

ABSTRACT: 2015 ELAM Institutional Action Project Poster Symposium

Project Title: Establishment of the Einstein/Montefiore General Internal Medicine Fellowship Program

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Background & Challenge: Since 2004, the DGIM has achieved tremendous success in conducting nationally recognized clinical research, including obtaining NIH funding. Despite this success, no clear pathway exists at Einstein/Montefiore for trainees to develop research knowledge and skills needed to become successful clinician-investigators.

Purpose/Objectives: To develop a 2-year General Internal Medicine (GIM) Fellowship Program that provides education and training, and experience in mentored research projects to prepare general internists for an academic research career.

The goals of the Einstein/Montefiore GIM Fellowship Program are:

- To provide fellows with education and training in clinical research methods, focusing on vulnerable populations and urban health.
- To provide fellows with experiential learning in implementing research projects.
- To prepare fellows for successful careers in academic medicine as clinician-investigators.

Other programmatic goals:

- Develop effective strategies to enhance recruitment of women and minorities
- Strategically position the program to utilize existing institutional infrastructure and resources, and engage a wide range of faculty.

Methods/Approach: GIM Fellowship Program activities:

- *Research Education & Training*
 - Clinical Research Training Program - 2-year program consisting of a didactic curriculum and a mentored research experience leading to a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Research Methods
 - Weekly Research-in-Progress Meetings
 - Weekly Affinity Group Meetings
 - Weekly Fellows' Meeting – works-in-progress and career development seminars
- *Implementation of mentored research projects*
 - Research projects are guided by mentors within and outside of the DGIM
 - Seed funding for projects and opportunities to apply for intra-institutional pilot grants
- *Clinical care* – Fellows provide direct patient care 20% time (outpatient clinics or inpatient wards)

Outcomes and Evaluation Strategy:

Outcomes to date:

- Start-up funds have been obtained to support 1-2 fellows/year and seed money for projects
- Fellow enrollment: 3 fellows enrolled in July 2014, 1 fellow will enroll in July 2015
- 8 faculty members have been engaged as mentors and/or leading seminars
- An executive steering committee has been established and has met once

Evaluation strategy, outcomes of interest:

- Recruitment and Retention:
 - The number of fellows who apply to and complete the program
- Successful Training:
 - The number of manuscripts written by fellows within 3 years of completing the program.
 - The number of grants submitted and funded by fellows within 3 years of completing the program
 - The number of fellows who have research positions at academic medical centers.

BACKGROUND

- Since 2004, the Einstein/Montefiore Division of General Internal Medicine (DGIM) has achieved tremendous success in conducting clinical research, including obtaining NIH funding.
- Despite this success, no clear pathway exists at Einstein/ Montefiore for trainees to develop research knowledge and skills needed to become successful clinician-investigators.

OBJECTIVE & GOALS

Objective: To develop a 2-year General Internal Medicine (GIM) Fellowship Program that provides education and training, and experience in mentored research projects to prepare general internists for an academic research career.

Goals: The main goals of the Einstein/Montefiore GIM Fellowship Program are:

- To provide fellows with education and training in clinical research methods, focusing on vulnerable populations and urban health.
- To provide fellows with experiential learning in implementing research projects.
- To prepare fellows for successful careers in academic medicine as clinician-investigators.

Other programmatic goals:

- To develop effective strategies to enhance recruitment of women and minorities
- To strategically position the program to utilize existing institutional infrastructure and resources, and engage a wide range of faculty.

GIM FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

Research education & training

- Clinical Research Training Program : 2-year program consisting of a didactic curriculum and a mentored research experience leading to a Master of Science Degree in Clinical Research Methods
- Weekly Research-in-Progress Meetings
- Weekly Affinity Group Meetings
- Weekly Fellows' Meeting: works-in-progress and career development seminars

Implementation of mentored research projects

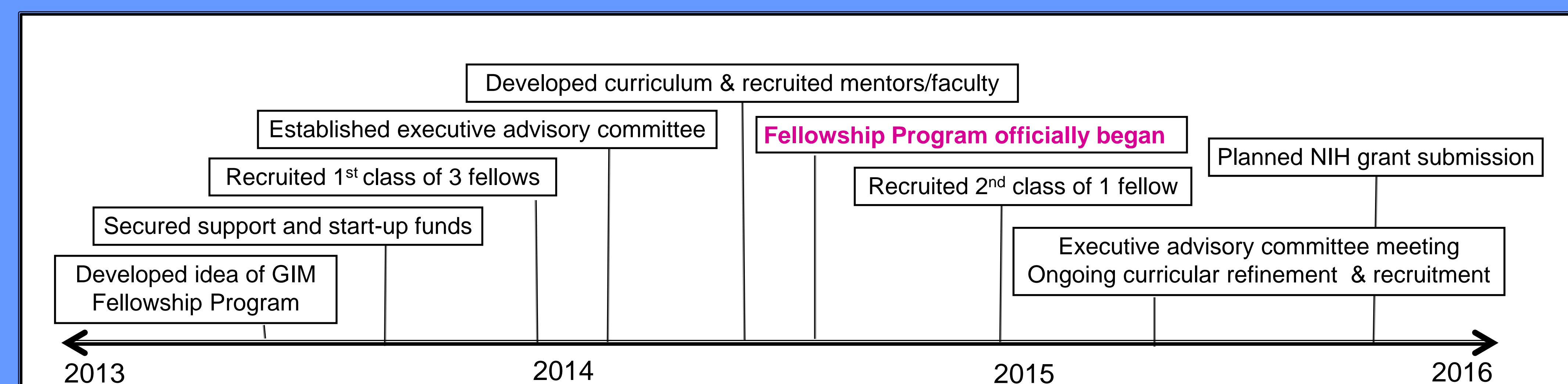
- Research projects are guided by mentors within and outside of the DGIM
- Seed funding for projects and opportunities to apply for intra-institutional pilot grants

Clinical care

- Fellows provide direct patient care 20% time (outpatient clinics or inpatient wards)



TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES



OUTCOMES & EVALUATION

Outcomes to date:

- Start-up funds obtained to support 1-2 fellows/year and seed money for projects
- Fellow enrollment: 3 fellows enrolled in July 2014, 1 fellow will enroll in July 2015
- 8 faculty members have been engaged to mentor and/or lead seminars
- An executive advisory committee was established and has met

Evaluation strategy, outcomes of interest:

Recruitment and Retention:

- The number of fellows who apply to and complete the program

Successful Training:

- The number of manuscripts written by fellows within 3 years of completing the program.
- The number of grants submitted and funded by fellows within 3 years of completing the program
- The number of fellows who have research positions at academic medical centers.

NEXT STEPS

- Secure grant funding to support and enhance the program
- Implement recruitment strategies to recruit excellent candidates, with particular emphasis on women and minorities
- Meet with executive advisory committee every 3-6 months
- Develop and implement a fellow evaluation process for continuous program improvement