

Faculty

Program Director



Jennifer Parker, M.D.,

Assistant Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics

Dr. Parker joined as Med-Peds staff in the fall of 2003 and became the Med-Peds program director in 2005. She graduated medical school from University of Nebraska Medical Center and completed her residency training in the combined Med-Peds training program at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where she also served as Chief Resident. Dr. Parker is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Pediatrics.

Dr. Parker is working closely with the residents both as staff and as a mentor. She has a combined Med-Peds clinic at UMA Baker Place and also attends on inpatient services. Dr. Parker has received the Top Teachers in Internal Medicine Award and the UNMC Outstanding Teacher Award. She is also a member of Med-Peds Program Director Association, Alpha Omega Alpha, American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Physicians, Association of Program Directors in Internal Medicine and Metro Omaha Medical Society.

In addition to developing the Med-Peds program, Dr. Parker's interests include Primary Care Med-Peds, Women's Health and Transitional Care.

Key Faculty



Joel Bessmer, M.D.

Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, Associate Residency Program Director, Internal Medicine

Dr. Bessmer is associate professor of Internal Medicine/General Medicine at UNMC. He also is Medical Director of the University Medical Associates (UMA) Plattsmouth and Turner Park Clinics, associate program director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program, and is co-program director of the UNMC Medicine/Pediatrics Residency Program. A native of Osmond, Nebraska, Dr. Bessmer received his Bachelor's degree in biology from Kearney State College in 1988. He then attended UNMC where he received his medical degree in 1993, after which he completed his internship and residency, followed with a position as chief resident of internal medicine through 1997. He was named one of the Best Doctors in America in 2001, presented the Sir William Osler Award for Internal Medicine at UNMC in 2000 and was recognized with Internal Medicine's Top Teacher of the Year Award in 1999/2000 and 2001/2002. He also serves on the following committees: Chest Pain Protocol, Education, Graduate Medical Education, Governor's Advisory Committee, Nebraska Chapter ACP, NHS Inpatient Service Consolidation Steering Committee, Alpha Omega Alpha Executive Committee, UNMC Faculty Senate Representative, NHS Credentials, UNMC Career Development and Mentoring, and UNMC Faculty Council.



John Walburn, M.D.

Professor of Pediatrics

Dr. Walburn attended the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) from 1969 to 1973. He completed residency training at UNMC from 1973 to 1975 and the University of Kansas Medical Center from 1975-1976. Upon completion of his training, Dr. Walburn worked in a private clinic before taking the position of Section Chief for General Pediatrics in 1983. He has been board-certified by the American Academy of Pediatrics since 1977 and is a member of such organizations as the Ambulatory Pediatric Association, Association of Pediatric Program Directors, American Academy of Pediatrics, and Metro Omaha Medical Society.