

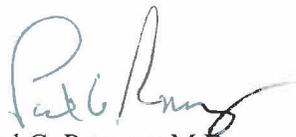
February 26, 2014

Leo S. Morales, MD, PhD, has accepted the position of chief diversity officer at the University of Washington (UW) School of Medicine, effective June 1, 2014. Dr. Morales has been an affiliate associate professor in public health at the UW since 2009, when Group Health Research Institute recruited him as an associate investigator and he started practicing internal medicine at Group Health Cooperative. At Group Health and the UW, Dr. Morales has been a leading researcher, establishing a successful and well-funded program of research. His special interests are in patient-centered outcomes and the role that cultural factors play in health and health care. He has developed successful outreach programs in Group Health and throughout Washington state, particularly involving Latino and other underrepresented communities. We are delighted with his appointment to this important new position at the UW. He has indicated an interest in completing his ongoing projects, especially those that involve diverse communities and the Inaugural Latino Health Conference planned for April 17 to 18 in Seattle—Latino Health Research, Practice, and Policy: Identifying Our Strengths and Growing Our Collaborations, co-sponsored by the UW's Institute of Translational Health Sciences (ITHS), the National Institutes of Health, and Group Health Research Institute.

Dr. Morales received his MD and MPH (in health services) degrees from the University of Washington in 1990 and completed his PhD in policy studies at the RAND Graduate School in 2000. He completed residency training in primary care internal medicine at the University of California, San Francisco/San Francisco General Hospital in 1993 and served as a fellow in the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)/NIH National Research Service Award (NRSA) Primary Care Fellowship Program from 1995 to 1998. Following completion of fellowship, Dr. Morales served as an assistant professor at UCLA in general internal medicine from 1998 to 2004, when he was promoted to associate professor.

Dr. Morales's research has focused on health disparities, patient-reported outcomes, and minority health. His research has been supported by peer-reviewed funding from the National Institutes of Health and he also received the Harold Amos Minority Medical Faculty Development Program Career Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in 2001. Dr. Morales's excellent research has led to several awards including election into the American Association of Clinical Investigators (ASCI) in 2007.

Dr. Morales is extremely well qualified to serve as chief diversity officer at the UW School of Medicine and lead the Center for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (CEDI). We are very fortunate that he has accepted this important position for the UW School of Medicine and our community.



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