**FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**
Monday, August 16, 2021
Noon – 1:00 p.m.  
Via WebEx

**TTUHSC El Paso PLFSOM**

**08/16/2021 FACULTY COUNCIL**

### MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:
- Adam Adler, M.D., Assistant Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery & Rehabilitation
- Olufemi Aduroja, M.D., M.P.H., Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine – Transmountain
- Lisa Ayoub-Rodriguez, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, President
- Daniel Bustamante, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pathology, Immediate Past-President
- Jorge Cervantes-Gonzalez, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Medical Education
- Abhizith Deoker, M.D., Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
- Alok Dwivedi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Molecular and Translational Medicine
- Jose Gavito-Higuera, M.D., Associate Professor, Radiology
- Naima Khamsi, M.D., Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Wayde Miller, M.D., Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology
- Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H., Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine
- Gerardo Vazquez, M.D., Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine
- Anantha Vellipuram, M.D., Assistant Professor, Neurology, President-Elect
- KoKo Aung, M.D., M.P.H., Vice President for Faculty Success, TTUHSC El Paso, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, PLFSOM, Ex-Officio, Non-Voting
- Richard Lange, M.D., M.B.A., President, TTUHSC El Paso, Dean, PLFSOM, Ex-Officio, Non-Voting

### MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:
- Mary Josephine Amaro Esparza, D.O., Assistant Professor, Family Medicine – Transmountain
- Jose Castro-Garcia, M.D., Assistant Professor, Surgery
- Fabrizio Delgado, M.D., Assistant Professor, Psychiatry

### GUESTS:
- Blake Busey, D.O., Assistant Professor, Family Medicine – Transmountain
- Deborah Clegg, Ph.D., Professor, Internal Medicine
- Pallavi Dubey, Ph.D., Research Instructor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
- David Fallah, D.D.S., Associate Professor, Surgery
- Bharathi Gadad, Ph.D., Research Assistant Professor, Psychiatry
- Thwe Htay, M.D., Associate Professor, Medical Education
- Sanja Kupesic, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Zuber Mulla, Ph.D., M.S.P.H., Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Osvaldo Padilla, M.D., M.P.H., Associate Professor, Pathology
- Curt Pfarr, Ph.D., Professor, Medical Education
- Robert Root, D.O., Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine
- Shrilieka Sairam, M.D., Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
- Albert Salinas, FnPC, Faculty Associate, Internal Medicine
- Ajay Singh, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
- Silvina Tonarelli, M.D., Associate Professor, Psychiatry
- Jun Zhang, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Molecular and Translational Medicine
- Miranda Alvarez, M.A., Associate Director, Office of Faculty Affairs
- Michelle Brown, Analyst II, Office of Faculty Affairs
- Cindy Camarillo, Sr. Director, Office of Faculty Affairs and Recruitment
I. CALL TO ORDER
Anantha Vellipuram, M.D.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

The Faculty Council meeting took place on August 16, 2021, via WebEx Events. Anantha Vellipuram, M.D., Faculty Council President-Elect, called the meeting to order at 12:01 P.M. Dr. Vellipuram presided over the meeting since Dr. Ayoub-Rodriguez, Faculty Council President, was on maternity leave.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Anantha Vellipuram, M.D.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Having met quorum, the Faculty Council meeting minutes from July 20, 2021 were voted on and approved as presented.

III. DEAN’S REPORT
Richard Lange, M.D., M.B.A.
Dean, PLFSOM

Dr. Lange provided an update:

- **COVID-19 Update**
  - COVID-19 hospitalizations are rising in El Paso from the previous 7-day rolling average of about 40 to 50 hospitalizations to a new average of about 100 hospitalizations, with about 40 cases requiring intensive care. Very few children are being hospitalized. The majority of the cases are unvaccinated individuals.
  - A campus-wide notice was sent out recommending that individuals wear masks around others, avoid eating meals together, and avoid large events to help prevent transmission.
  - Pfizer vaccines will be available on campus for all staff, students, faculty and their families from 1:00 to 4:00 PM on Sunday, August 29, 2021. Booster shots will be available for those who are immunocompromised. Prior registration is required.
  - Over the last two months, only ten individuals on campus contracted COVID-19. Eight out of the ten individuals had been vaccinated.

Q&A

Q: Will there be a mandate for students to be vaccinated?
A: As a State of Texas institution TTUHCS El Paso is prohibited from mandating vaccinations. Students are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated, except for those with medical or religious exemptions. The vast majority of students have been vaccinated. The absence of vaccination will not exclude students from clinical rotations.

