



Johanna —  
It's all true!  
H. Stein

*The University of Oklahoma*  
*Health Sciences Center*

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

7 July 1993

Michael D. Prislin, M.D., Chairman  
Department of Family Medicine  
University of California, Irvine, Medical Center  
P.O. Box 14091  
Orange, California 92613-1491

Dear Dr. Prislin:

It is a privilege to be asked to comment on the work of Dr. Johanna Shapiro. As long-distance colleagues, then friends, Dr. Shapiro and I have become familiar with one another's research, teaching, service, and writing both within and beyond Family Medicine over nearly a decade. I heartily endorse her proposed accelerated merit increase from Professor, Step I to Professor, Step III in your Department. I regard Dr. Shapiro -- as do many throughout the country -- as a Family Medicine institution who is also a person! Without an eyeblink, I place her in the category of G. Gayle Stephens, John Frey, Lucy Candib, the late Hiram Curry, Lynn and Joan Carmichael, Donald Bloch, Donald Ransom, Theodore Phillips, and Ian McWhinney.

Dr. Shapiro is an exemplary thinker, scholar, and methodologist about the work of doctoring. Her careful, yet always passionate work on physician-patient relationships, especially in residency training, is absolutely foundational. There is little central to theoretical, methodological, and relational issues in Family Medicine about which Dr. Shapiro has not deeply thought and written. Working for many years within Family Medicine, she integrates into medical training the unsettling insights of behavioral science; she does not merely try to "apply" them safely from the outside. She is a better practitioner of Family Medicine ideals than most Family Medicine social scientists and physicians I know. A disciplined scientist, she is a gifted writer, and a moral, even prophetic presence in a modern medicine that has made technological prowess its god. Dr. Shapiro contributes to the work and literatures of many clinical and social science fields; moreso, she exemplifies the trans-disciplinary spirit of integration and exploration that post-modernist philosophy espouses.

Additional support for Dr. Shapiro represents not only an affirmation of her accomplishments and promise, but also of what we purport to stand for in Family Medicine -- in any humane biomedicine. If I can provide any further assistance to your decision-making process, please do not hesitate to write or to call. You also have my permission to share the entire letter with Dr. Shapiro!

Sincerely,

Howard F. Stein, Ph.D.  
Professor

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

Department of Family Medicine  
College of Medicine

UCI Medical Center  
P.O. Box 14091  
Orange, California 92613-1491

November 17, 1992

Ms. Janet Bickel  
Assistant Vice President for Women's Programs  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
2450 N Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20037-1126

RE: Johanna Shapiro, Ph.D.

Dear Ms. Bickel:

Johanna Shapiro, Ph.D., has requested that I provide you with a letter of reference regarding her qualifications for the Professional Development Seminar for Senior Women, and it is with great pleasure that I do so.

Dr. Shapiro currently serves as Professor of Family Medicine in our department at the University of California Irvine, College of Medicine. As such, she is one of only a handful of tenured full professors of family medicine within the University of California system. In this capacity, Dr. Shapiro has made significant contributions to our department, our institution, and the discipline of family medicine. Dr. Shapiro's responsibilities within our department lie primarily in the educational and scholarly realm. She serves as Director of our Family Practice Residency Behavioral Science Program and, in this capacity, has been largely responsible for several nationally recognized innovations in behavioral science education. Her expertise in this area has focused particularly on exploring the physician-patient relationship and its therapeutic implications. More recently, Dr. Shapiro has taken a lead role in developing more innovative formats of behavioral science training on the graduate medical education level. These formats have included conjoint resident behavioral science counseling clinics and small group problem-based learning formats. Within our medical student education programs, Dr. Shapiro has responsibility for teaching our course in biomedical ethics. This is an extremely well received course within the College of Medicine that introduces second-year students, not only to issues in bioethics, but in many respects, provides their first encounter with clinical medicine.

