

# PEDIATRICS & Women's Health

Newsletter | Issue 2, 2019

UNT HEALTH  
SCIENCE CENTER

## From the Desk of Professor & Chair

Spring has arrived and so has an exciting time of the year. We have just learned of the successes of the TCOM class of 2019 in the annual Residency Match. We are proud of all of those about to graduate and especially want to acknowledge the 20 who have matched in Pediatrics, 2 in Medicine-Pediatrics, and 15 in OBGYN. See Table at end of newsletter. Meanwhile, third year students are crafting plans for individualized fourth year rotations to prepare them for their future graduate medical education; second years are preparing for Board Exams to be followed by a year of core clerkship rotations; and first years are deciding how to spend their last extended summer break. Many are choosing one-month research opportunities and we anticipate a large number participating in the Pediatric Research Program (PRP) to commence June 4. The success of PRP was once again evident at annual UNTHSC Research Appreciation Day (RAD) on March 29 with 38 PRP projects being presented as posters, and four PRP scholars won 5 awards capturing 3 out of 4 awards in Pediatrics and Women's Health. TCOM Pediatrics and Women's Health Faculty and Staff continue to distinguish themselves as educators, mentors, and supporters of our academic and scholarly activities.



W. Paul Bowman, MD

## Clerkship/Inter-professional Education

2019 TCU Dietetic Interns January 29 – March 7 completed their clinical rotation in the Pediatric and Women's Health Department. Dr. Nusrath Habiba, MD, at the UNT Health Science Center (UNTHSC) and Dr. Lyn Dart, Associate Professor and Food Management Program Director at Texas Christian University (TCU) shared with the Interns the importance of effective communication across different health professions to ensure the best possible health care is provided to patients.

Lyn Dart, PhD, RD, LD  
Associate Professor and  
Director, Food Management  
Program, TCU



Nusrath Habiba, MD  
Associate Professor  
Department of Pediatrics  
and Women's Health, TCOM



The Dietetic Interns clinical experience focused on interprofessional collaboration and communication as a means of providing effective patient-centered, team-based health care. To demonstrate that importance, the Dietetic Interns participated in a research study entitled: *The Utilization of an Interprofessional Healthcare Student Team in an Outpatient Pediatric Clinic to Improve Patient and Family Perception of a Health Care Team and Nutritional Wellness*. This is a collaborative project between, UNTHSC, TCU and TWU.

## Team (faculty) Member in Spotlight

Martha Felini, PhD DC MPH, Associate Professor-Epidemiology

### Education/Training:

- BA in Biology from Indiana University – Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI)
- DC from Parker University, Dallas
- MPH from Texas A&M University Health Science Center – School of Rural Public Health
- PhD in Epidemiology from University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

After completing a doctoral degree, I joined faculty at School of Public Health in 2006. In 2012 transferred to Department of OBGYN in TCOM.

### Awards/Recognition:

- National: (2 NIH Student Loan Repayment Awards – Health Disparities); AACR conference award honoring innovative high impact research being conducted in field of health disparities
- Local: Ebby Award honoring significant contributions to advancement of girls and women in North Texas; PRISM Award honoring distinguished community leaders in Dallas County demonstrating exemplary commitment to people with mental illness and actively sought solutions to mental health issues; received Dallas County Commissioner’s Court County Resolution honoring commitment and excellence in serving Dallas Community.
- Institutional: President’s Faculty Award in Research, President’s Faculty Award for Educational Excellence; Outstanding Community Service

**Professional Interests:** My research broadly focuses on molecular and environmental influences on cancer risk and disparities. My work thrives on using cross-disciplinary and non-traditional collaborations within the community to tackle complex problems in cancer prevention. The work in this area resulted in the passing of Texas Senate Bill 484 and major funding from the Texas Cancer Prevention Research Institution of Texas to integrate prevention cancer screening for vulnerable, underserved women in substance abuse centers. This work has more recently expanded my research into sex trafficking awareness and prevention. The other high point of my work is the opportunity to interact with students and develop their interest in health disparity research.

**Philosophy/Hobbies:** I love music, solving puzzles, and being outdoors with our German Shepherd puppy Zuri. I’m an aspiring gardener on the weekends, but haven’t found my green thumb...yet.



## Team (non-faculty) Member in Spotlight

Leah Zimmerman, Research Project Coordinator

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

I assist in the development and administration of research projects in the department. I also develop other educational events and training opportunities.

