

2019 Annual Teaching Scholars Program Retreat

Educators Speak: An Interview

Josette Rivera, MD, TSP Class of 2012 answers the question:

A career as an Educator at UCSF can be very satisfying because...

Interviewer: Alexandra Brown, MD, TSP Class of 2019

Transcript

Alexandra Brown, MD: Okay. I'm here with Josette Rivera, and I'm asking her the question. A career as an educator at UCSF can be very satisfying because...

Josette Rivera: So, my name is Josette Rivera, and I am a geriatrician. I think a career as an educator at UCSF is very satisfying for several reasons. One of them has to do with community and having a community of amazing, inspiring educators around me that are constantly pushing me to innovate and do better. I feel I was very fortunate to have been accepted into the Teaching Scholars Program fairly early on in my venture at UCSF. And it was really formative in my identity in that, for example, I knew that geriatrics was a field of my people. And when I was in TSP, it was a similar thing where I felt like in this cohort of 12 other faculty, that I had also found my people of educators. And so that really cemented my overarching career goal to really hone in on my educator skills, and become an educator at UCSF.

Josette Rivera: So along those lines, the other things that contribute to a satisfying career here are mentorship and having amazing mentors, and leaders who are constantly inspiring, and inspiring us to innovate, and opportunities to innovate, that I feel like there are a lot of opportunities and willingness to change, and to push the envelope forward in our thinking about lots of different things beyond curriculum development. But in really thinking about deep questions like, is this the best way to teach things, what is the optimal clinical learning environment, and things like that?

Josette Rivera: And finally, I feel like there's a lot of faculty development opportunities to continue to hone your skills. No matter how senior or experienced you are, there's always something that you can learn and get better at. And I feel like because there's such a deep bench of expertise at UCSF, there are always opportunities to be learning from each other, and I'm constantly seeking to take advantage of those. So for all those reasons, I feel like a career as an educator at UCSF is amazing.