

## **Dr. Monica Gandhi Receives the 2011 Sarlo Award**

The AIDS Research Institute at UCSF is proud to announce that Monica Gandhi, MD MPH, has been awarded the 2011 Sarlo Award for Teaching Excellence. Established in 1999 through the generosity of George Sarlo and the Sarlo Family Foundation and administered through the Sarlo Foundation of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund, this \$5000 award goes each year to a member of the campus community who has performed extraordinary service in teaching junior faculty, fellows, residents, and students involved in HIV/AIDS research and clinical care.

Dr. Gandhi joins a distinguished group of Sarlo Award recipients, including Drs. Jay Levy, Susan Folkman, Donald Abrams, Bill Holzemer, Meg Newman, Laurence Huang, Jackie Tulsy, Toby Maurer, Steve Deeks, Harry Lampiris, and Brad Hare. Dr. Maurer chaired the committee to select this year's winner.

Dr. Gandhi is an associate professor of clinical medicine in UCSF's HIV/AIDS Division within the Department of Medicine at San Francisco General Hospital. Her areas of research focus include HIV infection in women, pharmacokinetics of antiretrovirals, and innovative methods for evaluating antiretroviral exposure using hair samples. She is director of the Inpatient HIV/AIDS Consult Service at SFGH, serves on the core faculty of UCSF Global Health Sciences' master's program, is the education director for the Department of Medicine's Division of HIV/AIDS, and is program director for UCSF's Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH) K12 training grant program, along with the women's health seminar series for faculty and trainees she helped launch in March 2011.

In addition to her research and service as an attending physician, Dr. Gandhi teaches courses in various UCSF departments; gives frequent lectures, seminars, and Grand Rounds presentations; and has mentored several predoctoral students and postdoctoral fellows and residents.

A few excerpts from Dr. Gandhi's letters of nomination for the Sarlo Award follow:

"There are really not enough superlatives for me to describe Dr. Gandhi's passion and commitment to teaching....Dr. Gandhi is a gem and a tremendous asset to the academic community. I recommend her without any reservation whatsoever as one of the most dedicated professors at [UCSF]....I find her to be an inspiration."

"Dr. Gandhi's dedication, enthusiasm, clinical acumen, and approachability have made her one of the most respected and admired teachers at UCSF."

"I remember leaving the clinic that day feeling more inspired to become a physician than I ever have before. To this day Dr. Gandhi continues to serve as a source of inspiration, embodying the qualities that define an extraordinary teacher: intelligence, patience, and a heartfelt dedication to nurturing and inspiring her students."

"Her enthusiasm in the classroom is unparalleled in all of my university experiences, and I have never felt so inspired by a single individual as I have been by Dr. Gandhi."

Donated by George S. Sarlo and the Sarlo Family Foundation of the Jewish Community Endowment Fund, the Sarlo teaching awards are designed to elevate individual, public, and institutional respect for teaching and to honor outstanding professors at selected colleges and universities throughout Northern California.