From the Desk of Professor & Chair

We in the Dept. of Pediatrics and Women’s Health (PWH) are in the midst of summer heat but going strong. Here are some current highlights as of mid-2019. The TCOM class of 2021 has begun third year core clerkship rotations and we are pleased with the enthusiasm and dedication of the first student group—fondly known here as a “batch.” We are also hosting 2 PA students, a third year TCOM elective rotation, and family medicine resident. This is the first summer in which we have had TCU Dietary interns here for Inter-professional education opportunities and this nicely complements the long standing rotations for TWU dietary students in fall and TCU students in spring. The UNT Health clinical practice of Pediatrics is happy to welcome a new clinical faculty member, Shadia Eissa, PA-C, a 2019 graduate of the UNTHSC School of Health Professions. We are also pleased to celebrate the births of Luke Bui, newborn son of Pediatric Faculty member, Priya Bui (TCOM 2011) and John Bui (TCOM 2011), and Glory Josette Anaya, newborn daughter of Pediatric staff member, Gabriela Castro. The 2019 edition of Pediatric Research Program (PRP) had a large group of participants from TCOM 2022 and several engaged in projects with PWH Faculty and Staff mentorship. Student research oral presentations will be scheduled during the fall semester. Finally, we are very happy to welcome two new core clerkship pediatric preceptors: Dr. Sam Davis of Child Plus Pediatrics in Saginaw and Dr. Sharon Davis and her team at Los Barrios Unidos Clinic in Dallas.

Pediatric Research Program (PRP) 2019

Department of Pediatrics & Women’s Health and Cook Children’s Medical Center are collaborating to provide unique research learning experience for rising second-year medical students. Students are teamed with a mentor, who is either a pediatric physician or researcher. Students are tasked to formulate a research hypothesis, design and implement a research study, analyze the data collected, prepare a final manuscript and present an abstract to at least one medical meeting. A one-month summer experience provides preliminary experience and sets the stage for continuing productive research in the ensuing years of medical school, as well as enhancing the student’s capacity to appreciate and critically analyze the research literature. The students have presented their findings at scientific meetings and have been honored for their research.
Team (faculty) Member in Spotlight

Sarah Matches, DO, Assistant Professor

Education/Training:
- BS in Biology/BA in Chemistry from Northeast Missouri State University in Kirksville, MO
- DO: TCOM class of ‘89

Awards/Recognition:
- Institutional: 2012 Pediatric Teacher of the Year

Professional Interests: I love working with families and developing long-term relationships with them. I am now seeing many children whose parents were some of my first patients, which is so much fun and such an honor! I also love interacting with our students and being a part of their educational experience. I especially enjoy when they find their passion is pediatric medicine, and even more when they return to be one of my partners - like Dr. Priya Bui! I am privileged to have the opportunity to work with such a group of talented and dedicated individuals in the Pediatrics and Women’s Health Dept. The faculty, support staff, researchers are a great group of people and one of the reasons I have stayed here for 24+ years, and a reason why it will be hard to retire one day (not soon). When I do retire, I hope to have the opportunity to travel – I have many places I would like to go, and near the top of the list is the Orkney Islands off the coast of Scotland where my Grandfather lived before immigrating with his family to the US at the age of nine.

We will MISS YOU!!

Team (non-faculty) Member in Spotlight

Erin Miranda, LMSW Social Worker

What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most?
Being an emotional support for our families when they are going through a scary or confusing situation.

What piece of advice would you give to a new employee?
Look for good in people and in situations.

When you retire, what do you hope people will say about you at your retirement party?
That I never gave up on people and their capacity to change.

What is something that makes you unique, that only a few people know about you?
I am an open book, so not much that people don’t know about me; however, I did meet the queen of England when I was visiting Grand Cayman Island when I was 15 years old.

What is one accomplishment at work that you are most proud of? Why?
When I was working for both Pediatrics and family Medicine, I had a 600 lb. patient, history of childhood trauma, bed bound. I have never worked so hard on a case as I have for her. Her desire was to obtain weight loss surgery and Medicaid denied request for several years. There were constant moving targets and fires that needed to be put out in order to make it happen; TONS of coordination with specialists, ambulance companies, and Medicaid companies. Shortly before my departure from family medicine, she had obtained her surgery and had started the process of weight loss. She truly had no one in her life to help her figure out how to turn her life around.
We will MISS you!

Victoria Kwentua, MPH, CPH

Originally from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, I came to UTHSC in August 2015 to get my Masters in Public Health. I soon became a Graduate Research Assistant for Healthy Start and the Building Bridges Initiative. After graduation, I was hired as the Project Coordinator for Dr. Raines-Milenkov's grant to do maternal mortality case preparation for DSHS and the Texas Maternal Mortality and Severe Morbidity Task Force. I have thoroughly enjoyed and grown from all of my experiences under the guidance of Dr. Raines-Milenkov, Misty Wilder, Eva Baker, and Dr. Martha Felini, as well as many others. It is because of my experiences here that I am pursuing a PhD in Behavioral Sciences and Health Promotion, concentrating in maternal child health and Epidemiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston this Fall. I am excited for this new challenge, but will miss all of my coworkers and mentors deeply.

Congratulations

UNTSC Pediatric & Women’s Health Residency Party Celebration May 15, 2019

(Left to Right)
Jordan Kang, June Kang, Zahra Jiwani, Christina Meenan, Samantha Severson, Tebyan Rabbani, Dr. Frank Filipetto, Nimi, Dr. Paul Bowman, Kimberly Ruiz, Ryan Flaherty, Julia Vickery, Caryn Pyle, Jenna Walls

Zahra Jiwani, Dr. Paul Bowman, Christina Meenan
THE BUZZ BOARD

Employee Engagement

Summer Theme: TRAVEL —
Pictures or stories of where team members have gone or where they would like to go.

Meet Luke Bui!!

Congratulations to the Bui Family

Valubility of the month!!
Erin Miranda, Rosa Amaya, Raheela Hafeez
Thank you to Linda Rider for her nomination!

Meet Glory Josette Anaya!!

Congratulations to Gabby and Family

Meet Luke Bui!!

Congratulations to the Bui Family
The Revolutionaries

Office Olympic Team

Congratulations Research Faculty

Dr. Amy Raines-Milenkov recently received $143,000 a year for five years in additional support to her Healthy Start grant for a clinician to provide services to healthy start participants. These clinical services will focus on improving outcomes and reducing disparities in women’s maternal and infant health for Tarrant County.

Dr. Riyaz Basha became a Fellow of the American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC) at their annual meeting held in Anaheim, CA on August 2019. AACC is a global scientific and medical professional organization dedicated to clinical laboratory science and its application to healthcare.

UNTHSC International Medicine Rotations

There are several clinical rotations still available in Malawi for TCOM 4th year Medical and Physician Assistant Students in 2020.

2020 Rotation Dates: January 6-31, February 3-28, March 2-27
Please contact Stacy Abraham 817-735-2354 for more information


Team Members

Amy Raines-Milenkov, Victoria Kwentua, Rushil Acharya, Tosin Fadeyi, Elvis Longanga-Diese

Assistant to the Captain: Idara Akpan