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Ms. Janet Bickel  
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In terms of scholarship, Dr. Shapiro's efforts have fallen into two critical areas, the first being the previous mentioned elaboration of the nature and therapeutic potential of the physician-patient relationship as it is explored with physicians in training. The second area of unique contribution to the discipline of family medicine involves exploring the impact of chronic or disabling illness on family function. Dr. Shapiro's contributions in these two areas have brought national recognition. Further, as a senior investigator in family medicine, she has made important contributions to the application of qualitative research methodology to our discipline.

On an institutional level, Dr. Shapiro has provided substantial service. At the present time, her contributions fall into two critical areas, the first being bioethics and the second being the status of women professionals within our institution. Dr. Shapiro is recognized as a leader at the University of California Irvine in these areas.

Clearly, Dr. Shapiro is an outstanding member of our faculty. She has demonstrated a significant impact within the department, the institution, and on a national level. I believe that in future years she will assume an important formal leadership role within our university. I believe, therefore, that she is an outstanding candidate for the Professional Development Seminar for Senior Women, and I heartily endorse her application.

If I can provide you with any further information regarding, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Michael D. Prislín, M.D.  
Chair

MDP/hl



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DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY

Please Reply to:

California College of Medicine  
University of California Irvine Medical Center  
101 City Drive South  
Orange, California 92668

November 2, 1992

Michael Prislin, M.D.  
Chairman, Family Medicine  
Building 200, Rte 81  
University of California, Irvine Medical Center

RE: Johanna Shapiro, Ph.D.  
Professor of Behavioral Science  
and Medicine

Dear Dr. Prislin:

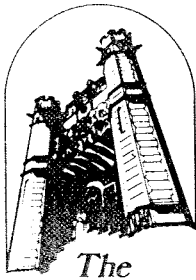
It is my great pleasure to write to you in support of Dr. Johanna Shapiro. Dr. Shapiro and I have been acquainted since we were elected to the College of Medicine Women's Steering Committee in the summer of 1990. Dr. Shapiro has served as chair of that group since that time. During her tenure, Dr. Shapiro has been impressive in her organizational abilities, having brought together women of various backgrounds and interests and facilitating the group in moving towards some common goals. She has served as liaison between campus groups and the medical school women's group spending a great amount of time and energy in this endeavor. I am impressed by the timely manner she attends to the business of the steering committee despite her many other obligations.

During, the past year, Dr. Shapiro organized a meeting with an important speaker from U.C. San Francisco. This meeting was well attended by women faculty and extremely well received. Other activities that rested largely with Dr. Shapiro included the compilation of a COM Women's Directory with professional and personal information about women faculty, the inclusion of many invited speakers to our group, and writing and distributing minutes of the meetings to the steering committee members.

Dr. Shapiro is a diplomatic, dedicated and effective leader who is a true asset to any department and I am pleased to write this letter in support of her advancement.

Sincerely yours,

Sharon Fujikawa-Brooks, Ph.D., CCC  
Associate Clinical Professor



The  
*University of Oklahoma at Oklahoma City Health Sciences Center*

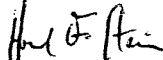
Department of Family Medicine

Michael D. Prislin, M.D., Chairman  
Department of Family Medicine  
California College of Medicine  
University of California Irvine Medical Center  
PO Box 14091  
Orange, California 92613-4091

Dear Dr. Prislin:

It is a pleasure to be invited to write a letter of evaluation in behalf of Dr. Johanna Shapiro, who is under consideration for promotion to the rank of Professor. Although she and I have never met--which is true about many of my closest colleagues-- I feel that I know her and her work better than many (most) professionals whom I see daily. Dr. Shapiro and I have corresponded, exchanged articles and chapters, and discussed various clinical cases, theoretical ideas, and the state of Family Medicine in telephone conversations. She and I often send one another manuscripts for critical comment: more often than not, we end up quoting them months (or longer) before they are in print! She is one of the most stimulating clinical thinkers I know.

