Position Description
Division of General Internal Medicine, Academic Research Coach

Overall Description, Statement of Need

The Division of General Internal Medicine Academic Research Coach (DGIM ARC) program is an exciting opportunity to work with dedicated clinicians in one of the nation’s leading group of academic general internists. Previous ARCs have found the role to be gratifying as well as productive in terms of building networks and co-authoring peer-reviewed publications. The ideal candidate for this position will be skilled in conducting research as well as supporting and coaching talented faculty who are interested in scholarship but have little formal research training.

Faculty within the Division of General Internal Medicine are expected to generate academic products that support the overall clinical, teaching, and research missions of the Division. While Division faculty all have strong clinical skills, their experience with research and scholarship is much more variable. In addition, many faculty have significant clinical and teaching responsibilities, limiting their ability to move projects forward in a consistent and timely manner. An Academic Research Coach will increase academic output from the Division and increase faculty career satisfaction by providing individualized and longitudinal support for faculty scholarly work from development of a project idea to publication of a manuscript. The ARC will also participate in faculty development programs, teaching groups of faculty about core research concepts in occasional lectures and workshops.

Amount, Duration of Support

Approximately 0.5 FTE (depending on candidate’s base salary); 12-month initial appointment, renewable annually.

Qualifications

- PhD in health services research or related field (epidemiology, biostatistics, public health) or Master’s Degree with at least 5 years’ experience supporting faculty in the design and execution of health services research, quality improvement, medical education research, or patient safety projects. An MD with comparable experience would also be considered.
- Expertise in articulating research questions, selecting appropriate study designs, obtaining IRB approval, and data collection and analysis.
- Track record of generating academic output (manuscripts, abstracts, presentations at regional or national meetings)
- Experience in principles of patient safety and quality improvement
- Experience in mentoring junior faculty

Specific DGIM ARC activities

Expectations for availability and general scope of the role:
• Attend regular division, section, and works-in-progress (WIP) meetings at all major clinical sites (VA, HMC, UWMC) to serve as a sounding board and resource for faculty contemplating undertaking academic projects.
• Create office hours at each of the clinical sites to maximize availability and respond promptly to requests for consultation.
• Consult with individual faculty who have ideas related to teaching, quality improvement or patient safety, or other ideas in order to strengthen the project and make recommendations regarding project feasibility, innovation, and priority.
• Proactively contact presenters prior to WIPs to offer ARC services and support both for their WIP presentation and for their project overall.
• Meet with the Academic Hospitalist Fellow at the beginning of the academic year and then regularly throughout the year to support execution and completion of their project.
• Collaborate with the DGIM Faculty Development Program to provide research- and project-related didactic sessions at periodic seminars as well as at DGIM retreats.
• Maintain a list of DGIM meetings attended and faculty consultations in order to track ARC involvement in DGIM research activities.

Specific coaching expectations for projects that are identified as necessitating formal coach support:

• Refine the research questions, develop specific aims and hypotheses
• Identify the appropriate study design and timeline
• Identify possible funding sources and assist in grant applications when applicable
• Assist with the IRB application process, including how to get started
• Support data collection and analysis
• Provide basic statistical analysis and facilitate consultation with statistician when required
• Help troubleshoot problems with study implementation
• Assist the faculty member in generating scholarly output, including submitting abstracts to meetings, designing and presenting posters or oral presentations, and drafting and revising manuscripts for publication
• Maintain a database of coaching projects and level of involvement. Proactively follow up with faculty regarding their progress

To apply:

Please send a cover letter and CV to Somnath Mookherjee at smookh@uw.edu. Feel free to also direct questions about the position to Dr. Mookherjee.