Q: Where can I go to get tested for COVID-19?
A: COVID testing is available at both the El Paso County Colosseum and the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP).
IV. FACULTY AFFAIRS UPDATE

KoKo Aung, M.D., M.P.H.
Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, PLFSOM

Dr. Aung provided a brief update:

A. 2020 & 2021 Annual Faculty Evaluations
   - The deadline for submission of all 2020 and 2021 Annual Faculty Evaluations was August 2, 2021. There are still evaluations pending submission. Faculty who have not completed their evaluation should set up a meeting with their Chair or evaluator as soon as possible.

B. Re-Branding of “Digital Measures” to “Faculty Success”
   - The software system currently known as “Digital Measures” has been re-branded with the new name “Faculty Success.” In the coming months, both names will be used to create familiarity. Eventually, the name “Digital Measures” will be phased out.
   - No action is required from the faculty. All data will be transferred to the new software system. Faculty will be able to access the new system with the same login information. Nothing will change from the faculty’s perspective, except the name. Questions may be directed to the Office of Faculty Affairs.

V. DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jorge Cervantes, M.D., Ph.D.
Representative, Department of Medical Education

Dr. Cervantes provided an update from the Department of Medical Education:

Q&A

Q: Is the concern with multiple medical learning platforms available to students related to those used for education?
A: Yes, there are several online training courses for students, such as Ambrose and online MedEd, which is competed with the material we provide.

Q: Can you elaborate on the issue of Tenure and Promotion?
A: Yes, some felt that there is uncertainty of a favorable outcome when applying for Tenure and Promotion.
VI. NEW BUSINESS

Anantha Vellipuram, M.D.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Vellipuram provided an update:

**A. Elections for Faculty Council President Elect**

- Dr. Monks was the sole nominee for the election of the 2021-2022 Faculty Council President-Elect, and has accepted the nomination. Dr. Monks presented her personal statement, which is attached to this report. A formal e-vote will be sent to Faculty Council Representatives to confirm their approval to elect Dr. Monks’ to the position. If elected, Dr. Monks’ term will begin at the next meeting in September.

*Please see attached personal statement*

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Anantha Vellipuram, M.D.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Vellipuram provided an update on the following items:

**A. Faculty Council Seats up for Election/Re-election Reminder**

- Dr. Vellipuram reminded the Council that the following departments’ voting seats on the PLFSOM Faculty Council are up for election/re-election:
  - Emergency Medicine (current representative – Dr. Stormy Monks)
  - Family and Community Medicine (current representative – Dr. Gerardo Vazquez)
  - Molecular and Translational Medicine (current representative – Dr. Alok Dwivedi)
  - Obstetrics and Gynecology (current representative – Dr. Naima Khamsi)

- He noted that if the representative’s departments has not yet held an election, to please remind their chair. They were notified by email last month. New or re-elected representatives will take their seat on the council at the September meeting.

- If the vote to appoint Dr. Monks as President-Elect passes, she will continue as the department representative for Emergency Medicine for the next three-years to serve out her terms of office as President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past-President.

**B. Nominations for Committee on Medical School Admissions (4 seats)**

- The PLFSOM Faculty Council received several nominations to fill four (4) seats on the Committee on Medical School Admissions.
  - Jude Abadie, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Pathology
Old Business Continued…

- Zainab Al Lawati, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Surgery
- Fatima Gutierrez, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics
- Richard McCallum, M.D., Professor, Department of Internal Medicine
- Chandra Ojha, M.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine
- Moataz Ragheb, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry

The Faculty Council voted on and approved to forward the list of nominees to the Dean for selection and appointment. The list will be sent to the Dean once all the nominees have accepted their nomination.

VIII. EL PASO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY UPDATE
Sarah Walker, M.D.  
EPCMS – PLFSOM Representative

Report deferred to September.

IX. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION
Anantha Vellipuram, M.D.  
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

N/A

X. FACULTY COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS
Anantha Vellipuram, M.D.  
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Vellipuram announced the following:

A. Department Faculty Standing Meetings Poll
   - The Faculty Council Officers solicited feedback from the faculty to gauge the frequency of departmental standing faculty meetings. All meeting attendees were invited to participate in the poll.

B. PLFSOM Faculty Council Officer Induction Ceremony
   - The next PLFSOM Faculty Meeting will take place virtually on September 20, 2021 at noon. This meeting will also include the induction ceremony of the 2021-2022 Faculty Council Officers. All PLFSOM faculty members are welcome to attend.

