Om on the Range: a regular yoga practice keeps me steady. In Chicago, I practice at Om. When I travel, I use their podcasts. I find comfort in practicing with my home instructors and classmates, wherever I may be in the world.

• iOS Reminders app: I use a modified version of Getting Things Done. Reminders is brilliant in its simplicity and reliability; set an alarm, jot down a note, and trust all things go to the cloud, even when I’m on limited and slow data.

• GoogleDocs and Gmail: both work well offline, which is important when I’m traveling. Docs and Sheets are particularly great for collaborating internationally on documents.

Regarding personal life, I take a long view on balance. Those six years in Tanzania and Haiti didn’t include much time outside work, but it was necessary to do high quality, ethical work, and I am privileged to have had that opportunity. Now back in Chicago, I am catching up on my personal life and taking time to unpack some boxes, hang out with friends, and work toward single motherhood, though currently am learning patience and empathy with unanticipated infertility.

Like most professional women, I had a ten-year plan for my career that factored in, but did not pause for, family. Life doesn’t always acknowledge idealized calendars, robust as our organizational systems may be. I’ve never felt my femaleness more than in the past year, with my career and my personal life at odds in a way that I had not experienced, and my male colleagues will never. Academic women have made tremendous strides toward professional parity, and I look forward to future collaboration and innovation, including our male colleagues, to further level the playing field.

Advice to Women Faculty and Trainees

Choose the job you love.

Switching from IM to EM was rough—and absolutely worth it. Everyone deserves to have a job she loves. Be brave, and go after it.

Find colleagues and a chief who support and empower you, and who you respect and admire.

My chief, Linda Drueinger, and colleagues, all twenty of them, make my work possible. Their support for the development of the international EM (and infinite generosity in scheduling) enables my travel, and as such, my involvement with the Tanzania and Haiti EM residencies is on behalf of the entire UChicago Section of Emergency Medicine.

Call your girlfriend.

I’ve met my closest friends in the field. These women see me, and they are my staunchest allies and most vocal critics, they challenge and sustain me, and I them. Identify and nurture those relationships; they are rich, and rare, and make us better.

GROWING THE PIPELINE: TRAINEES & STUDENTS

WOMEN IN MEDICINE SUMMIT: AN EVOLUTION OF EMPOWERMENT. SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2019, THE DRAKE HOTEL, CHICAGO, IL (SPONSORED BY UCHICAGO MEDICINE)

www.womeninmedicinesummit.org

By: Maria Maldonado

The Women in Medicine Summit took place September 21-22, 2019 in Chicago, Illinois. The Summit was an opportunity for female physicians to identify barriers women physicians face in the workplace and discuss action plans/tools to address gender inequity. The Summit was planned by a steering committee comprised of physicians from academic institutions throughout Chicago, with a large representation from University of Chicago including DOM faculty: Julie Oyler, MD, Vineet Arora, MD, MAPP, Anna Volerman Beaser, MD, Anjana Pillai, MD, Christine Babcock, MD, MSc, and Soni Smith MD. The conference included two days of presentations and breakout sessions. Presentations from the University of Chicago included:

• Panel discussion on “Leading In: Discover Your Legacy and Becoming a Women of Impact” by Vineet Arora, MD, MAPP ➔
• Small group breakout session “Breaking Barriers for Diverse Women” by Monica Vela, MD.
• Young Faculty/Trainees Mentorship Session organized by Anjana Pillai, MD
• Oral presentation “Sex Specific Considerations in Therapeutics: Clinical trials, prescribing practices, and patient outcomes” by Athalia Pyzer, MBBS, PhD, Rebeca Ortiz Worthington, MD, Julie Oyler, MD, and Maria Maldonado, MD
• Oral presentation “Promoting Academic Women Through Recognition: Nominations are Essential” by Julie Oyler, MD
• #HeforShe Award for Elbert Huang, MD
• #SheforShe Awards for Deborah Burnet, MD and Vineet Arora, MD, MAPP
• #Resilience Awards for Julia Baird, MD’19 and Sarah Hoehn, MD

The Summit included national leaders discussing key topics such as imposter syndrome, the power of social media, sexual harassment, work/life balance, and negotiation and self-advocacy tactics. The summit served as a meeting place for women and men from across the healthcare profession to discuss personal experiences related with gender inequity as well as home institution successes/failures addressing gender disparities. The Summit provided women physicians the tools to enact systemic changes both inside their specialty and throughout their home institution.

RECENT DOM WOMEN’S COMMITTEE EVENTS
1. Professional Development Event, October 11, 2019, Emma Levine, Assistant Professor, University of Chicago, Booth School of Business
2. New Women Faculty Reception, October 24, 2019 (see above)

UPCOMING DOM WOMEN’S COMMITTEE EVENTS
1. Women’s Committee Grand Rounds, February 4, 2020, Dr. Reshma Jagsi, Professor, Department of Radiation Oncology and Director of the Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine at the University of Michigan.

WOMEN AT THE FOREFRONT
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