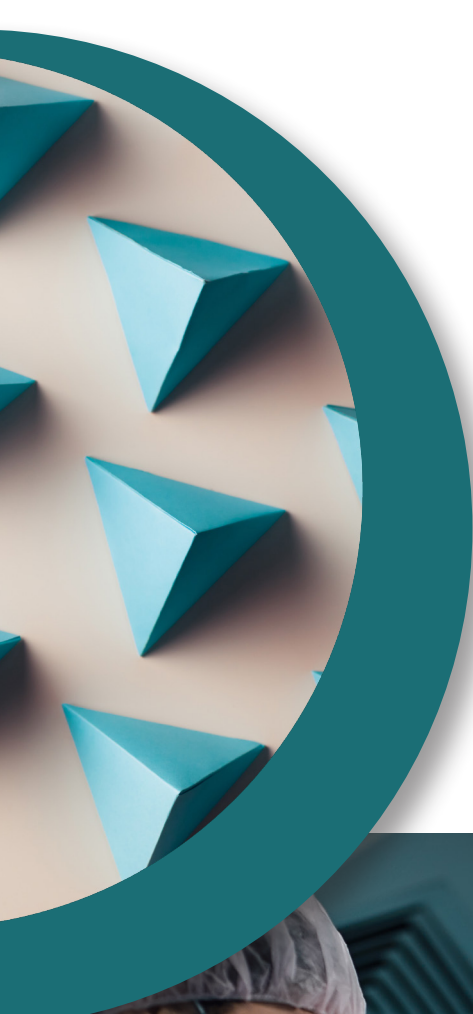




ACADEMY CONNECTIONS

Strengthening the community of medical educators

[Visit our website](#) | SOM.Academy@cuanschutz.edu

September 2026

CONTENTS

[ACADEMY NEWS](#)

[LEARN & GROW](#)

[PROMOTE YOUR WORK](#)

[FUNDING & RECOGNITION](#)

[JOBS & VOLUNTEERING](#)

[ACADEMY SPOTLIGHT](#)

[EDUCATOR RESOURCES](#)

Click to submit kudos and
opportunities for the next issue.





Celebrating New Academy Members

The Academy of Medical Educators recently welcomed its newest members at the annual Induction Celebration. Colleagues gathered to recognize their accomplishments, celebrate their contributions to medical education, and welcome them into the Academy community. Take a look at a few moments from the celebration and join us in congratulating our newest members.

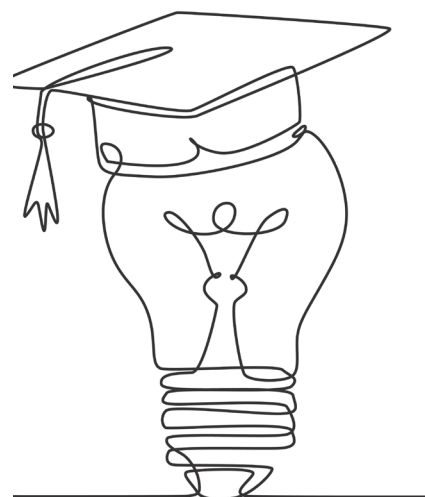
[See more images online.](#)



Join the Academy of Medical Educators Team

We're hiring! The CU School of Medicine's Academy of Medical Educators (AME) is seeking an AME Coordinator to join our team. This full-time role is at the heart of AME's work, managing professional development programs, events, awards, communications, and data that support 400+ AME members and more than 6,000 School of Medicine faculty. We're looking for a highly organized, collaborative professional who enjoys managing complex programs and helping create meaningful educational experiences for our faculty community.

[Learn more about the AME Coordinator role and apply.](#)



ACADEMY KUDOS

PUBLICATIONS ON MEDICAL EDUCATION



Aaron Carlson, Tai Lockspeiser, Elizabeth Troy, Hannah Gilbert, Timothy Bernard, and colleagues published [“Curriculum Innovation: ABCs of Child Neurology: An Article-Based Curriculum to Strengthen Outpatient Training Through Self-Directed Learning”](#) in *Neurology: Education*.