XI. ADJOURNMENT
Anantha Vellipuram, M.D.  
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Vellipuram adjourned the meeting at 12:32 P.M.
Department of Medical Education Report

PRESENTATION TO THE FACULTY COUNCIL

BY: JORGE CERVANTES, M.D., PH.D.
DATE: AUGUST 16TH, 2021

Department Breakdown

 ► Total Number of Faculty:
   ► Number of Faculty Associates: 2
   ► Number of Instructors: 1
   ► Number of Assistant Professors: 10
   ► Number of Associate Professors: 5
   ► Number of Professors: 5

 ► New Faculty:
   ► Dr. Rebecca Campos, Assistant Professor
Leadership - Administrative

- Department Chair – Dr. Hogg
- Assistant Dean for Medical Education, Basic Sciences - Dr. Hogg
- Assistant Dean for Medical Education, Clinical Sciences – Dr. Francis
- Assistant Dean of Admissions – Dr. Perry
- Laboratory for Education in Molecular Medicine (LEMM) Director – Dr. Cervantes
- Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness – Director - Dr. Christiane Herber-Valdez

Leadership - Committees

- Vice President for Academic Affairs– Dr. Brower
- Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs - Dr. Christiane Herber-Valdez
- Conflict of Interest in Research Committee Vice chair – Dr. Hogg
- Departmental T&P Midpoint Review Committee 2020 chair – Dr. Fuhrman
- Chair, eLearning Committee. Dr. Nino
- WIMS President –elect – Dr. Perry
Leadership – Course Directors

- Medical Skills – Dr. Htay
- Scientific Principles of Medicine I – Dr. Dudrey
- Scientific Principles of Medicine II – Dr. Nino
- Scientific Principles of Medicine III – Dr. Pettit
- Scientific Principles of Medicine IV – Dr. Belmares
- Society, Community, and the Individual – Dr. Rosenthal and Dr. Cervantes
- Masters Colloquium – Dr. Pfarr and Dr. Woods
- Scholarship and Research Activity Program – Dr. Pfarr and Dr. Coue
- JAMP Course director – Dr. Perry
- Distinction in Anatomy – Dr. Belmares

Accomplishments – Regional/National Committees

- International Association of Biochemistry Educators (ABE) – Dr. Hogg
- American Society for Microbiology (ASM) Rio Grande Branch – Dr. Cervantes
- Texas State Anatomical Board – H. Balsinger, M.S.
- Board of Directors, Texas Chapter of the American College of Physicians – Dr. Htay
- AAMC Southern Group on Student Affairs Regional Team Lead for Professional Development Initiative – Dr. Perry
- Texas Medical Association Collaborative Medical Education Research in Texas (CoMERiT) Workgroup – Dr. Hogg and Dr. Brower
- Invited Member and item writer, USMLE Physiology and Cell Biology Test Material Development Committee (TMDc). National Board of Medical Examiners (NBME). Dr. Nino
- Scientific Advisory Committee, Medical Center of the Americas Foundation. Dr. Fuhrman
- University Pediatric Associates. Dr. Fuhrman
- Project Leader / Principal Investigator: Learning Communities Institute Research Network, Group on Student Wellness. Dr. Pfarr
- Group for Research in Pathology Education (GRIPE).:2021 meeting Program Planning Committee, Co-chair. Dr. Manglik
Accomplishments - Awards

- Pettit, D. Clinical Anatomy Membership Award for best research presentation at AACA 2020 meeting.
- Hogg, T. TTU Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Teaching Award (2021)
- Htay, T. 2021 Robert Suskind and Leslie Lewinter-Suskind Medical Faculty Award.
- Htay, T. 2021 Faculty Excellence Award SGA (student government association), Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso
- Htay, T. 2021 Simulation Competition Award, Training and Educational Center for Healthcare Simulation (TECS), Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso
- Woods, G. Elected to give the keynote address at the White Coat Ceremony, class of 2024, fall 2020
- Balsinger, H. 2021. TTU College of Education Graduate Scholarship

Accomplishments - Grants

- Chacon, J. A. (Co-Investigator), Subramanian Dhandayuthapani, Ph.D. (PI) "A novel quadruple knockout Mtb vaccine against tuberculosis," Federal, $491,926.00. (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2024). NIH- R15 funded
- Chacon, J. A. (PI), "Promotora (Community Health Worker) Training, Outreach, and Education for COVID-19 and Employability in El Paso, Texas," $150,000.00. (May 2021 - December 31, 2021). Microsoft grant
- Perry, C. JAMP Summer Program 2021 $120,000
- Perry, C. 2021. Developing the JAMP Ladder of Success: JAMP Student Interest Group & UTEP Summer Enrichment Program Special Project $6,000
- Perry, C. 2021. JAMP Annual Program $60,000
- Pfarr, C. 2021 IAMSE Faculty Award. Blending Humanities with Basic and Clinical Science in a Cancer Review Course $3569
Accomplishments - Grants

