

LAUREATE AWARD

Jennifer Hsu, MD, FACP



Dr. Jennifer Hsu is a Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine (USD SSOM). She obtained her undergraduate degree with honors in biology and an MD from the University of Missouri and completed her internal medicine residency and infectious disease fellowship at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Hsu has held numerous leadership

roles, including Assistant Dean for Medical Student Education, Infectious Disease Division Chief, and Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency at the USD SSOM. With a deep commitment to medical education, Dr. Hsu has taught and mentored countless students, residents, and fellows throughout her career. Her expertise in infectious diseases and medical education is reflected in her multiple invited presentations as well as her service on various regional and national committees.

In recognition of her leadership and service, she was selected as a fellow of the prestigious Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) program and also as the Dr. Charley F. and Elizabeth Gutch Chair in Medicine, USD SSOM. Dr. Hsu currently practices at Avera Health, providing inpatient and outpatient adult infectious disease care, having served the communities of South Dakota and the surrounding region over the past 12 years. She is the proud mother of Caleb, and she works tirelessly to prevent chaos from overtaking the family.



South Dakota
Chapter

EARLY CAREER PHYSICIAN AWARD

Rorak Hooten, MD



Dr. Rorak Hooten is originally from Lennox, South Dakota. After graduating from the University of South Dakota for medical school, he did his residency training at The University of Arizona in Tucson. He pursued fellowship training at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in pulmonary and critical care medicine.

After fellowship, he returned to South Dakota, practicing at Monument Health in Rapid City. At Monument, Dr. Hooten is the Director for Respiratory Therapy. He also started a navigational bronchoscopy program and has a focus in nodules and lung cancer. He currently does both pulmonology and critical care medicine at Monument.

TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nate Miller, MD, FACP



Dr. Nate Miller is the Clinical Vice President of the Avera Health Hospitalist Service Line. He graduated from the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine (USD SSOM) in 2008 and completed his internal medicine (IM) residency at the USD SSOM in 2011. Following this, he served an additional year as the program's chief resident. He has been a hospitalist at Avera McKennan

since 2011. Dr. Miller maintains an appointment as Clinical Professor at the USD SSOM, serves as the medical school's Division Chief of Hospital Medicine, and is a core faculty member of the USD SSOM IM residency program. He maintains memberships in the American Osteopathic Association, the American Medical Association, the American College of Physicians, and the Society of Hospital Medicine. His wife, Tiffany, is an attorney at First Bank & Trust; they have 3 boys: Noah, Luke, and Graham.

VOLUNTEERISM AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Michael P. Pietila, MD, FACP



Dr. Michael P. Pietila, MD, FCCP, FACP, is a fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians and the American College of Physicians. He graduated from the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine (USD SSOM) in 2000. Dr. Pietila completed his residency and fellowships at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. He

is Board-certified in pulmonary, critical care, sleep, and internal medicine and has been at the Yankton Medical Clinic, PC, since 2006. He is Chair of the Department of Internal Medicine; Medical Director for Critical Care, Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine Services at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital; and a former Chief of Staff and Chairman of the Board of Directors. Dr. Pietila is a Clinical Professor and Chief of the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine at the USD SSOM. He is a proud graduate of South Dakota State University where he serves on the Board of Consultants for the College of Natural Sciences and is an avid Jackrabbits fan.