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

I truly enjoy having the opportunity to work with such a diverse and dynamic group of people on a daily basis. Every day is like being in a classroom; I look forward to the lessons that I am able to embrace as well as pass along to others. These lessons and interactions have proven to be invaluable throughout my career and have contributed to my overall experience.

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

One piece of advice that I would give to new employees is ‘work hard and look for opportunities to demonstrate your skills and abilities beyond your position responsibilities.’ These are the skills that are noticed by and characteristic of leaders, which can definitely help your career. One thing that has helped me in my journey is providing recommendations to address concerns, so that my input was not viewed as a complaint, but rather a solution to a problem.

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

My husband and I were married at sunset on Hapuna Beach in Hawaii. We go back every chance we get. I love it there!

### ***My family***

I have two awesome children Megan and Ryan that have blessed me with three beautiful grandchildren. Gavin, age eleven, Ava age four, and Gunner age five. They all live in Fort Worth so I have fun spoiling them rotten. I love big family gatherings and we do it as often as we can. Easter is coming soon, so we will have a big Easter egg hunt and family dinner, I usually cook for everyone, but this year my daughter may take it on as her first big family dinner! Pass on your family traditions; it makes the kitchen clean up so much easier. ☺



# Research

## Research Grants:

The Department of Pediatrics and Women’s Health, Principal Investigator Amy Raines-Milenkov Dr. PH, was recently awarded the Healthy Start Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Perinatal Health grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration to continue implementing the intervention in Tarrant County. The grant for \$4, 867,820 covers the time period of April 1, 2019 until March 31, 2023, for research and intervention focused on improving outcomes and reducing disparities in women’s, maternal and infant health.

## Presentations:

Amy Raines-Milenkov, DrPH, Assistant Professor with expertise as a member of the Texas Department of State Health Services Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force will be an invited speaker and panelist at the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver* National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) for the workshop entitled, “Maternal Mortality in the United States: Future Research Directions” on May 2-3 2019.

Riyaz Basha, PhD, Associate Professor and Umesh T. Sankpal, PhD, Research Assistant Professor presented four posters at the annual meeting of the American Association of Cancer Research held in Atlanta, GA during March 29-April 3, 2019. Dr. Basha will be presenting a poster at the Educating Leaders 2019, the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Annual Conference in Washington DC during April 10-12, 2019.

# Congratulations



5 Year	10 Year	25 Year
Evangeline Baker	William Bowman, MD	John Fling, MD
Riyaz Basha, PhD	Lauren Dobbs, PA	John Podgore, DO
Shane Fernando, PhD	Nusrath Habiba, MD	
Cesiah Rios	Raheela Hafeez, MD	
Umesh Sankpal, PhD	Linda Rider	

*I was born and raised in Nigeria. After completing medical school and practicing for about two years as a primary care physician, I decided it was time to pursue higher career goals. In 2015, I gained admission to UNTHSC to pursue a masters degree and successfully completed a Masters in Public Health (MPH) in May 2018. I then set my eyes on the loftier, albeit far more difficult to achieve, career goal - Residency! Getting into residency was going to be the grand finale of all my efforts. I always knew the road to residency in the United States, for an international medical graduate, was strewn with high hurdles and obstinate obstacles, but I was prepared for whatever it would take. By sheer dint of hard work, and with the invaluable support of the wonderful people in the Dept. of Pediatrics, UNTHSC, I waded past the residency application hurdle; and on the 11th of March, 2019, I received an email with a four-word message that symbolized the crowning of all my hustle for a better career: "Congratulations, you have matched!" I was matched at BronxCare Health System, Pediatrics, the Bronx, New York City. It was a dream come true! I cannot complete this piece without expressing how much debt of gratitude I owe Dr. Bowman, Dr. Habiba, Dr. Robinson, Ms. Rider, and indeed the entire Dept. of Pediatrics, whose invaluable support and encouragement easily constitute a critical chapter in my story. It has been a beautiful privilege working in this very supportive environment and I consider myself lucky to have crossed paths with y'all! The Department of Pediatrics will always occupy a special place in my memory, however far I might go.*

