

Scholars and Leaders in Interprofessional Geriatrics (SLIG) Summer 2020 Course

OVERVIEW

Goal: To enable health science students who are interested in geriatrics to acquire attitudes, values and competencies necessary for practicing comprehensive, patient- and family-centered geriatric care, as part of interprofessional teams, in a variety of health care settings. The SLIG course is designed to provide a rich learning experience for health science students with mentoring and guidance by interprofessional faculty. At the heart of this course is active, experiential learning with discussion and reflection on the unique qualities and needs of older adults across life phases in a variety of care settings. The teaching and learning focus on how an integrated team of interprofessional practitioners can optimize the health, well-being and quality of life of older adults.

Learners: Students from the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Medicine (COM), College of Nursing (CON), College of Pharmacy (COP), College of Applied Health Sciences (AHS), School of Public Health (SPH), and Jane Addams College of Social Work (JACSW), who have completed at least two semesters of their graduate programs, and are in good academic standing, are eligible to apply. Two students will be selected from each profession for a total of 12 scholars. New this year: one additional medical student will be selected from the College of Medicine to receive the *Dr. Akavut Suesakul, MD Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics*.

Course Dates: The **six-week SLIG course** will take place from Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020 to Friday, July 31st, 2020. The course will meet **2-3 days per week**. The class will typically meet on Tuesdays and Fridays, however exact days/dates/times are determined by the availability of our community partner sites and scheduled holidays. Hence, during certain weeks the class may meet on days other than Tuesday and Friday.

Expectations and Time Commitment: Students will meet on the scheduled class days and will have an estimated equivalent amount of preparatory and reflective work each week including:: assigned readings, watching online video modules on topics pertaining to practice in geriatrics, preparing for in-class discussions and activities, preparing and writing a final paper and presentation for the “SLIG Showcase” scheduled at the end of the course. Students will be asked to keep their schedules open during weekdays between 9 am and 5 pm from June 23 to July 31 because the course schedules are based on community partners and faculty availability and are therefore subject to change. Absences will be excused only for health and other serious reasons. Please note that after each session you will be asked to complete a brief evaluation of the session. Completing the session evaluations is a SLIG course requirement.

Learning Activities: Interprofessional learning experiences will include (1) experiential learning and (2) didactic learning. The experiential learning is in collaboration with our community partners in a variety of care settings, ranging from home-based care and inpatient rehabilitation to hospice care. Interprofessional faculty will accompany student teams to the community clinic sites.

Didactic training will include class sessions as well as self-study of course readings and online educational modules on topics pertaining to interprofessional geriatric practice created by the ENGAGE-IL team. Together, the experiential and didactic learning components address the continuum of care of older adults, including the trajectory of illness, at different levels and transitions of care.



Each SLIG Scholar will research and develop a scholarly paper which will be presented by scholars at an end of program at the **SLIG Showcase**.

Stipend: \$2,000* will be awarded to each scholar who successfully completes the program.

Eligibility Criteria: Health science students in the AHS, COM, CON, COP, JACSW and SPH who have completed at least two semesters of their academic programs and are in good academic standing per participating schools/colleges, are eligible to apply.

AHS students who also meet the additional criteria described below are eligible:

For the Department of Occupational Therapy

- Graduate students who are licensed occupational therapists (e.g., post professional OTD students, PhD students)
 - o Note: Due to schedule conflicts involving required courses and fieldwork, students enrolled in the entry-level (MS) OT program are not eligible

For the Department of Physical Therapy

- Graduates of the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) professional program
 - o Note: Due to schedule conflicts involving required courses and fieldwork, students enrolled in the DPT program are not eligible
- Graduate students who are licensed physical therapists (e.g. PhD students, MS in Rehabilitation Science students) in the U.S. or another country.

For the Department of Kinesiology and Nutrition

- Students enrolled in their first year of the MS CP in Nutrition Program
- Graduate students who are licensed as RDs/RDNs (e.g., MS and PhD Students)

COM students, rising M2 students who have completed their M1 course work successfully are eligible

CON students, only graduate students are eligible

COP students, P2 students are eligible

JACSW students, only graduate students are eligible

SPH students, MPH and MHA students are eligible

Application & Selection Process & Dates:

- Scholarship application submission deadline: January 31, 2020
- Notification to selected Scholars: March 2020

Applicants must complete the **Program Application (Appendix A)** and submit it by **January 31, 2020** to engageil@engageil.com

Applications will be reviewed and scored by a Selection Committee (**Appendix B, Application review criteria**). Two students from each of the six participating professions will be selected. An additional one medical student will be selected for *The Dr. Akavut Suesakul Memorial Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics* (see **Appendix C** for details).