There are many behavioral science fellow travelers in Family Medicine. To my knowledge few are as committed to our shared ideals (those enunciated long ago by the likes of Stephens, Carmichael, Odegaard, Leon Eisenberg, Kerr White, etc.) as is Dr. Shapiro. To her credit, and to Family Medicine's debt, she has neither merely "grafted" various social science/family theories/methods onto Family Medicine, nor annexed Family Medicine as a new territory for professional Lebensraum. In her wide teaching and her interdisciplinary publication, she consistently integrates fields that others compartmentalize, and she places service to others--patients, families, residents, faculty colleagues, humanity--as the highest good. From the range and insightfulness of Dr. Shapiro's publications, I would characterize her as already a leader within Family Medicine, one who has led by the example of her rigor, her breadth, her eye and ear for subtlety. She gives the lie to the widespread belief that only "marketing" and neon lights are the key to Family Medicine's academic as well as public future. Profound as she is prodigious in her research and scholarship, she has long professed the subject of clinical behavioral science in all she does. To be elevated to the rank of Full Professor would, in my opinion, only officially recognize (and, I hope, amply reward) what she already is and does. In her wide-ranging publications, she understands the nuances of physician-patient-family relationships, the subtleties of family dynamics and of ethnic influences upon health behavior, and she plays a crucial role as scholar and critic of the wider American culture whose currents carry Family Medicine and Family Therapy alike. As I look back upon our lengthy correspondence and as I re-examine the many publications and manuscripts she has sent to me, I am surprised to be reminded that I have only known Dr. Shapiro for four years--and that it is only now that she is applying for promotion to rank as Full Professor. In my mind, she has occupied that stature long ago.

Sincerely,   
Howard F. Stein, Ph.D.

Professor (Editor, The Journal of Psychoanalytic Anthropology, 1980-1988)

*Jhama,* Copy, for your "files."

This letter hardly needs to be confidential,  
as my admiration is already quite public!

H.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE  
UNIVERSITY STUDIES – FRESHMEN SEMINAR  
PROFESSOR JOHANNA SHAPIRO  
SPRING 2003  
N= 15

COMMENTS

1. What are the instructor's teaching strengths?

- Dr. Shapiro's teaching strengths are far beyond excellent. She is a great speaker and listener. She has a talent for expressing compassion as well as reaching out to the students. She is very open and friendly, creating a great environment.
- She was open to listening. I felt I could go up and talk to her on a personal level as well as professional. One word to describe her would be approachable.
- She really encouraged students to talk and makes a comfortable surrounding in which we can feel free to open up and talk.
- Very organized with all the reading packets. Allocated time well between the readings/discussions. Found very interesting readings. Very personable and friendly.
- She is able to bring the readings and/or discussions to a personal level. She attains to connect with each student on a personal level and creates a very warm, welcoming atmosphere.
- Patient in listening and encourages everyone to speak up.
- The instructor is a great communicator.
- Her ability to express herself articulately and passionately. Also, her ability to get personal and take time to learn peoples names.
- Listening skills and ability to express her ideas in a complex way, yet still understanding.
- She explains things very well and takes a true interest in all her students. Plus she could get students to talk and share personal stories.
- She is very helpful and patient.
- She always listened to what was said and was open minded to everyone's opinion.
- Elaborates on your comments.
- Listening, good memory, and had good discussions.
- Convey clear/understandable meanings across.

2. How can this instructor improve as a teacher?

- She needs no improvement, she was great!!
- It was a fabulous class!
- I was not real interested in the abstract material, so maybe it would be better if she picked less abstract material.
- None – she's wonderful.
- She is the best teacher I have had at UCI.
- She is fine the way she is.
- Nothing – she is great!

