

UCI School of Medicine

News and Events

Johanna Shapiro, PhD, receives Humanism Award from Society of Teachers of Family Medicine

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Johanna Shapiro, PhD, full professor in the Department of Family Medicine at UCI School of Medicine has been recognized with the national Humanism Award from the **Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM)**. This honor, along with her recognition by the UCI Alumni Association Lauds and Laurels Award Committee for Outstanding Faculty Achievement (2020) are well-earned feathers in her illustrious career.

Dr. Shapiro joined the UCI Department of Family Medicine in 1978 after completing her PhD in psychology at Stanford in 1975. She currently serves as director of the Program in Medical Humanities for the UCI School of Medicine. She has served in numerous roles in the Department of Family Medicine over the course of her distinguished career, 42 years in January 2021.

Throughout her tenure, Dr. Shapiro has demonstrated outstanding teaching, research and leadership skills. She has applied these skills to benefit faculty and learners at all levels. The UCI Department of Family Medicine is responsible for preparing fresh medical school graduates to become board certified family physicians through a three-year post-graduate residency.

Shapiro was initially in charge of developing and leading the required behavioral sciences curriculum for family medicine residents. She developed curricula, clinical observation and evaluation tools to ensure each resident acquired skills to assess and manage patients with a variety of common mental health problems. Based on her outstanding skills, Dr. Shapiro rapidly progressed through the academic ranks achieving the status of professor in 1990.

During the next phase of her career, Dr. Shapiro focused on medical student education and worked with teams of faculty and staff throughout the medical school. She designed curricula to introduce medical students to the art of doctor-patient communication to balance students' biomedical and scientific training. Dr. Shapiro served as a teacher and mentor for students, residents and faculty to develop high-quality curricula, self-reflection and evaluation tools. She employed innovative teaching methods using literature, arts, theater and film to prompt students' reflections on their patient's lives as well as their own evolving identities. She has served as a champion of integrating medical humanities into medical education to prompt deep reflection, to improve the patient's experience, and to enhance health professionals' well-being.

In summary, Dr. Shapiro has had a profoundly positive influence on the lives of thousands of medical students, residents, staff, faculty, and for the patients served within UCI and beyond. We are proud to announce that she is the longest serving faculty member with the Department of Family Medicine.

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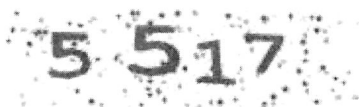
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