Elisa A. Ostafin, M.D., clinical assistant professor of internal medicine in the Medical School, retired from active faculty status on April 5, 2024.

Dr. Ostafin received her B.A. degree in Russian studies from Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH in 1978 and her M.D. degree from the Wayne State University School of Medicine in 1982. She completed her postgraduate training in internal medicine at the University of Michigan in 1985. She joined the University of Michigan faculty as a clinical instructor in 1985, and was promoted to clinical assistant professor in 1995.

In her primary role as an outpatient clinician, Dr. Ostafin provided outstanding care to a large and increasingly complex panel of general internal medicine patients. Most of her patients saw her for over 20 years. Dr. Ostafin’s first-rate care of her patients was reflected in her excellent scores on multiple quality indicators and patient satisfaction surveys.

Dr. Ostafin was dedicated to working with learners throughout her 41 years at Michigan. She taught, supervised, mentored, and encouraged hundreds of medical students, residents, junior faculty, and nurse practitioners at the Medical School and in her clinics. She was a clinical educator for the Clinical Foundations of Medicine Sequence at the Medical School for 10 years and then was selected as one of the Doctoring faculty during the inaugural year of this new program. She had a medical student in clinic with her every Thursday morning for over 20 years. She received the Special Recognition for Contributions to the Medical Student Teaching Program Award in 2003.

When the West Ann Arbor Clinic opened in 1996, Dr. Ostafin was recruited as its first medical director. Later she served as the clinical service leader for general medicine when the new and larger clinic opened in 2017. She participated in numerous work groups, strategic plans, and committees, including the Executive Committee on Clinical Affairs and the Primary Care Operations Committee, which she co-chaired from 2015-2018.

Dr. Ostafin received several awards. In 2014, she was the first recipient of the Steven Gradwohl Art of Primary Care Award. That same year she was inducted into the Internal Medicine Clinical Excellence Society. In 2017, she was named a fellow in the American College of Physicians and in 2019 received the Outstanding Clinician Award at the Dean’s Awards Program.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Elisa A. Ostafin, clinical assistant professor emerita of internal medicine.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

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