

## From the Desk of Professor & Chair

We in the Dept. of Pediatrics and Women's Health (PWH) are excited that 2020 is well underway and spring is near. This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of TCOM and we are planning to contribute to the celebrations by hosting a TCOM Pediatric Reunion on Saturday, May 16. We will be inviting TCOM alumni who have pursued pediatric careers to join us in an evening of fun and fellowship with each other, and with TCOM Faculty and Friends.

The past few months have seen some notable milestones for PWH Faculty, including several grant awards (see below), the promotion to Associate Professor of Sarah Matches DO. A sad milestone of note was the passing of retired faculty member, Rick Magie DO, who was a tremendous clinician, pediatric educator, and friend. We will soon be missing greatly the outstanding teaching contributions of pediatrician, Taina Trevino MD, who is relocating with her family to Florida, and pediatric cardiologist, Jimmy Kuo MD, who is moving back to Georgia for a faculty position at Emory Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. On the brighter side we are pleased to welcome the following new pediatric core clerkship preceptors: Debra Naylor MD, Flower Mound; Punita Shah MD; and Lata Shridharan MD, both of Plano. The TCOM PWH and Clinical Practice Group are also happy to welcome a new three physician OBGYN Group who will soon be hosting student rotations: Melanie Lagomichos DO; Alison Pasciucco MD; and Hollis Bartels MD.

We are grateful to new core clerkship pediatric preceptors added in 2019, Sam Davis MD of Child Plus Pediatrics in Saginaw, and Sharon Davis DO and her team at Los Barrios Unidos Clinic in Dallas, for their inspired contributions to our medical students' learning opportunities. Right here at the Health Pavilion we have been so fortunate to have Dr. Tom Rogers working with our third year students during core clerkship rotations. Dr. Rogers brings over 50 years of pediatric practice experience to clinical education and adds wisdom and perspective that students and faculty appreciate so much. I am pleased also to announce that Riyaz Basha PhD has been appointed Vice Chair of Research for Dept. of PWH and I am very happy to acknowledge his crucial leadership in this way.



**W. Paul Bowman, MD**

## Team (non-faculty) Members in Spotlight

**Shanice Roberts, School of Public Health Graduate Intern**



I have been working with Dr. Raines, Dr. Felini and Misty Wilder at Healthy Start since May of 2019. I sought out Healthy Start as a practice experience site, because I knew the program has a long history of being instrumental in addressing maternal and child health issues in Fort Worth. I am getting the full experience of what is like to be a public health professional in the maternal and child health field and have a better understanding and appreciation for the work. My professional interests include women's health education, women's sexual and reproductive health, and perinatal/postpartum depression. I was born and raised in Dallas, Texas. I'm a first generation American, with my family being from Sierra Leone, West Africa. I am a first generation college student and will be the first of my family to graduate with a master's degree.

## Team (non-faculty) Members in Spotlight

**Oluwatosin Fadeyi, MPH, CPH, Project Coordinator**

***What is your job in 25 words or less?***

I am the Project Coordinator for the Maternal Health Research Project. I supervise the redaction and abstraction of medical records of Texan mothers who died within a year of pregnancy/childbirth.

***What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most?***

A case report is created to highlight the likely events that led to a mother's death. When a case report comes together, you tell the story of a mother who died and could not raise her children. Recommendations from this process helps to prevent the death of a future mother, so that she can live to raise her children. Working with my team members to produce this report is the aspect I enjoy the most.

***Why did you first choose to work for UNTHSC and why do you stay?***

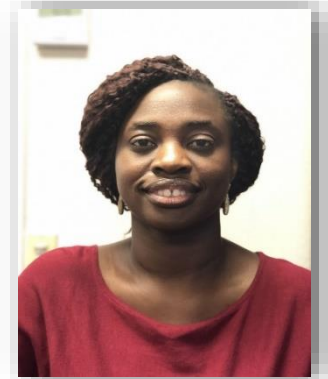
I applied and was admitted into the School of Public Health, at UNTHSC, for my MPH degree (in Maternal and Child Health). As a graduate student, I met Dr. Podgore, who introduced me to Dr. Richard Magie (of blessed memory). I volunteered with Dr. Magie to work on the Catch 1 Pediatric outreach he organized. That was how I came to know and love the Pediatric department of UNTHSC. The following year, I got a Research Assistant position under Dr. Amy Raines and I remained on their staff after my MPH. I stayed with UNTHSC, and more so, the department because I could see the passion the staff had for their work and themselves. People genuinely cared about each other and that gave me a sense of belonging, especially since I do not have any immediate family members nearby.

***What piece of advice would you give to a new employee?***

I would say you are in one of the best places to work in. UNTHSC is a family, regardless of the department you find yourself. The five values: serving others first, integrity, respect, collaboration and being visionary, governs the work ethic in UNTHSC. As long as you implement and abide by these values, you will enjoy working in UNTHSC.

***If you take a vacation anywhere, where would you go?***

Oh, it's always been Paris! Paris is my dream vacation city. I hope I can get to visit very soon.



## Team (faculty) Member in Spotlight

**Shane Fernando, PhD, MS, Assistant Professor**

***What is your job in 25 words or less?***

I'm a clinical and community epidemiologic scientist, aiming to improve the health of children by reducing their risk of chronic diseases and conditions.