Colleen Conry and colleagues published [“Authors’ response to ‘When scope meets system: Reflections 6 years after residency’”](#) in *Family Medicine*.

Aimee Gardner and colleagues published [“Video-based assessment for laparoscopic cholecystectomy: development of a rubric for summative evaluation of intraoperative performance”](#) in *Surgical Endoscopy*.

Tristan Huie, Melissa New, and colleagues published [“Development and Validation of the Denver Critical Illness Intubation Entrustment \(D-CITE\) Tool”](#) in *CHEST Pulmonary*.

David Klimpl published [“Rooted in reasoning: a clinical reasoning curriculum using diagnostic RCAs”](#) in *Diagnosis*.

Tai Lockspeiser and colleagues published [“The 2026 RIME foreword: a decade of Research in Medical Education \(RIME\): trends and future directions”](#) in *Academic Medicine*.

Laura Lockwood and colleagues published [“Assessment of Pediatric Residents in the United States by Sex, Ethnoracial and Intersectional Group”](#) in *Perspectives on Medical Education*.

Maria Moreira and colleagues published [“Mentorship strategies and illustrative cases at every career stage”](#) in *AEM Education & Training*.

Matthew Rustici and colleagues published [“Preparing Medical Students for the Transition to Residency: A Qualitative Study of New Pediatric Interns”](#) in *Medical Science Educator*.

Elizabeth Troy and colleagues published [“Education Research: Educational Informatics: Characterizing Child Neurology Resident Clinical Experiences Using Electronic Health Record Data”](#) in *Neurology: Education*.

Erin Vipler, Anna Neumeier, Matthew Rustici, and colleagues published [“Improving Learner Confidence in Managing Patients With Opioid Use: A Standardized Patient Curriculum for Medical and Physician Assistant Students”](#) in *Substance Use: Research and Treatment*.

MENTIONS



Clint Carlson was featured in DrBicuspid in [“AI avatars help dental students polish real-world communication skills”](#) highlighting his work using AI avatars to help dental students practice real-world patient communication skills.

AMEE ANNUAL MEETING PRESENTATIONS

VIENNA, AUSTRIA | AUGUST 23–26, 2026



Wendy Christiansen, Tai Lockspeiser, and colleagues presented “Socioeconomic Status and the Likelihood of Receiving the Highest Grade in Pediatric Clerkships: A Multi-Institutional Study.”

Bridget Morris, Abbey Lara, and colleagues presented “Calling in, not calling out: A faculty development model for professionalism.”

Daniel Nicklas, Michelle Kiger, and colleagues presented “Anchored in education: Charting pediatrics and the evolution of pediatric podcasting.”

Tai Lockspeiser and **Matthew Zuckerman** facilitated “Alm for Better: Leveraging artificial intelligence to support assessment system innovation.”

Kara Michalsen, Tai Lockspeiser, Angela Czaja, Clint Carlson, Michelle Kiger, and **Aimee Gardner** presented “Feedback Delivery Skills: Rated by Me, You, and AI, Too.”

Have kudos for the next issue?

Share a win or shout-out for you or a colleague!

SUBMIT HERE

LEARN & GROW

WORKSHOPS, SPEAKERS & NETWORKING

SEP

10

12:00–
1:00 PM



Education Grand Rounds

Artificial Intelligence in Medical Education: Where We Are Today

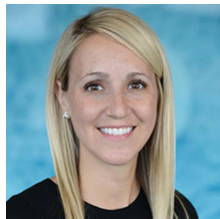
Christy Boscardin, PhD | UCSF School of Medicine

Virtual – See [EGR website](#) for Zoom link

SEP

15

4:00–
5:00 PM



Faculty Development Workshop

Clinical Teaching Tips Using the One Minute Preceptor Model

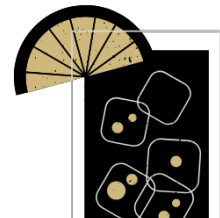
Kimberly O'Hara, MD | Pediatrics, CU SOM

Strauss Library – Reading Room – [Register to Attend](#)

SEP

15

5:00–
7:00 PM



AME Networking

Acade-mingle Networking Event

Benson Hotel – Faculty Club – [RSVP to mingle](#)

