Dear Friends,

The Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine is pleased to announce that Dr. Valerie Arboleda is the recipient of the 2016-2017 Daljit S. and Elaine Sarkaria Fellowship. First established in the academic year of 2004, the Fellowship is awarded annually to recognize an outstanding trainee committed to disease research and clinical innovation. Dr. Arboleda earned her undergraduate degree from Columbia University in New York City and went on to earn her MD and PhD from UCLA in the Medical Scientist training program (MSTP). She completed her PhD thesis work in Human Genetics, where she studied the genetic architecture of Mendelian disease, with a focus on understanding the underlying molecular mechanisms in disorders of sex development (DSD). She worked on clinical genomic sequencing technologies to improve the genetic diagnosis rate in patients with DSD, identification of the genetic cause for IMAGe syndrome and premature ovarian failure and elucidated the role of non-coding regions in a mouse model of XY sex reversal. She has since joined Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at UCLA in 2014 for training in Clinical Pathology and will pursue subspecialty fellowship training in molecular genetic pathology. Dr. Arboleda has continued to research the genetic etiology of disease, with a focus on elucidating the relationship between rare Mendelian disease and common diseases. She aspires to an academic career focused on using genomic approaches to better diagnose and treat human disease.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Valerie Arboleda on this prestigious award.

Sincerely,

Peggy Sullivan, M.D.  
Associate Professor of Pathology  
Director, Residency Program  
Vice Chair, Graduate Medical Education

Jonathan Braun, M.D., Ph.D.  
Professor and Chair  
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine