

**The Leichtman-Levine-TEM Summer Mentorship in Women's Health Research at the  
Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center**

Research Director/PI: Gail Greendale, MD, Professor of Medicine and Obstetrics and Gynecology

Associate Research Director/PI: Andrea Hevener, PhD, Professor of Medicine (Endocrinology)

Senior Mentor/PI: Kimberly Narain, MD, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor-in-Residence of Medicine  
(General Internal Medicine and Health Services Research)

Senior Mentor/PI: Teresa Seeman, PhD, Professor of Epidemiology, Fielding School of Public Health and  
Medicine (Geriatrics)

Mentor: Heather McCreath, PhD, Researcher, Division of Geriatrics, UCLA Department of Medicine  
Coordination and Evaluation Center, Diversity Program Consortium

Summer research positions are available for medical students at the David Geffen School of Medicine who have will have completed their first year of studies by June 2021.

Students will be mentored in women's health and sex and gender based medicine research.

Research opportunities include:

- ✓ Completion of a secondary data analyses using a large, multi-site, multi-ethnic study of mid-life. The overarching topics from which students may choose include healthcare access, chronic disease burden, and inflammation.
- ✓ Basic science research in a multidisciplinary laboratory studying the role of the estrogen receptor alpha in controlling metabolism in humans, rodents, and cell systems as it relates to metabolic disease pathobiology and therapeutic intervention (research disease relevance type 2 diabetes, heart disease, breast cancer, and Alzheimer's disease)

The student experience will include:

- Mentorship in how a research plan is developed.
- Assistance in completing an application for summer research support from the Short Term Training Program (STTP), Internal Medicine Chief's Fellowship, or other source of summer research support (note: Students must obtain support from STTP, the Internal Medicine Chief's Fellowship, or other DGSOM authorized source of support to participate).
- Tutoring in relevant design and analysis methods.
- Hands on training in the use of research methods, including statistical packages where appropriate.
- Structured research meetings throughout the summer research project.
- Practicum in oral presentation of research results.
- Clinical shadowing of a women's health provider at the Iris Cantor-UCLA Women's Health Center during the summer (depending on limitations related to the COVID-19 pandemic).

- Guidance and assistance in developing a poster for the Josiah Brown Research Fair
- Continued support to submit results in abstract form at a national meeting if appropriate
- Up to \$1500 in financial support for travel expenses should the project be accepted to be presented at a national research meeting.

After students are accepted into the program, research mentors will work with students to identify the project that is best suited to the student. The projects are:

- ✓ Database research using the Midlife in the US (MIDUS) study dataset:
  - Healthcare access and utilization by gender and ethnicity
  - Burden of chronic conditions by gender and ethnicity
  - Inflammatory burden by generation, gender, and ethnicity
- ✓ NIH funded basic science research in the Hevener Lab:
  - The role of ER alpha in the control of mitochondrial function and metabolism in immune cells
  - The impact of mitochondrial remodeling on metabolism in skeletal muscle
  - Systems-based approaches for investigating tissue communication during exercise
  - The contribution of estradiol action in protection against metabolic disease

To apply, send the following to Jules Grassian (JGrassian@mednet.ucla.edu) by Monday, January 25th. Be sure to include all requested elements:

**(1) A personal statement including (1 page maximum):**

- A paragraph describing your interest in women's health and/or sex and gender based research, and how it relates to your future career goals.
- Which project you wish to apply for
- One or two paragraphs describing previous research, clinical, or community work related to women's health and/or nutrition (Note: Previous experience is not required).

**(2) Your current resume or curriculum vitae**