SEP

17

11:00–
12:00 PM



Bite by Byte: AI & Educators Roundtable Series

Supporting Learners Who Are Anxious – or Over Reliant – on AI

Matt Zuckerman, MD | Emergency Medicine

Deborah Seymour, PsyD | Family Medicine

Virtual – See [Bite by Byte website](#) for Zoom link

LEARN & GROW

OCT
01
12:00–
1:00 PM



October ScEI Club

Theory Corner: Stereotype Threat Works in Progress

Integrating AI into Family Medicine: Longitudinal Curriculum for Residents and Faculty Development — Roxanne Radi | Family Medicine

Launching a one-year fellowship in clinical women's health primary care — Nikki Zarling | Internal Medicine

Virtual — See [ScEI Club website](#) for Zoom link

OCT
08
12:00–
1:00 PM



Education Grand Rounds

Lighting the Spark: Cultivating Curiosity in Medical Education

Anuja Riles, MD | Pediatrics, CU SOM

Virtual — See [EGR website](#) for Zoom link

OCT
22
12:00–
1:00 PM

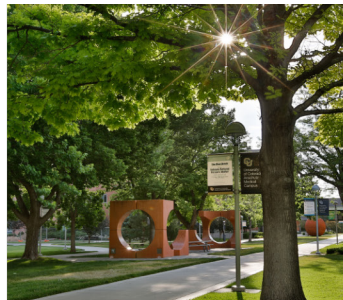


Faculty Development Workshop

Communicating Science to the General Public

Aimee Bernard, PhD | Immunology and Microbiology, CU SOM

Anschutz Health Sciences Building — Room 1203 — [Register to Attend](#)



UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES



Emerging Leaders Development Program | Applications Due Sept 10

The Office for Faculty Development's Emerging Leaders Development Program helps early-career faculty build their leadership skills through interactive learning, AI-powered coaching, peer mentorship, and personalized development. The January–May program includes two 90-minute sessions each month, primarily in person, with topics including credibility, emotional intelligence, goal setting, and more. The program is available to School of Medicine faculty at no cost.

[Learn more about the Emerging Leaders Development Program.](#)



Clinical Teaching Tips Using the One Minute Preceptor Model | Sept 15

Make every teaching moment count. Join Kimberly O'Hara, MD, Pediatrics, CU SOM, on September 15 from 4:00–5:00 PM in the Strauss Library Reading Room for a practical session on the One Minute Preceptor, a structured approach designed to make clinical teaching more focused and effective. Explore strategies you can use to quickly assess a learner's understanding, guide clinical reasoning, provide targeted feedback, and reinforce key teaching points, even when time is limited.

Following the session, continue the conversation at Acade-mingle from 5:00–7:00 PM in the Benson Hotel Faculty Club, Faculty Lounge. This informal gathering hosted by the Academy of Medical Educators offers an opportunity to connect with colleagues over conversation and community. All are welcome.

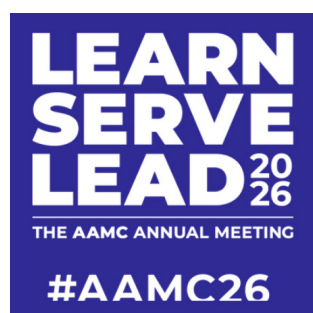
[Register for the Clinical Teaching Tips Workshop.](#) [RSVP for the Acade-mingle.](#)



One Health Trail Student Case Study Presentations | Oct 9, 2026

Join fourth-year medical students on October 9 at 9 AM for their final case study presentations from the One Health Trail: Physician Leaders as Advocates for Human, Animal, and Environmental Health. Students will explore topics at the intersection of human, animal, and environmental health, from climate-driven health risks and comparative oncology to environmental racism, sustainable agriculture, and zoonotic disease. The event will be offered in a hybrid format.

[RSVP to attend the One Health Trail Student Case Study Presentations.](#)



Learn Serve Lead 2026: The AAMC Annual Meeting | Nov 6–10, 2026

Join colleagues from across academic medicine at Learn Serve Lead 2026, in Anaheim, California. This conference brings together educators, researchers, clinicians, learners, and institutional leaders to explore innovations in medical education, research, patient care, and health policy through inspiring keynote presentations, interactive sessions, and valuable networking opportunities.

