A new UCSF advisory council is focusing on strengthening the links between the University and the community.

The UCSF University-Community Partnerships Council comprises 10 public service advocates from the San Francisco community and 10 from UCSF. It is charged with assisting the community in partnering with UCSF to address community needs and to expand the University’s presence and participation in partnerships.

“If UCSF is to remain a leading university, it is essential that we succeed in our ultimate mission of promoting health and preventing disease,” said Eugene Washington, MD, UCSF executive vice chancellor and provost, who was instrumental in the formation of the program.” To achieve this goal, we have formed a council to help us identify needs and develop initiatives to create a more robust, institutionalized community partnership program at UCSF.”

Kevin Grumbach, MD, professor and chair of the UCSF Department of Family and Community Medicine and chief of the Family and Community Medicine Service at San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center, serves as council co-chair. Gwen Henry, director of the Parent and Family Resource Center and associate director of Florence Crittenton Services, serves as co-chair from the community.

“I am tremendously excited to see this program in civic engagement taking shape at UCSF,” Grumbach said. “This program is about challenging UCSF and the community to find ways to work together more effectively to their mutual benefit.”
New council promotes partnerships between UCSF and community

Council members were selected after a comprehensive review process, and all have extensive track records serving the community. Members from the community include representatives from existing UCSF partners. UCSF members come from a cross-section of the campus, with representation from the schools of dentistry, medicine, nursing and pharmacy, the Graduate Division and the medical center.

Community members say they appreciate the opportunity to share their insights.

“I joined the council because I have incredible respect for UCSF, and want to help UCSF make stronger and more fruitful connections to my population of students and their communities,” said Eric Lewis, a teacher at Mission High School. “The new Mission Bay campus is close to both the Mission and Bayview-Hunters Point, where many of my students reside. I hope that by working with UCSF, we can ensure that these two communities benefit from UC’s presence and that UC will benefit from the participation of these communities.”

Elba Sanchez, who was hired in April, is directing the partnerships program.

UCSF Council representatives are:

- Charles Alexander, PhD, School of Dentistry
- Patridia Caldera-Munoz, PhD Science & Health Education Partnership
- Gerri Collins-Bride, School of Nursing
- Christine Des Jarlais, EdD Graduate Division
- Kevin Grumbach, MD, Family and Community Medicine UCSF and San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center
- Dixie Horning, National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health
- Cindy Lima, UCSF Medical Center
- Howard Pinderhughes, PhD School of Nursing
- Lorie Rice, School of Pharmacy
- Naomi Wortis, MD, School of Medicine
- Barbara French, University Relations, ex officio

For more information on community partnerships, contact Elba R. Sanchez, program director, UCSF Community and Governmental Relations, at 415/502-4966 or esanchez@cgr.ucsf.edu

Our focus

UCSF University-Community Partnerships Council

Five areas of focus

Employment/Economic Development: Expanding opportunities in San Francisco’s Southeast sector

Community-based Research: Engaging community in research opportunities for mutual benefit

Service Learning: Institutionalizing public service in the health professions

Grants: Distributing University funds to support partnerships

Educational Outreach: Exploring opportunities for learning for children and adults

University Community Partnerships Program
415/476-5589  http://sf.ucsf.edu
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