

MEDICAL BOARD STAFF REPORT

DATE REPORT ISSUED: September 11, 2019
ATTENTION: Members, Medical Board of California
SUBJECT: Special Faculty Permit Review Committee
Recommendation
STAFF CONTACT: Monique Murray, Staff Services Manager I, Licensing
Program

REQUESTED ACTIONS:

- 1) Approve the Special Faculty Permit Review Committee's (SFPRC) recommendation for a Special Faculty Permit (SFP) appointment for Joanna Y. Chikwe, M.D., FRCS, pursuant to California Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 2168.1(a)(1)(A).
- 2) Approve the SFPRC's recommendation for Dr. Chikwe's appointment as Chair of the Department of Cardiac Surgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, pursuant to BPC section 2168(c).

BACKGROUND:

The Medical Board of California (Board) is authorized to issue an SFP to a physician who is academically eminent and meets all the requirements pursuant to BPC section 2168.1.

The SFP authorizes an individual to practice medicine only within the medical school and its affiliated institutions where the SFP holder is providing instruction as part of the medical school's educational program, and for which the medical school has assumed direct responsibility.

The SFPRC is comprised of two Board members, one who is a physician and one who is a public member, and one representative from each of the 11 allopathic medical schools in California. The SFPRC reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the eligibility of the applicants applying pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(c)(1).

At the SFPRC's August 22, 2019 meeting, the SFPRC reviewed the qualifications of an applicant from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), David Geffen School of Medicine. Dr. Jonathan R. Hiatt, M.D., Vice Dean for Faculty and Professor for Surgery, UCLA, presented UCLA's requests for Dr. Chikwe to receive an SFP and to be appointed as Chair of the Department of Cardiac Surgery. Dr. Hiatt indicated that Dr. Chikwe is an acknowledged leader in the field of cardiothoracic surgery with extensive clinical and research experience in operative and postoperative outcomes of high-risk cardiac surgery, with special expertise in the area of mitral valve replacement surgery.

Dr. Chikwe currently holds the position of T.F. Cheng Endowed Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery at the State University of New York. Dr. Chikwe's studies on optimizing care of patients undergoing mitral valve replacement surgery established her national and international prominence in the field. Dr. Chikwe introduced innovative robotic procedures for valve repair and developed a thriving cardiac surgery service line recognized for expertise in high-risk surgeries. Dr. Chikwe has authored nearly 50 research papers in top-tier peer-reviewed general medicine specialty journals including the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), Annals of Thoracic Surgery, and the Journal of the American College of Cardiology. Dr. Chikwe is the author of six textbooks and 19 book chapters on cardiac surgery and perioperative medicine.

If approved for an SFP appointment, Dr. Chikwe will hold a full-time faculty appointment as a Professor of Medicine, Step III at UCLA. She will work exclusively at the Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, an affiliate of UCLA. Subject to Board approval, Dr. Chikwe will work as the Chair of the newly formed Department of Cardiac Surgery. She will lead all clinical, research, and educational programs focusing on cardiothoracic surgery.

EDUCATION:

Medical School

Oxford University School of Medicine
United Kingdom: 1994 – 1997
Graduated 1997

Postgraduate Training

Oxford University, John Radcliffe Hospital
United Kingdom: 1989 – 1998

Oxford University, Stroke Mandeville Hospital
United Kingdom: 1998 – 1998

Cambridge University Hospitals, Cambridge
United Kingdom: 1999 – 2000

Royal Brompton & Harefield Hospitals, London
United Kingdom: 2001 – 2003

St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London
United Kingdom: 2003 – 2005

St. Mary's Hospital, London
United Kingdom: 2005 – 2006

Royal Brompton & Harefield Hospitals, London
United Kingdom: 2006 – 2006

The Mount Sinai Hospital
New York: 2006 – 2008

SPECIAL FACULTY PERMIT REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The SFPRC recommended approval of Dr. Chikwe for an SFP at UCLA, pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(c)(1). The SFPRC recommended approval for the appointment as Chair of the Department of Cardiac Surgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, pursuant to BPC section 2168(c).

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REQUESTED ACTION:

Approve the Special Faculty Permit Review Committee's (SFPRC) recommendation to appoint Santiago Horgan, M.D., FACS, as Division Chief of the Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery with University of California, San Diego (UCSD) School of Medicine pursuant to California Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 2168.1(c)(1).

BACKGROUND:

The Medical Board of California (Board) is authorized to issue a Special Faculty Permit (SFP) to a physician who is academically eminent and meets all the requirements pursuant to BPC section 2168.1. The Board is also authorized to approve an SFP holder to be a division chief pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(c)(1).

The SFP authorizes an individual to practice medicine, only within the medical school and its affiliated institutions where the SFP holder is providing instruction as part of the medical school's educational program, and for which the medical school has assumed direct responsibility.

The SFPRC is comprised of two Board members, one who is a physician and one who is a public member, and one representative from each of the 11 allopathic medical schools in California. The SFPRC reviews and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the eligibility of the applicants applying pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(c)(1).

At the SFPRC's August 22, 2019 meeting, the SFPRC reviewed the qualifications of an applicant from UCSD. Jonathan R. Hiatt, M.D., presented on behalf of Andrew L. Ries, M.D., Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UCSD, for Dr. Horgan to be appointed as Division Chief of the Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery and provided the SFPRC with his qualifications.

Dr. Horgan's area of expertise is in minimally invasive surgery with a specialty in natural orifice transluminal endoscopic surgery.

At the February 1, 2008 Board meeting, Board members approved the SFPRC's recommendation to issue Dr. Horgan an SFP. Subsequently, on April 11, 2008, Dr. Horgan was issued an SFP.

Bryan M. Clary, M.D., Chair, Department of Surgery, UCSD, submitted a written request to the Board requesting that Dr. Horgan be appointed as Division Chief of the Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery due to his significant impact to the Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery and his qualifications for the position. Dr. Clary indicated that Dr. Horgan was initially appointed at UCSD to develop the bariatric surgery program as well as the minimally invasive and robotic surgery programs.

Dr. Clary indicated that Dr. Horgan helped establish the Robotic Kidney Donor Transplant Program and the Center for Esophageal Diseases at UCSD. Dr. Horgan's ongoing work in the Center for the Future of Surgery to investigate, develop, test, and teach innovative procedures is helping to revolutionize the field of surgery, and his work helped establish UCSD as a premier site for minimally invasive surgery.

Additionally, Dr. Horgan trains fellows at UCSD, is involved in continuing clinical trials, and was the first surgeon in the United States to implant the LINX device in a patient suffering from gastroesophageal reflux disease. Dr. Horgan was elected to the Board of Governors for the Society of American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons based on his work in the field of minimally invasive surgery. Dr. Ries and Dr. Clary attested to Dr. Horgan's experience and demonstrated leadership that make him uniquely qualified to lead the Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery.

Dr. Horgan's research has made innovative discoveries and helped establish UCSD as a leading institution in the country for new surgical techniques and training of physicians throughout the world.

EDUCATION:

Medical School

University of Buenos Aires School of Medicine
Argentina: 1984 – 1990
Graduated: 1990

Postgraduate Training

University of Buenos Aires, Clinicas Hospitals
Argentina: 1991 – 1995

University of Washington
Seattle: 1995 – 1997

SPECIAL FACULTY PERMIT REVIEW COMMITTEE FINDINGS:

The SFPRC recommended approval of Dr. Horgan for appointment as Division Chief of the Division of Minimally Invasive Surgery, pursuant to BPC section 2168.1(c)(1).