Diversity Mentorship Program

Sponsored by:

TTUHSC EL PASO
OFFICE OF DIVERSITY, INCLUSION, AND GLOBAL HEALTH
Jose Manuel de la Rosa, M.D.
Vice President for Outreach and Community Engagement Pediatrics

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“A mentor should be present and/or available for a mentee such that they provide advice, direction, and guidance as a mentee navigates throughout their career.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic
Hobbies: Hiking, gardening, and reading
Contact Information: Jmanuel.Delarosa@ttuhsc.edu

Not able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Gilbert Handal, M.D.
Professor
Pediatrics

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“Open, continuous, comprehensive, and positive.”

Outside Interests: Children's programs, reading, traveling, and international interventions and programs

Contact Information: gilbert.handal@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Sitratullah Olawunmi Maiyegun, M.D., FAAP

Associate Professor
Pediatrics

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“To assist mentee in identifying objectives/goals; to advise and make recommendations on best practices to achieve those goals; provide guidance and support by creating an atmosphere of openness.”

Race/Ethnicity: I am a Nigerian-American. I was born in Nigeria.
Outside Interests: Dancing and singing
Contact Information: sitratullah.maiyegun@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Fatima Gutierrez, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Pediatrics

Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“Be there for questions, advice regarding career planning, and able to go for advice if any problems arise.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic
Outside interests: Dance, travel, eating, playing with my son
Contact Information: By text at 505.340.6820

Not able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Cynthia Perry, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean of Admissions
Assistant Professor
Medical Education
Pathology & Molecular Medicine

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“I think mentors should provide a safe venue to discuss issues and concerns regarding life, school, and career plans and obstacles. I try to provide guidance when possible and help in identifying resources for my mentee when needed. I think both should bring open minds and clear expectations to the partnership.”

Race/Ethnicity: Mexican-American and Chinese
Outside Interests: Dance, food, gardening, attending outdoor festivals and fairs
Contact Information: cynthia.perry@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Upcoming Event

MEET & GREET

Wednesday September 9
Via Webex

STARTS AT
6:30PM

Join PRIDE Alliance, a campus LGBTQ+ student organization for all, for our first event of the year. Log in for a relaxed evening to chat about navigating health professions as an LGBTQ+ person in El Paso and to connect with fellow TTU HSC El Paso LGBTQ+ community members and allies. All students from TTU HSC El Paso are welcome and are encouraged to RSVP on TechEngage!

Travis Cosham, M.D., was a member of the forty students in the inaugural class of PFSOM. After graduating in 2009, he went on to complete residency at The University of Chicago in Emergency Medicine where he worked at multiple hospitals including a large trauma center. In addition to his work in the emergency room, Dr. Cosham also has experience in aeromedical transport including flight and helicopter medicine for both local and international patient transport. He is currently an attending physician at the Las Palmas del Sur Medical Center after moving back to El Paso from Chicago.

Objectives:

- Meet with other members of the TTU HSC El Paso community who are part of the LGBTQ+ community and allies
- Form a network of LGBTQ+ friendly future health care and research professionals
- Learn about navigating the health care profession as an LGBTQ+ person from a local El Paso LGBTQ+ physician
- Become familiar with the LGBTQ+ community and culture in El Paso

Click here to register.
Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“I would love to get to know the student with diverse backgrounds; provide advice and guidance they will need to be successful in medical school.”

RACE/ETHNICITY: Asian American, familiar with Buddhism
OUTSIDE INTERESTS: Hiking, music
CONTACT INFORMATION: thwe.htay@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Gilberto A. Gonzalez, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation

Contact Information: By phone at 314.562.0882
Shaked Laks, M.D.

Assistant Professor
Radiology

Outside Interests: I work full time and have two small boys at home so most of my hobbies are their hobbies at this point. I do enjoy reading (adult books when I have time), exercise, spending time outdoors with my family.

Contact Information: shaked.laks@ttuhsc.edu

Race/Ethnicity: I was born in Israel to parents of Sephardic and Ashkenazi decent. Although I am Jewish, I am not very religious and I feel like Israeli/Jewish is more of an ethnicity for ME. On surveys, I used to check other because I don’t really identify as Caucasian but soon realized I don’t really fit any of the ‘other’ ethnic categories.