***What is something that makes you unique, that only a few people know about you?***

I have a multitude of hobbies, including repairing vintage cars, painting, photography and watch collecting.

***What is on your wish list for the next five years with UNTHSC?***

I hope to further establish myself as a researcher and develop some unique ventures in education. I can't wait to see what the next five years bring!

***What is one accomplishment at work that you are most proud of? Why?***

Rather than one accomplishment, I would honestly say it's a group of them: my students who have conducted research with me. Nearly all of them started off knowing very little about research, but the majority have presented their eventual research at the national level.

***If you could take a vacation anywhere, where would you go?***

I visited Paris when I was a child, so I'm planning on making a trip to France again to experience it as an adult. I'm looking forward to having a lovely meal by the side of the Seine river!



# Welcome to the Department!!



## **Brandi Covington, LVN Pediatric Nurse**

*Education:* I attended Concorde Career College in Grand Prairie and received my LVN degree.

*Hobbies:* I love reading, traveling, playing basketball and spending time with my family mostly my son and nephews.

*Family Life:* I have a 3-month-old son named Amir.

*What is something that makes you unique, that only a few people know about you?*  
Something unique about me that only a few people know is that I am an avid LSU fan. My entire room is dedicated to LSU.

## **Andrea Aguilar, LVN Allergy Nurse**

*Education:* LVN graduated in November 2019 from Concorde.

*Hobbies:* Spending time with my family

*Family Life:* Not married have a boyfriend but no kids

*What is something that makes you unique, that only a few people know about you?*  
I was born in California.



## **Brooke Southard, LVN Pediatric Nurse**

*Education:* LVN Grad 2019

*Hobbies:* Watching Netflix, sleeping, and traveling.

*Family life:* I have one older sister, Lauren, and 2 four-legged brothers, Eddie and Murphy.

*What is something that makes you unique, that only a few people know about you?*  
I really enjoy baking/cooking, but not the cleaning up part.

## **Rebecca Farquhar, LMSW for Pediatric Clinic**

*Education:* Bachelors of Social Work from UNT and Masters of Social work from UTA

*Hobbies:* Cooking, Girl Scouts, Reading, Traveling

*Family life:* I am a single mom of an 11 year old and a chiweenie named Ginger.

*What is something that makes you unique, that only a few people know about you?*  
In college (2001-2002) I lived and worked at Disney World in their college program for nine months.



## **Lucio Mercado, MA for Pediatric Clinic**

*Education:* I am a former graduate of college of health care professions for the medical assistant program.

*Hobbies:* Boxing, Football, and other sport activities.

*Family life:* I have two daughters that I enjoy and love spending time with.

*What is something that makes you unique, that only a few people know about you?*  
People know me as a to go guy, I enjoy challenges and love to help others!

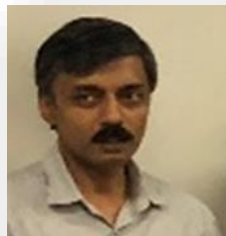
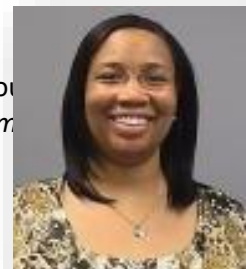
## Congratulations

**Nusrath Habiba, MD** has been selected for induction into the Gold Humanism Honor Society! Selection was based on nominations and voting from student members of TCOM's Chapter of the Gold Humanism Honor Society, with final approval by her colleagues who are members of the selection committee.



**Shane Fernando, PhD, MS** Awarded \$6260 by Texas Academy of Family Physicians Foundation for the project titled, *"Improving intent to utilize the HPV Vaccine among Young Adults in a Primary Care Setting: Comparing healthcare provider levels and education styles."*

**Christina Robinson, MD** Awarded \$38,000 by the Texas Center for Health Disparities through the U54 Specialized Center of Excellence Program for the project titled, *"A Novel family-based E-health intervention process to reduce obesity."*



**Umesh Sankpal, PhD** awarded \$20,000 a TCOM Junior faculty seed grant for the project titled, *"Exosomal proteins as markers of racial disparity in breast cancer."*

**Misty Wilder** the Director of Healthy Start for UNT Health Science Center has been featured in the [National Institute for Children's Health Quality website](#). (please follow this link to view article)



**Tom Rogers Jr., MD** 2020 Lifetime Achievement Award *Healthcare Heroes 2020* Retired. Professor of medicine, Texas Christian University and UNTHSC School of Medicine [http://www.fortworthbusiness.com/news/business-press-honors-healthcare-heroes/article\\_938121f0-38e6-11ea-8abc-972b408a24f5.html](http://www.fortworthbusiness.com/news/business-press-honors-healthcare-heroes/article_938121f0-38e6-11ea-8abc-972b408a24f5.html)

**Douglas Horner, MD** receiving the Outstanding Preceptor 2019





## Team Members Blog

### Employee Engagement

Halloween Bash



Christmas Party



PA Dobbs Baby Shower



Winners Drawing for Billy Bob's Concert



PA Eissa Wedding Shower



## We are in the News

Fort Worth Star-Telegram included a story "[Far too many Fort Worth women are dying after childbirth. Here's what we can do](#)" by Amy Raines-Milenkov, DrPH and Teresa Wagner, DrPH, MS