[Learn more and register for Learn Serve Lead 2026.](#)



2026 Academies Collaborative Virtual Meeting | Dec 3, 2026

Connect with academy leaders and educators from across the country at the 2026 Academies Collaborative Virtual Meeting. The event will feature presentations, discussions, and a keynote, with opportunities to exchange ideas, explore common challenges, and learn from colleagues across institutions.

[Register for the virtual meeting.](#)



Emerging Technologies for Teaching and Learning: Digital Demonstrations Virtual Conference | Feb 3–4, 2027

Explore how emerging technologies are transforming health professions education at this virtual event. Through live demonstrations and practical examples, educators and other health professions education professionals will share how they are using technology to address challenges, enhance learning, and support educational innovation.

[Learn more about the 2027 Digital Demonstrations Virtual Conference.](#)



Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Annual Educational Conference Feb 25–27, 2027

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Annual Educational Conference is a leading U.S. forum for sharing innovation and scholarship in graduate medical education. The 2027 conference theme is “Meaning in Medicine.”

[Learn more about the 2027 ACGME Annual Educational Conference.](#)



AME Education and Innovation Symposium May 5–6, 2027

Mark your calendar for the Academy of Medical Educators 2027 Education & Innovation Symposium. Join colleagues from across CU Anschutz to share and celebrate health professions education scholarship and innovation, exchange ideas, and make new connections.

[Learn more about the 2027 AME Education and Innovation Symposium.](#)

PROMOTE YOUR WORK



AAMC 2027 Medical Education Innovation Conference | Submissions Due Sept 15

The call for proposals is now open for the 2027 AAMC Medical Education Innovation Conference, taking place April 17–20 in Indianapolis. Medical educators are invited to share their research, innovations, and lessons learned through workshops, panels, oral presentations, posters, or the new Fail Forward Abstract format.

[Learn more about AAMC 2027 Medical Education Innovation submissions.](#)



ACGME 2027 Annual Educational Conference Abstracts Due Sept 24

The ACGME is accepting abstracts for its 2027 Annual Educational Conference, February 25–27 in San Antonio. Members of the graduate medical education community are invited to share innovations and research, with selected abstracts featured as posters and a select number chosen for oral poster presentations. The 2027 conference theme is “Meaning in Medicine.”

[Learn more about ACGME 2027 Annual Educational Conference submissions.](#)



Association for Surgical Education 2027 Annual Meeting | Abstracts Due Oct 30

The Association for Surgical Education (ASE) is accepting abstracts and presentation proposals for the next Annual Meeting in San Antonio, themed “People First: Strengthening the Academic Culture in Surgical Education.”

[Learn more about ASE 2027 submissions.](#)



AME 2027 Education and Innovation Symposium | Submissions Due Dec 15

The Academy of Medical Educators will begin accepting abstracts, panel discussions, and workshop proposals on October 1 for the annual Education and Innovation Symposium. The event brings together the CU community to share scholarship, spark dialogue, and showcase innovations in medical education.

[Learn more about AME 2027 Academy Education and Innovation submissions.](#)

FUNDING & RECOGNITION



Faculty Travel Grants

The Academy of Medical Educators offers travel grants of up to \$2,500 to support faculty presenting medical education scholarship at national or international conferences. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and must be submitted at least three months prior to travel.

[Learn more about AME Travel Grants.](#)



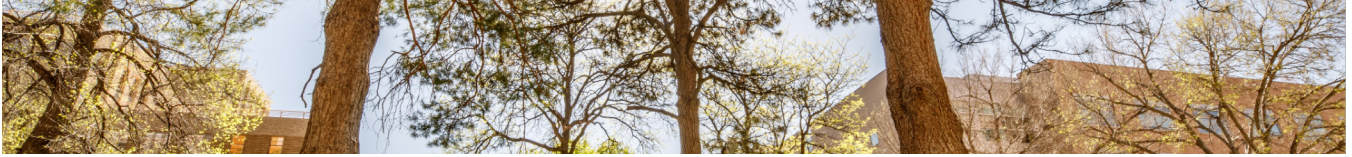
CU System Sprint Grant: AI for Teaching & Learning | Applications Due Oct 16

Faculty interested in using AI to improve student learning can apply for up to \$20,000 through the CU System Sprint Grant. The program supports the development and implementation of AI-driven teaching strategies designed to improve student performance toward the learning goals of a specific course. Tenured, tenure-track, full-time, and instructional faculty are eligible to apply.

