

## **FARAH SHEIKH**

Professor, Medicine

Dr. Farah Sheikh is a Professor in the Department of Medicine at UC San Diego. She received her PhD in Physiology (Cardiovascular) from the University of Manitoba and was awarded the 2001 E.L. Drewry Award (Faculty of Medicine) and Distinguished PhD Dissertation Award for her dissertation work. She was recruited to UC San Diego for her postdoctoral studies focused on exploiting genetic mouse models to uncover the mechanistic basis of cardiomyopathy and heart failure, securing fellowships from Canadian Institute of Health Research/Heart and Stroke Foundation and American Heart Association (AHA). Other honors include the AHA Laverna Titus Young Investigator Awards, UCSD Schulman Award for Outstanding Cardiovascular Research, Badge of Recognition by Faculty 1000 and finalist for the AHA Louis N. and Arnold M. Katz Basic Research Prize. Recruited as faculty at UC San Diego in 2009, her work has centered on understanding the molecular basis of genetic cardiac disease, arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy. Her lab has pioneered human relevant mouse models, uncovered new molecular targets and designed a gene therapy treatment for arrhythmogenic cardiomyopathy, currently in an ongoing Phase 1/2 clinical trial with industry partnership. Dr. Sheikh has launched successful gene therapy start-ups, including ARVC Therapeutics Inc and Stelios Therapeutics Inc. She holds leadership roles in professional organizations, serving as Cardiovascular Section Chair for the American Physiological Society and Vice Chair of the AHA Basic Cardiovascular Sciences Summer Specialty Conference committee as well as serving on the AHA BCVS Leadership Council and as AHA Advocacy ambassador. She has also previously served as Cardiovascular Section Committee on Committee representative for the American Physiology Society. She also serves as Editor-in-Chief of the journal of *Life Sciences* and is an Associate Editor of *Nature Regenerative Medicine*, while serving on the Editorial Boards of *American Journal of Physiology-Heart and Circulatory Physiology* and *Circulation Research*.

Dr. Sheikh's commitment to university service is multifaceted. She currently serves as UC San Diego Health Sciences Faculty Equity Advisor (since 2020), Chair of the Academic Senate's Health Sciences Research Grant Committee (2023-2024) and Vice Chair of the UCSD Biomedical Sciences Graduate program (2023-2025). She also serves on the UCSD Department of Medicine Committee on Appointment and Promotions (since 2014) and is a member of the JEDI executive committee (since 2021). She is also currently an Associate Director of the NHLBI Molecular Cardiology T32 training grant as well as serves on the Board for the UCSD Gene Therapy Initiative. Past university service includes leadership roles such as (i) member (2014-2023) and Chair (2020-2022) of the UCSD School of Medicine Recruitment and Admissions Executive Committee and (ii) Department of Medicine alternate (2021-2022) and regular (2022-2023) member representative in the Academic Senate's Representative Assembly.