The decision of the Selection Committee will be communicated to applicants by March 2020.

***Rules and regulations for receiving stipend:**

Current HRSA Federal Grant (# U1QHP28730) stipend restrictions for Summer Scholars include:

1. If a student receives federal loans, the stipend may be applied to his/her student loan instead of being disbursed directly to the student.
2. Stipends will be disbursed into students' UIC accounts, not directly disbursed to students. To learn more please visit <http://financialaid.uic.edu/scholarships.shtml>
3. If a student is a Foreign National, existing federal HRSA grant restrictions **do not allow** stipend payments, however, students are able to participate in the program without receiving the stipend.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Scholars who are selected and agree to participate in the SLIG program will be required to fulfill their commitment and learning agreement. Declining to participate in the program after acceptance creates substantial logistic challenges for the organizers and also takes away the scholarship opportunity from other potential candidates.

Attendance: Students will be asked to participate in all scheduled course activities and keep their schedules open weekdays between 9 am and 5 pm from June 23 to July 31, 2020. The course scheduled activities are based on community partners and faculty availability and are subject to change. Absences will be excused only for health and other serious reasons.

Course Evaluations: Please note that after each session students will be asked to complete a brief evaluation of the session. Completing the session evaluations is a requirement of the SLIG Course. Please consider applying for this scholarship only if you are able to comply with the above program requirements.

Funding:

This program is funded by a federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Grant #U1QHP28730.

The Dr. Akavut Suesakul Memorial Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics is funded by the UIC COM Department of Family Medicine.

SLIG Course Co-Directors

Valerie Gruss, PhD, APN, CNP-BC, FAAN
Clinical Associate Professor
Department of Biobehavioral Health Science
College of Nursing, UIC

Memoona Hasnain, MD, MHPE, PhD
Professor and Interim Head
Department of Family Medicine
College of Medicine, UIC

Core Faculty

College	Faculty	Contact
Applied Health Sciences	Elizabeth Peterson, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA	epeterso@uic.edu
Medicine	Memoona Hasnain, MD, MHPE, PhD	memoona@uic.edu
Nursing	Valerie Gruss, PhD, APN, CNP-BC	vgruss@uic.edu
Pharmacy	Michael Koronkowski, PharmD, BCGP	koron@uic.edu
Public Health	Susan Altfeld, MA(SW), PhD	saltfeld@uic.edu

Staff

Marie Suarez, PhD
Course Coordinator
mlsuarez@uic.edu

Kanwal Haque, MPH
Research Associate
khaque2@uic.edu



Appendix B

Application Review Criteria

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Alignment of applicant's interests and commitments with program goal
2. Overall quality of the application
3. Evidence of applicant's ability to successfully participate in the program (based on CV & Personal Statement)

The Dr. Akavut Suesakul Memorial Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics



Akavut (Tyse) Suesakul, MD
1981-2019

Dr. Akuvat Suesakul, MD was a family physician who received medical training in his native country, Thailand, and later in USA. He was passionate about high-quality, patient- and family-centered care for older adults and had a special interest in providing home-based care. Dr. Suesakul served as the Director of UI Health Home Visits Program. Dr. Suesakul was a vibrant and kind person, as well as an outstanding physician, teacher, colleague and friend. In March 2019, we lost a valued member of the Family Medicine Team. Dr. Suesakul is survived by his wife and 5-year old daughter, Bentley.

Dr. Suesakul exemplified compassionate care, leadership, advocacy and scholarship in primary care geriatrics. To commemorate and honor the memory and contributions of Dr. Suesakul, the UIC COM Department of Family Medicine has established *The Dr. Akavut Suesakul Memorial Scholarship in Primary Care Geriatrics*. This distinguished scholarship will be awarded annually to one selected UIC Medical Student between 1st and 2nd year of medical school. Medical students interested in careers in Family Medicine and Geriatrics are encouraged to apply.

Applications will open each year in the fall and the award will be announced in the spring. Training will be provided in the summer. The scholarship will include six weeks of learning experiences in interprofessional clinical work, leadership, advocacy and scholarship in the care of older adults. The student selected for the Suesakul Scholarship will receive a \$2,000 stipend as part of the award, funded by the UIC Department of Family Medicine.