

2021 Idaho WWAMI Excellence in Teaching

Award Recipient Dr. Kristin Algoe

Dr. Algoe was a truly wonderful preceptor during my time at Sandpoint Women's Health. She was extremely welcoming and supportive from the very start of my rotation. She challenged me to grow and learn in a manner that still made me feel capable and empowered. She exhibited the utmost professionalism and respect in regard to corrective feedback and helped guide my learning in a way that utilized my unique strengths and interests. Dr. Algoe was always approachable and consistently took time to provide answers of depth regarding patient care, even during busy clinic and OR days. She took the additional time to get to know me as an individual, striving to make me feel at home and respected as a member of her team. These characteristics extended to her treatment of patients and their complex needs and goals. She exhibited an impressive ability to reconcile patient goals that may conflict with physician/care goals and still ensured patients felt heard and empowered in their decision making. This was particularly evident in the case of delivery plans. As a uniquely intimate process and life transition point, patients regularly had numerous expectations of how their deliveries would occur. I felt that Dr. Algoe was able to guide them to realistic expectations and wants while always providing an honest assessment. She as acted as a guide and source of expertise that ensured the best outcome for the mother and baby without ever seeming paternalistic in nature. I hope to emulate her style of interaction and holistic approach to patient care in my own development as a physician. It was truly an honor to learn from her and I left the rotation confidently able to state that every aspect of my time working with her bettered me as a medical learner and future physician. Having now completed third year clerkships, I can say Dr. Algoe was the most supportive and influential preceptor I worked with. It was evident she had a true passion for teaching and made me feel empowered in an educational structure that often doesn't reinforce this.