

**From:** [Zehle, Christa H](#)  
**To:** [Zehle, Christa H](#)  
**Cc:** [Case, Colleen R](#)  
**Subject:** Please join me in welcoming our new Associate Deans!  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 4, 2022 8:00:35 AM

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Dear students,

After two national searches, it is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Leila Amiri, Ph.D. as the Larner College of Medicine's next Associate Dean for Admissions, and Karen George, M.D., M.P.H. as the next Associate Dean for Students.

Dr. Amiri comes to Larner from the University of Illinois College of Medicine, where she is Assistant Dean for Admissions and Recruitment. Previously, she was Director of Admissions and Financial Aid for the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. She holds a Ph.D. from Northcentral University, and M.A. and B.S. degrees from the University of South Florida. Dr. Amiri is a member of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Advancing Holistic Review in Alignment Working group, Chair of the AAMC BA/MD Affiliate Group and Team Lead for the Central Region Committee on the AAMC Professional Development Initiative. Dr. Amiri will begin her new position here on June 27.

Dr. George is currently Clinical Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at George Washington University and Chair of the Council for Residency Education in Obstetrics and Gynecology (CREOG) of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Her work through CREOG is focused on creating national curricular materials for residents in obstetrics and gynecology in patient safety and quality improvement, health equity, and on improving diversity and inclusion in the specialty through participation in a national learning collaborative called "Equity Matters". She also serves on the leadership team of a 5-year AMA Reimaging Residency grant called "Right Resident, Right Program, Ready Day 1" focused on improving the transition to residency. Dr. George served as the Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program Director at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center/Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth for 17 years and is a Course Advisor and Co-Director of the Fourth Year Transition to Residency Course at George Washington University College of Medicine. She also serves as senior fellow of women's health policy at the Institute for Medicaid Innovation. Dr. George received her B.S. degree from Bates College, her M.D. from Ohio State University College of Medicine, and an M.P.H. from the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice. She will begin her new position on August 1.

I would like to thank the two search committees for all their hard work, led by committee chairs Brian Kim, M.D., and Isaura Menzies, M.D., and the interim deans who have served so ably over the past two years: Nathalie Feldman, M.D., Interim Associate Dean for Admissions, and Lee Rosen, Ph.D., Interim Associate Dean for Students.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Leila Amiri and Dr. Karen George to our Larner College of Medicine Community!

Sincerely,  
Christa Zehle, M.D.

Please note that the Associate Dean for Curriculum position will not be filled at this time due to a process issue that impacted the equity of the search. We will revisit recruiting for this position in January 2023.

I may at times send an email message after/outside work hours based on my schedule. I value your work-life boundaries and rhythm. Please do not feel any pressure to respond outside of your normal work or school hours unless it is convenient for you. Thank you!

**Christa H. Zehle, MD (she/her)**  
**Senior Associate Dean for Medical Education**  
**Office of Medical Student Education**  
**Larner College of Medicine at The University of Vermont**

**Associate Professor of Pediatrics**  
**Pediatric Hospitalist**  
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Pronouns: she/her [[Why include pronouns?](#)]

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