**“CONGRATULATIONS, YOU HAVE MATCHED!”**



**Nimitariye Princewill, MBBS, MPH**

## Upcoming Events

### Texas Pediatric Society (TPS) 2019 Annual Meeting

**Date:** September 19-22, 2019

**Location:** Renaissance Hotel at Plano Legacy West, Plano, TX



### TPS resident/fellow and medical student electronic poster contest:

**Submission deadline:** May 6<sup>th</sup> 2019, at 6 AM.

**Eligibility:** TPS member at the time of submission.

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**



**JUNE 6TH - 7TH, 2019**

**14TH ANNUAL TEXAS  
CONFERENCE ON  
HEALTH DISPARITIES**



### “SOCIAL EPIGENOMICS & HEALTH DISPARITIES”

Evidence based approaches that identify mechanisms by which social experiences at various stages in life, both positive and negative, affect gene function and thereby influence health in racial/ethnic minority and health disparity population.

UNT HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER MET BLDG  
1000 Montgomery St., Fort Worth, TX 76107

**UNT | HEALTH**  
SCIENCE CENTER  
TEXAS CENTER FOR HEALTH DISPARITIES

## Team Members Blog

*Employees Engagement: January & February Birthday Cake Celebration*



# Congratulations



**Congratulations to Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine students who won the awards in Pediatrics and Women's Health. \*Pediatric Research Program (PRP) participants.**

## Department of Pediatrics and Women's Health

Pediatrics First Place: \*Tommy Li (Mentor: James Kuo, MD)

Pediatrics Second Place: \*Nidhi Patel (Mentor: W. Paul Bowman, MD)

Women's Health First Place: \*Jamie Y. Choe (Mentor: Harlan Jones, PhD)

Women's Health Second Place: Ryan Nguyen (Mentors: Nicole Philips, PhD; Styliani Goulopoulou, PhD)

## Medical Student Government Association

Best in Second Year Class: \*Melissa Schullek (Mentor: Riyaz Basha, PhD)

## TCOM Student Research Award

Second Place: \*Melissa Schullek (Mentor: Riyaz Basha, PhD)

# MATCH DAY 2019

*Pediatrics, Medicine-Pediatrics, and Obstetrics-Gynecology*

Naveen Emmanuel	Med-Pediatrics	Western Michigan Univ Stryker
Vivian Wrenn	Med-Pediatrics	U Illinois COM
Cherise Ali	Pediatrics	U Oklahoma COM
Sarah Alpini	Pediatrics	U Texas HSC
Chelsea Castillo	Pediatrics	Baylor Coll Med
Ryan Flaherty	Pediatrics	Nationwide Childrens Hospital
Jordan Huxall	Pediatrics	Baylor Coll Med
Jordan Kang	Pediatrics	Texas Tech U Affil
June Kang	Pediatrics	Texas Tech U Affil
Anju Kannappan	Pediatrics	U Oklahoma COM
Mahwish Khan	Pediatrics	Baylor Coll Med
Christina Meenan	Pediatrics	U Oklahoma COM
Shivani Mehta	Pediatrics	U Texas Med Sch
Evan Melville	Pediatrics	Loma Linda University
Aahra Merchant	Pediatrics	Authority Health GME
Fiona Parro	Pediatrics	U Texas Med Branch
Caryn Pyle	Pediatrics	U Illinois COM
Tebyan Rabbani	Pediatrics	U Texas HSC
Kimberly Ruiz	Pediatrics	U New Mexico
Samantha Severson	Pediatrics	Baylor Coll Med
Julia Vickery	Pediatrics	Loma Linda University
Jenna Walls	Pediatrics	Baylor-Scott & White

Thomas Bell	OB-GYN	LSUHSC
Sarah Fassio	OB-GYN	Good Samaritan Hosp-Cinn
Todd Jarvis	OB-GYN	Methodist Health System Dallas
Erin Keck	OB-GYN	Methodist Hosp
Sarah Kennedy	OB-GYN	Texas Tech U Affil
Angela Mirzadeh	OB-GYN	Mercy Hosp & Med Ctr
Mary Mitchell	OB-GYN	U at Buffalo SOM
Sarah Moseley	OB-GYN	Las Palmas del Sol Healthcare
Parker Murray	OB-GYN	Loma Linda University
Ellen Murrin	OB-GYN	INOVA Fairfax Hosp
Christina Nestlerode	OB-GYN	Good Samaritan Hosp-Cinn
Thy Nguyen	OB-GYN	St Anthony Hosp
Amy Owen	OB-GYN	Campbell University
Dung Pham	OB-GYN	Texas Tech U Affil