- **Cervantes, J.** (PI) “IL-26 mediated human macrophage activation and antimicrobial activity against the LD spirochete”. $25,000 Lyme Disease Association (LDA) (2021).
- **Francis, M.** Night-on-Call Consortium. Macy Foundation Grant. 2021: $10,000
- **Francis, M.** Reducing healthcare disparities in underserved populations: Breast Cancer Screening in Colonias. TMA Medical Student Community Leadership Grant 2020-2021: $3,000
- **Francis, M.** Providing Screening Mammograms, Diagnostic Mammograms and Ultrasounds to the Underserved Women in Sparks through the Medical Student Run Clinic. American Breast Cancer Foundation 2020-2021: $7,500.
- **Francis, M.** Providing Screening Mammograms, Diagnostic Mammograms and Ultrasounds to the Underserved Women in Sparks through the Medical Student Run Clinic. National Breast Cancer Foundation. 2020-2021: $5,000

Scholarly Activity – Presentations Regional (Medical Education)

- **Chacon, J.,** Yes, She Can! Mentorship Program, “Graduate School Summit,” UTEP Yes She Can, Virtual. (November 2020).
Scholarly Activity – Presentations National (Medical Education)

- T. Hogg, W. Woodall, C. Jeter & D. Van der Hoeven. Developing critical thinking through integrated learning. 2020 American Dental Education Association Annual Session and Exhibition.

Scholarly Activity – Presentations National (Medical Education)

 Scholarly Activity – Presentations National (Medical Education)


- Cervantes J and Hong BH. Experiential learning in host-pathogen research impact on medical students' interest and attitudes towards microbiology and immunology. HICE 2020.


 Scholarly Activity – Presentations National (Medical Education)


- Eliasz, K.L., Ark, T.K. Zabar, S., Prunuske, J., **Francis, M.D.** Kalet, A. earning beyond the simulation center walls: Transitioning an in-person simulation for near-graduating medical students to a virtual-only format. SGIM21 2021.

Scholarly Activity – Presentations International (Medical Education)

▸ Brower, R. Keynote speaker: “Development and Implementation of a Clinical Presentation-Based M.D. Curriculum: Reflections from the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine’s Inaugural Decade”. National Sun Yat-sen University 1st International Conference in Medical Education – Pathway to Outcome-Based Medical Education: the Clinical Presentation Curriculum. Kaohshiung City, Taiwan; November 28, 2020


Scholarly Activity – Presentations Regional (Clinical)


▸ Cervantes, J. Gut Microbiome Essentials for Clinicians. Internal Medicine Grand Rounds, May, 2021
Scholarly Activity – Presentations National (Basic Science)


Scholarly Activity – Presentations International (Basic Science)


Scholarly Activity – Publications
Medical Education


- Chacon, J, and Janssen, H. “Teaching critical thinking and problem-solving skills to healthcare professionals.”. Medical Science Educator 31, pages 235–239 (2021)

- Cervantes, J, (2021). Fauci effect? When the heart is in the right place, but reality is not. Journal Investigat Med.


- Brower RD, Hogg T, Francis MD. Lange RA, Ogden PE. Paul L. Foster School of Medicine; Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso. Academic Medicine 2020;95(9S):S495-499.

Scholarly Activity – Publications
Medical Education

- Cervantes, J, and Hong BH (2021) The impact of experiential learning in host-pathogen research on medical students’ interests and attitudes towards microbiology and immunology. Journal of Microbiology and Biology Education.


- Cervantes J. (2020) The Future of Infectious Diseases Education. Medical Science Educator

Scholarly Activity – Publications

Clinical


Scholarly Activity – Publications

Clinical


Scholarly Activity – Publications
Basic Science


Scholarly Activity – Publications
Basic Science


Issues/Concerns

- Multiple medical learning platforms available to students
- Uncertainty about Tenure and Promotion
- Obstacles for scholarship (e.g., lack of time, funding, etc.)

Questions?
NEW BUSINESS

Faculty Council President-Elect Nominee Personal Statement

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Associate Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine

The role of the Faculty Council is to serve as a conduit for faculty to be connected to the larger TTUHSC faculty community and leadership. As departmental faculty representatives, we each have the vital responsibility of ensuring that our colleagues are heard and that we bring attention to the areas of concern within the university. Over my several years as the Emergency Medicine faculty council representative, I have witnessed the effective process practiced by our council for various faculty concerns. As the President-Elect, I will build upon the successes of those before me by supporting shared governance and encouraging faculty to communicate with our university’s leadership regardless of rank or longevity. Thank you for this opportunity to serve.