

“Celebrating Faculty Development and Diversity”

May 26, 2008



Jess Joad, left, and Jose Morfin.

For the past five years, the faculty and staff involved in our Office of Faculty Development and Diversity have made major contributions to our health system community. At a barbecue lunch last week, we celebrated both the programs and the individuals who have made a difference.

Dr. Jesse Joad, our associate dean of diversity and faculty life, presented three awards to individuals who have “sustained a visible, personal commitment to the betterment of our collegial community through their support and leadership in developing and leading faculty development and diversity programs.” The honorees were:

1. Dr. Fred Meyers, chair of the department of internal medicine, who has taken major leadership roles to promote mentoring and diversity efforts within his department, on an institutional level and with national efforts such as the consortium of Clinical and Translational Science Centers;
2. Dr. Frazier Stevenson, associate professor of neurology, who has led countless faculty workshops, leveraging his expertise in medical education and innovative teaching techniques; and
3. Dr. Jose Morfin, assistant professor of nephrology, who has taken an active role in Latino outreach, our admissions committee and as director of our post-baccalaureate program.

These individuals, and hundreds more, have actively participated in the many events, workshops and seminars sponsored by the Office of Faculty Development and Diversity.

In fact, these programs have become so successful that we are planning to create a separate Office of Diversity, which will not only serve our diverse cadre of faculty, but will also help us recruit, retain and fully engage underrepresented and disadvantaged students, residents and others in our community, including youth. Importantly, this new office will work closely with our staff diversity programs that have been in place for decades.

"Thank you" to the Offices of Faculty Development and Diversity and congratulations to this year's award winners. I encourage everyone to get involved in our health system family's efforts to continually grow and strengthen our diverse community.

Sincerely,

Claire