



Coach for the Staff Mentoring Program

J. Harry (Bud) Isaacson grew up outside of Detroit and attended the University of Michigan for both undergraduate and medical school, obtaining his medical degree in 1984. He completed his Internal Medicine Residency and Chief Residency at the University of Vermont in 1988. He joined the Department of Internal Medicine at Wayne State University as a junior faculty in 1988. He became involved teaching medical students and residents and had the opportunity to work with national leaders in doctor patient communication who used videotaping of medical encounters for research and teaching. Also during that time he was selected to participate in a NIH grant to train junior faculty at academic medical centers to teach about alcohol and other substance abuse disorders. This grant included formal training in curriculum design, evaluation and adult learning principles. This led Dr. Isaacson to develop a career focus on medical education, with a special interest in doctor patient communication and alcohol and substance abuse education.

Dr. Isaacson joined the Department of General Internal Medicine at the Cleveland Clinic in 1993 as Director of Education Programs and Associate Program Director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program. He developed a Primary Care Track within the residency and led a number of new education initiatives including formal General Internal Medicine Grand rounds, ambulatory curriculum for residents, faculty development, and communication skills training for residents using videotaping as a primary learning tool. In 2002 he shifted his career focus to the medical school. He was part of the core faculty that developed and planned the curriculum for CCLCM. His current position is Director of Clinical Education which involves oversight of all clinical training for CCLCM. In addition, he directs courses on “Communication Skills” and “Foundations of Clinical Medicine” in the medical school. Dr. Isaacson has a busy primary care practice and has also served as Vice Chair of General Internal Medicine. He has an excellent working knowledge of the Cleveland Clinic and looks forward to participating in the new mentoring program at the Cleveland Clinic.