The Department of Family and Geriatric Medicine strives for success and uses the faculty and residents of the department to reflect the outstanding values that are implemented in their mission and vision. An important part of the DFGM Vision Statement and one of the values our department has as a whole is “optimal patient experiences.” Dr. Jose-phiné Gomes is one of our faculty members who fully understands this idea and implements it daily in her practice.

Dr. Gomes has been a member of the Geriatric Faculty since 2014. She earned her Doctorate of Medicine from the Goa Medical College in Goa India. Her Geriatric Fellowship was completed at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Dr. Gomes came to UofL because she wanted the best of both worlds, “When I was a child, I always wanted to be either a teacher or a doctor. My current position gives me both.”

The University of Louisville provides the only geriatric fellowship in the entire state of Kentucky. The Department of Family and Geriatric Medicine uses clinics, long term care, nursing homes and hospitals as the backdrop for teaching. The opportunity for a teaching clinic might not appeal to every physician, but here at the University of Louisville our physicians love the process. “It’s very enjoyable. Your fountain of knowledge is constantly growing. It’s like a two-way process where we are both learning constantly.”

When asked why she loved the University of Louisville, Dr. Gomes explained that UofL provides a good community of care. “The care is very individualized and based on set goals and involves a lot of other disciplines. It’s more than giving a pill, it’s holistic care,” said Dr. Gomes when discussing the diversity of not only the physicians, but the patients in the practice.

An important reminder Dr. Gomes has for future fellows or students who are interested in the geriatric field. She contests that exposure to a difference in specialties would be helpful because a physician can see a variety of patients. Dr. Gomes encourages students achieve this opportunity through outpatient medicine so they’ll be well equipped for the diversity within patients they may encounter in the future.