

**The University of Rochester Aging Institute**  
*Promoting Vitality in Aging through Collaboration, Discovery and Innovation*

**Annette Marie Medina-Walpole, MD**

My ELAM project over 2016-17 was to develop and establish the University of Rochester Aging Institute (URAI). The URAI is a University-wide initiative that integrates all existing aging-related strengths and expertise, spanning a myriad of departments, schools and research centers across campuses, including research, patient care, education and community outreach.

Approved by the University of Rochester Board of Trustees in November 2019, the URAI provides a framework for collaboration related to three pillars of strength: Vital Discovery (research), Vital Care (patient care & workforce education) and Vital Living (community engagement) across the entire University and Greater Rochester region.

The ELAM program has had a monumental impact on my career with my appointment as the inaugural URAI Director and ongoing mentorship from the Dean and CEO.