

**From:** LCOM Office of the Dean <[COMOfficeOfTheDean@med.uvm.edu](mailto:COMOfficeOfTheDean@med.uvm.edu)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2020 10:01 AM

**Subject:** Important Message from Dean Page: Dr. Christa Zehle Named Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education

Dear Larner Community,

It is with great pleasure that I am announcing that, following a national search, Christa Zehle, M.D., who has been Interim Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education at our institution since January 2019, has accepted the position of Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education at the College. Dr. Zehle assumes the new role effective immediately.

A 1999 alumna of the Larner College of Medicine, Dr. Zehle did her residency in pediatrics at the University of Rochester, where she was named chief resident in 2002--2003. She joined UVM in 2003 as assistant professor of pediatrics and was promoted to associate professor in 2011. She became associate dean for students in 2012.

Dr. Zehle is a sought-after mentor by medical students and residents and has received numerous awards for teaching. In addition to her roles at this College, she practices as a pediatric hospitalist at the University of Vermont Medical Center, where she successfully launched the Pediatric Hospitalist Program in 2003.

She is a Master Teacher at the Teaching Academy, a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society, and the Gold Humanism in Medicine Honor Society. She serves as a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, is a member of the American Medical Association (AMA), and is active in the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Group on Educational Affairs and Student Affairs. She is also the Northeast representative of the AAMC Committee on Student Affairs Working Group on Medical Student Well-being. Among Dr. Zehle's honors are the 2014 Early Achievement Alumni Award from the UVM Larner Medical Alumni Association, and the 2012 Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Faculty Award.

In her Interim Senior Associate Dean role, Dr. Zehle has driven several important curriculum advancements, including increasing the inclusion of medical students in a newly created teaching course, the organization of a working group to garner recommendations for Continuing Medical and Interprofessional Education, and the redesign of Jumpstart VIC (Vermont Integrated Curriculum) to provide both an in-person and online preparatory course for matriculating medical students.

Dr. Zehle has fostered partnerships among the College's Medical Education Leadership Team, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, members of the Teaching Academy and Active Learning team, and curricular associate deans and directors that have increased educational opportunities and assure that the College remains at the forefront of the delivery of innovative medical education.

Currently Dr. Zehle is a key member of the leadership team for the College's 2021 LCME accreditation effort, where she is involved in reviewing data, identifying areas for improvement, and developing a strategic approach to prepare our institution for a successful accreditation visit next year.

Dr. Zehle has done an outstanding job in her interim role, and I am so pleased she will become our Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education. I look forward to continuing to work closely with her to further advance our missions in the years ahead.

I would also like to add how grateful I am to Dr. Beth Kirkpatrick and Dr. Lewis First, the search committee chairs, and to the entire search committee for the thorough and professional way they approached their task to fill this vital position.

Sincerely,  
Rick

Richard L. Page, M.D.  
Dean