3. Any comment about this course?

- Thank you for teaching this class!
- I would recommend it to everybody.
- Great course! I stumbled into this class but found it to be extremely helpful and fitting to my own life.
- It is a very interesting and worthwhile seminar.
- It's a little short; we often didn't have enough time to cover all the materials. I believe this course was a great help to everyone in the class.
- I had fun in this course and I would recommend it to others.
- I loved it.
- Very interesting course, and very intellectual.
- It was awesome! I'm so glad I took it and Dr. Shapiro is amazing.
- Wonderful course.
- I really enjoyed this course and if they offer it sometime in the future, I would highly recommend it.
- Fun.

Additional Questions

1. What was the primary reason you signed up for this course?

- I need a one-unit class to graduate; therefore, I took this class to fulfill this requirement.
- The title sounded very interesting and have been thinking about going into the medical field.
- To help me deal with my moms death.
- Because I plan on going to medical school and I thought this class was relevant in my choice of career.
- I found the topic to be really interesting and decided to take it and learn more about death and dying.
- I thought it sounded interesting since I'm doing pre-med, and since I wanted to take a freshman seminar, it seemed my best bet.
- The reason I signed up for this course is because the title was Doctor Stories, Patient Stories, and the title appealed to me because I wanted to become a doctor.
- Honestly, I wanted another unit for the spring quarter.
- The primary reason I took this class was for the units.
- I was interested in the topic of understanding illness, and wanted to read more (and listen to other's views) about illness.
- The primary reason was so I could have more units, and also to have a GPA boost.
- I needed an extra unit to be qualified for financial aid. Dr. Shapiro was nice enough to add me 3<sup>rd</sup> week into the quarter.
- I thought it would be a fun class where I get to learn about things I'm interested in. Since it's a one-unit class, it's a no stress class and the topic seemed really interesting because as a premed student, I wanted to know what it's actually like (emotionally/mentally) to be

a doctor and deal with patients and diseases which can bring stress or joy in life, depending on how you see and react to it.

- I signed up for this class because it sounded very interesting. At first I had planned to just sit in on a discussion and drop it if I didn't like it, but it ended up being amazing.
- I signed up to learn about the roles that doctors and patients play in the process of illness. I wanted to learn more about the world (medical field) that I am planning to enter.

2. Has this course made a difference to you and if so, how?

- It was interesting! Highly recommended!
- Yes, it has been fun learning about patient's points of view in sickness.
- Yes, it has made it easier to talk about my mom's death.
- It has showed me the different aspects of illness and how it effects both doctors and patients. It has also showed how doctors and patients relate to one another.
- It has made me more open with my past experiences.
- Yes it has. I have really enjoyed listening and discussing topics that are not heard about much in medicine. It was great to take it from a human perspective and address problem of the whole.
- Yes it has. It has made me realize that doctors not only have to be smart and know what they are doing, they need to be understanding to the patients as well as patients being open and respectful to the doctor.
- Yes, it really has. I think about doctors and the medical field/profession more personally now. Plus, I learned a lot of valuable information from Dr. Shapiro.
- Yes it has. I got to know a professor in a more personal manner. It was a great experience.
- Yes, it has taught me to listen more carefully, especially to people who are trying to express their illnesses, be it through words, action, or even music.
- It has made me more informed on specifics of illness and all different aspects and effects of it.
- Yes it has! I was seriously having minor bouts of depression and many of the discussions on "coping" really helped. This class has made me look at life in a different way. I think I am better able to cope with my issues. One thing I will never forget from this class is the discussion we had about how everyone writes a story about their life and when it doesn't go that way, that's when you feel overwhelmed. I think that is true. So now when I look at life, I try to be more optimistic and fortunate for what I have.
- I learned a lot of emotional pains that people with diseases go through. I could really see from the patient's point of view in a wide scope and I also learned of the importance of doctor/patient interaction/communication, which can bring both physical and emotional healing.
- Yes. It opened my eyes to different experiences. I use to feel alone about experiences with sickness but the group discussion helped me realize that everyone faces problems in their lives, not just me, learning to cope with them is the challenging part.
- Professor Shapiro has made this class the best! It has helped me understand, listen, and more able to reach out to those who are suffering. It has made me a better person and more compassionate of the world. Thank you!