

Dr. Abby Spencer currently serves as Vice Chair for Education in the Department of Medicine and as Director of the Academy of Educators at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. She previously served as Professor of Medicine at Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of Case Western Reserve University, Director of the Internal Medicine Residency Program and Vice Chair for Education for the Medicine Institute at Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Spencer graduated Summa Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a BS in Behavioral Neuroscience from Tulane University, and received her MD from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. She completed her Primary Care Internal Medicine residency at the New York Presbyterian Hospital, Weill-Cornell Medical Center and subsequently completed a fellowship in General Internal Medicine with a concentration in Women's Health and earned a Master's Degree in Medical Education from the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Spencer is an innovative and enthusiastic educator. She is exceptional at finding the strengths and potential in others and cultivating their strengths to help them achieve their highest potential. She has dedicated her career to innovating, developing curriculum, building teams, and developing others in medical education. In her role as Director of the Internal Medicine residency program at Cleveland Clinic from 2014-2020, Dr. Spencer led curriculum development, program innovation, teaching, mentoring, leadership development and faculty development. She has delivered over 150 invited faculty development/educational courses and workshops locally, regionally and nationally. She has won numerous national awards for her teaching, educational scholarship, mentorship, and leadership including the 2016 Society of General Internal Medicine and Association of Chiefs and Leaders in GIM National Brancati Leadership and Mentorship Award, the 2017 SGIM National Scholarship in Education Award, and the 2020 ACGME Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award. She was awarded the Cleveland Clinic Women's Professional Staff Women's Champion Award in 2020, which recognizes contribution to the advancement, development and wellbeing of the women professional staff at Cleveland Clinic. She is currently a 2021 ELAM fellow and serves on the editorial board for the Journal of General Internal Medicine. Dr. Spencer has held leadership positions in many national organizations across academic internal medicine, most recently as a councilor for the Association for Program Directors in Internal Medicine (APDIM). Her greatest professional joy is mentoring, teaching, sponsoring, and developing others.