



Dr. Japhia Jayasingh-Ramkumar
Education Service Award

Dr. Japhia Jayasingh-Ramkumar is Director of the Clinical Simulation Center and Clinical Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of Medicine, a Clinical Associate Professor at Carle Illinois College of Medicine, and an internal medicine staff physician at McKinley Health Care Center. She was recognized for her dedication to medical education, commitment to teaching, and to training physicians, from novice to expert, in the areas of interview, physical exam, and cultural competency for both simulated and actual patients. Her positive impact on students distinguishes her as a role model for teaching and mentoring.

Dr. Jayasingh-Ramkumar received her MD from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in 1997 and held staff physician and Assistant Professor (Clinical) positions at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa before coming to UIUC. She says her enduring passions have been teaching and addressing social and environmental issues in her community, a passion she shares with her husband and her two sons.

She believes medicine is a lifelong learning process and in her career as an Internist her greatest joy and satisfaction comes from being able to “teach” her patients, peers, and junior learners. At the University of Iowa her focus was on Cross Cultural Medical education and she has continued at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in a very different role as Director of Simulation Education. Her teaching philosophy is that her role is to promote discovery in the learners and to guide them through the learning process. She says her greatest joy as an educator is when a learner has that “Aha” moment and can connect the dots and make effective changes in attitude or behavior that translate into improved clinical skills.

Her passion for teaching extends into the community, where over the last decade she has been the co-chair of a Community Garden Program at the Champaign County Juvenile Detention Center, an award-winning educational program where she developed an entire curriculum of lessons and an experiential garden. In the last several years she has also been involved with educating the community about the importance of pollinators and creating habitats for them, and the creation of the UIUC Extension Office Pollinator Pocket Program. 701 Devonshire Drive, Suite C-5 Champaign, IL 61820 Phone (217) 359-9195/Fax (217) 359-9208 Email: admin@ccmedsoc.org www.ccmedsoc.org

She has focused her efforts on the climate and biodiversity crisis that our planet is in the midst of. In the medical setting she collaborates with colleagues to educate the medical community and public on the topic of climate change and its health impacts. In the community she has worked in the public schools to educate students about the connection between planetary health and personal health in the hope of creating a healthy planet with healthy people.