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Indu Pathak, M.D. FAAP.
Assistant Professor
Pediatrics

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“Work together, mentor should guide the mentee and help each other.”

Outside Interests: Reading and swimming

Contact Information: By text at 646.413.836

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Upcoming Event

Diversity and Global Health Perspectives Lecture Series

Food Insecurity During a Pandemic

Sept. 09, 2020
Noon – 1p.m.
Via Webex

For more information, email DiversityInclusionGlobalHealth@uthsc.edu
Pedro Antonio Maldonado, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Obstetrics and Gynecology

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“Mentor should offer advice/guidance regarding career pathways and research, but also give personal advice based on own experiences and personal growth throughout career; be available, have appropriate face time. Mentee should ask questions, seek advice on topics inside/outside of medicine, follow up with meetings.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic/Latino (Mexican-American Heritage)
Outside Interests: Riding bikes, spending time with wife and children, watching movies, playing basketball or ultimate Frisbee, collect Jordan basketball shoes.
Contact Information: pedro.maldonado@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Jun Zhang, Ph.D., Sc.D.

Associate Professor
Center of Emphasis in Cancer

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“Professionalism and communication.”

Race/Ethnicity: Asian
Committee: American Heart Association
Hobbies: Soccer
Contact Information: By phone at 915.215.4197

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Jennifer Molokwu, M.D., M.P.H., FAAFP
Assistant Professor
Family and Community Medicine

Outside Interests: Cooking, movies, and fictional books

Did not indicate if able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: jennifer.molokwu@ttuhsc.edu or by text at 612.242.0406
Daniel Bustamante, M.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Pathology

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“A mentor should share any invaluable knowledge regarding the medical field/professions that he/she can offer. The advice should be focused on areas of unknown or crossroad areas of the mentee. The relationship should be honest and beneficial for both parties.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic
Hobbies: Running, music, barbecue, family
Contact information: daniel.Bustamante@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity: Yes
Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“There should be a clear understanding of what the mentor and mentee bring to the relationship, and it needs to be based on the mentee’s needs. Guidelines and agreed upon mentorship parameters should be outlined and documented at the beginning of the relationship. The mentee needs to demonstrate follow-up with steps as suggested by the mentor. Details of the mentoring components really depend on each individual mentee’s needs.”

Hobbies: Cycling

Contact Information: Christiane.Herber-Valdez@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide research opportunity: Yes
Ei Ei Khin, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Pediatrics

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“A mentee should bring the area of development or the network to expand that he/she needs to the mentor's attention. A mentor should then invest time and make a commitment to provide guidance or find resources for the mentee's education and professional development.”

Race/Ethnicity: Asian
Hobbies: Travelling, sightseeing
Contact Information: Ei.Khin@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity: Yes
Ratna C. Boppana, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Internal Medicine

Vision of a Mentor-Mentee Relationship:
“Mentee should build a trusted relationship with mentor in which he/she feels comfortable to communicate openly. Mentor to should have the commitment towards the mentee to foster him/her professionally.”

Race / Ethnicity: Indian
Hobbies: Gardening, Baking, Listening to audiobooks
Contact Information: By Text 408.768.4260

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity: Yes
Cecilia De Vargas, M.D.
Associate Professor
Psychiatry

Vision of a Mentor-Mentee Relationship:
“Mutual collaboration within a trusting, safe, stigma free frame”

Race / Ethnicity: Hispanic
Hobbies: Reading
Contact Information: cecilia.devargas@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity:
Vision of a Mentor-Mentee Relationship:

"Mentors should be supportive and provide guidance to mentees in regards to their current and future medical career goals. Mentees should be enthusiastic and actively contact their mentors when they have questions or need advice."

Race / Ethnicity: Hispanic

Hobbies: Reading, Watching Movies / TV, Writing, Spending as much time as possible with my dog.

Contact Information: Sarah.Sepulveda@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity: No
Richard W. McCallum, M.D.
Professor
Department of Internal Medicine

Vision of a Mentor-Mentee Relationship:

“The mentor should guide the student in the correct direction and mold according to what would be beneficial for the student. The mentee should be willing to learn and dedicate time and effort to making progress.”

