



UCLA DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

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NEWS RELEASE
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We are delighted to announce the receipt of a \$1 million endowment from Richard C. Onofrio, M.D., to establish a first-of-its kind educational endowment in Resident Education within the UCLA Department of Urology. The Onofrio Endowment will support access to innovational educational programs for UCLA Urology medical students, residents, and fellows, allowing them to optimize their training opportunities and tailor their training toward their individual career goals. It will allow our trainees to maximize their potential as our future health care leaders.

UCLA Urology Chair Dr. Mark Litwin said of the donation, "In establishing this endowment, Dr. Onofrio has ensured that future generations of urology trainees at UCLA have access to resources in support of their education. Training the next generation of physicians and scientists is core to our mission."

"Residency is an incredibly formative period in the training of physicians. The support provided by Dr. Onofrio's meaningful gift will enable urology trainees to explore and develop their future selves as physician scientists and as leaders," added Clarence H. Braddock III, M.D., the Vice Dean for Education.

"Our residency program is the heartbeat of UCLA urology, and we are honored that Dr. Onofrio recognized the value of our training program in carrying out UCLA Urology's mission," said UCLA Urology Residency Program Director Dr. Steve Lerman. "What brings us the most pride at UCLA Urology is our residents, who are consistently recognized as some of the best physicians in the hospital."

Trainees spend 1 year rotating on several general surgery services, then spend the next 5 years in urology, including 1 year of dedicated urological research. The clinical years are spent serving at 5 different sites, including two County hospitals and the nation's busiest Veterans' Affairs Medical Center, a unique learning opportunity that exposes our trainees to a broad range of patient populations and health systems. Only a handful of urology programs in the US include a research year; ours is funded by the Department, because we believe is critical to bolstering our residents' careers. UCLA is also one of four sites selected to participate in the American Urological Association's physician-scientist residency training program, designed to foster the growth of the next generation of basic science physician-scientists in urology.

UCLA Urology Director of Education Dr. Jennifer Singer noted, "Educational approaches to how we teach our trainees are evolving. We are retiring old methods and pursuing innovating approaches in medical education. Dr. Onofrio's generosity will allow our department many of the necessary resources to be more effective teachers."

"It gives me great pleasure to impact young urologists in training, and help shape their future careers through this gift," said Dr. Richard C. Onofrio.

For more information on supporting our exciting work, contact Gretchen McGarry at: (310) 794-4746