[Learn more about CU System Sprint Grants.](#)

JOBS & VOLUNTEERING

CU SOM JOB OPPORTUNITIES



Senior Clerkship Phase Director

Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship, Office of Medical Education

[LEARN MORE](#)

LIC Specialty Liaison

Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship, Office of Medical Education

[LEARN MORE](#)

Teaching Scholars Program Director

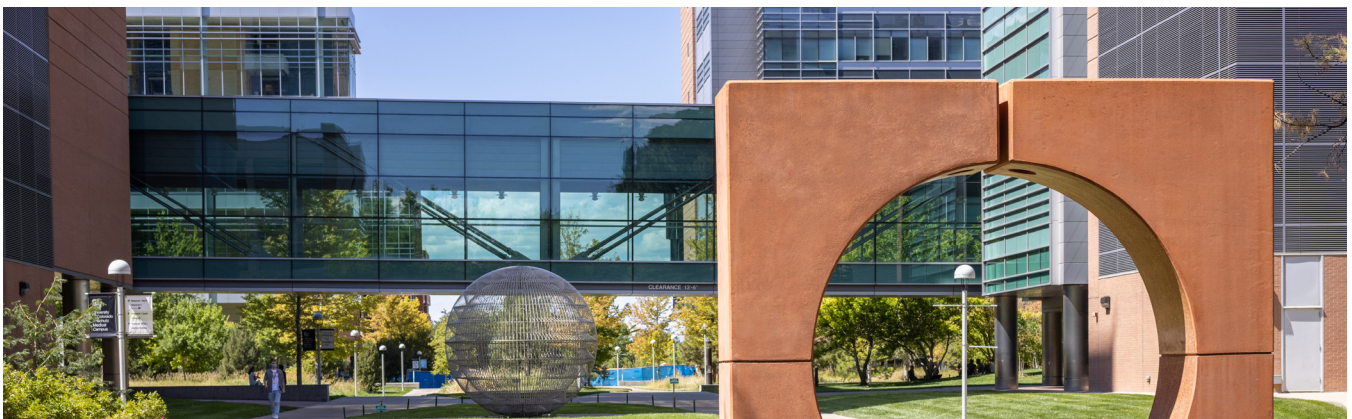
Academy of Medical Educators, Office of Medical Education

[LEARN MORE](#)

Academy of Medical Educators Coordinator

Academy of Medical Educators, Office of Medical Education

[LEARN MORE](#)



ACADEMY SPOTLIGHT



Q&A with Rashaan Ford, MD

Associate Professor, Pediatrics

Program Director, Child Abuse Pediatrics
Fellowship

**Associate Program Director for Community,
Access, Recruitment, and Engagement (CARE)**

Pediatric Residency Program, Child Protection
Team, Children's Hospital Colorado, University of
Colorado School of Medicine

What is your current focus in medical education?

I lead the Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship Program, and my current foci in this role include leading the transformation and implementation of a competency based medical education system for the Child Abuse Pediatrics Fellowship Program, which is aided by my experience serving on the American Board of Pediatrics' Competency Based Medical Education Committee. I also collaborated with the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship Leadership in the development of our institution's first PEM-CAP dual training pathway, for which we matched our first fellow! I also serve as the course director for the Child Abuse Pediatrics clinical elective for residents, medical students, PA students, and more recently Hospital Medicine and Pediatric Emergency Medicine. At the residency level, I focus on education and training that fosters an inclusive and safe training community with a culture of belonging.

What teaching approach/ philosophy guides your work?

I strive to carry forward the teaching approach of one of my attendings from residency, who created a fun and psychologically safe environment for trainees to explore curiosity, inquiry, creativity, innovative thinking, and to feel empowered in taking chances without fear of retribution. I always knew that I loved working with trainees in an educational role, but I am grateful for strong mentors on my clinical team who saw this in me and helped me realize my professional identity as a "Medical Educator" and the numerous fulfilling pathways it can lead me down in my career. As someone who is underrepresented in medicine and for whom strong mentors may be few, I do not take that mentorship for granted, and it is something I want to pay forward for others through mentorship, sponsorship, and how I conduct myself in teaching/educating trainees.

Describe a recent project or innovation you're proud of—what inspired it and what is the impact?

I am most proud of being in a place of privilege where I have been able to use my knowledge, lived experience, developing skillsets, and draw from my amazing mentors to help inspire in others the passion and joy I have as a Medical Educator. I derive the most joy from mentoring other trainees in the development of their ideas into innovative and fun educational scholarly projects. This includes a “choose your own” adventure case-based module that confronts bias in child physical abuse diagnostic workup and mandated reporting decision making, a health equity-focused journal club curricular session, an ACES and Trauma-Informed care low fidelity simulation curricular session for pediatric interns. My hope is that I can return the influential mentorship provided to me and ignite the development of other trainees’ professional identities as medical educators.

How has your involvement with the Academy supported your growth or professional journey?

The Academy has been immensely valuable in connecting me with a diverse community of inspiring educators and resources from which I can continue to learn and grow as a medical educator. The community is extremely supportive and collaborative, and has positively pushed me out of my comfort zone to explore additional pathways and networks available to me. The Academy has been a vehicle through which innovative collaboration has flourished for me, and I have found additional mentors outside of my clinical team, section, and department who challenge my perspective, help me expand my knowledge,



Above: Dr. Ford pictured with trainees he has taught and mentored in the development of their own scholarly projects in medical education.

resources, and skillset, inspire my continued development as an educational leader, and ultimately help stomp down the few times when Imposter Syndrome in this arena starts to creep in!

What is one piece of advice you'd give someone just starting out in medical education?

You are not alone. You have an amazingly powerful, fun, and supportive community here that will help you start with the innovative pebble that can create expansive ripples in what may seem like a large pond! Take advantage of the great opportunities and resources the Academy of Medical Educators community has to offer! The learning and growth never ends!

EDUCATOR RESOURCES

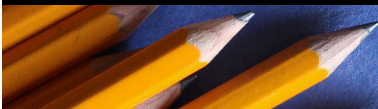


Did You Know? Spark Tank Can Fund Your Education Idea

Have a medical education idea that could use a financial boost? Spark Tank gives educators the opportunity to pitch their ideas for funding and support. For the 2027 event, Spark Tank is focused on AI innovation in medical education, inviting teams to propose creative ways to use AI to enhance teaching, learning, or other aspects of medical education. Teams selected to present at the live event will make their case to a panel of judges, with increased funding of up to \$15,000 available to help turn promising ideas into practice.

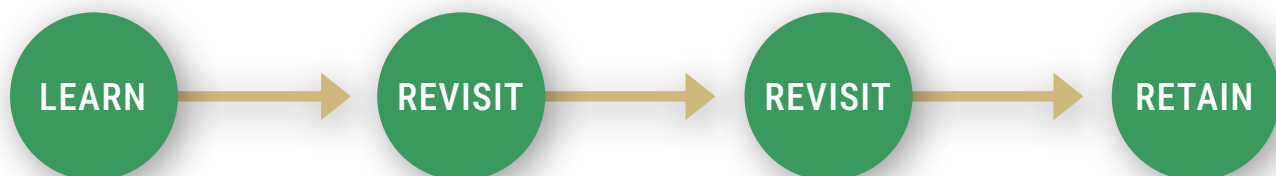
[Learn more about Spark Tank team applications.](#)

EDUCORNER



Theory in Practice: Spaced Learning

Revisiting concepts over time supports long-term retention.



In medical education, where there's always more to learn, covering material once may not be enough to make it stick. Spaced learning revisits key concepts over time, strengthening long-term retention and recall. Explore how intentionally spacing learning opportunities can help your learners build knowledge that lasts beyond the lecture, rotation, or exam.

[Check out the Spaced Learning Theory Corner Brief.](#)