Race / Ethnicity: White
Hobbies: Guitar, Sports
Contact Information: Richard.Mccallum@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity: Yes
Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“Good mentoring relationship includes creating a relationship of trust, defining roles, and responsibilities, open communication and collaboratively solving problems.”

Race/Ethnicity: Asian
Outside interests: Arts and Crafts
Contact information: mariatheresa.villanos@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Lisa Hartman, MD, MAS
Assistant Professor
Pediatrics Hematology/Oncology

Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“Open communication about issues important to both members of the pair. Mutual motivation to complete a project that both are interested in.”

Race/Ethnicity: White woman in medicine
Committees: Pediatric Residency Core Competency Committee; El Paso Children’s Hospital Research Committee; PLFSOM Women in Medicine and Science
Outside Interests: traveling, spending time with friends and family, watching movies
Contact Information: lisa.hartman@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Diego De La Mora, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Internal Medicine

Contact Information: diego.de-la-mora@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“I strongly believe in providing students with an intellectually stimulating environment that encourages academic exploration, critical thinking and innovation. My overall goal in teaching and mentoring is to lead each student to become the best professional and human being they are called to be. Mentoring provides an excellent opportunity to accomplish this goal.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic
Committees: Reading, swimming, and biking
Contact Information: diego.nino@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Linda Ellis, M.D., MI, M.A.
Assistant Professor
Pathology El Paso

Race/Ethnicity: Latina, with long-standing family roots from Mexico and Spain
Contact Information: Linda.ellis@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Blake Busey, D.O.
Assistant Professor
Family Medicine

Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“I want the best outcome for every mentee. I will explain the current landscape from my perception as well as the inequalities that I have identified to help them avoid those pitfalls.”

Race/Ethnicity: White

Outside Interests: Permaculture, aquaponics, fitness, building electric vehicles, building complex systems

Contact Information: 509-863-6070
Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“A mentor should provide guidance for the mentee. The mentee should be proactive in their academic career and actively seek opportunities to excel in their education. The mentor should provide empathetic listening to their mentee and advice only when requested from the mentee. Mentors should provide encouragement to their mentee and help identify strengths and work on weaknesses. Mentors and mentees need communication and time set aside for the relationship to grow. Mentors and mentees also need to be reliable.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic
Outside Interests: Reading, Learning new things, and Volunteering
Contact Information: Jessica.chacon@ttuhsc.edu
Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Curt Pfarr, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Medical Education

Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“First and foremost honesty and trust. Each of these are fostered, over time, by clear and open communication.”

Race/Ethnicity: White
Outside Interests: Hiking, Backpacking, Mountaineering
Contact Information: curt.pfarr@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“The mentor's role is to provide guidance, encouragement, and support, while the mentee's role is to ask for help when needed, set the agenda for the meetings, establish clear lines of communication, maintain contact, and learn. The mentor should be open, direct and honest and provide an objective perspective. The mentor is also there to hold the mentee accountable and remind them of their overall career goals. Offering positive but sincere feedback will keep the mentee motivated.”

Contact Information: fatma.dihowm@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“It should be a relationship where the mentee feels safe bringing up any topics, issues, or needs that are pressing to them at the time. The mentor should be responsive and help guide and support the mentee.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic
Outside Interests: Yoga, Cooking, Hiking, Watching TV/Movies
Contact Information: Elise.madrid@ttuhsc.edu
Moataz Ragheb, M.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Psychiatry

Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“I hope my personal experience with different cultures and different countries may be helpful to expand the perspective and world view of the mentee. My role should that of a listener, adviser, and consultant.”

Race/Ethnicity: Egypt, North African, Middle East, Arab
Outside Interests: Reading, Swimming, Traveling
Contact Information: 401.489.8880

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Maria Theresa Opina, M.D.
Assistant Professor
TTUHSC Westside Office
Pulmonary Disease and Critical Care Medicine

Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:
“Commitment, Knowledge, Be able to provide guidance in professional development”

Race/Ethnicity: Pacific Islander
Outside Interests: Exercise, Watching foreign movies, Exploring my city
Contact Information: maria.opine@ttuhsc.edu

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity