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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER. EL PASO
Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Global Health

Diversity Mentorship Program
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
ANJALI JOSHI, PH.D.
Assistant Professor
Center of Emphasis in Infectious Diseases

VISION OF MENTOR-MENTEE RELATIONSHIP:

“As a mentor, be able to provide unanimous emotional support to the student and be available to them in whichever way they might require assurance/assistance. Be able to encourage them so they have the willpower to succeed during their rigorous program. As a mentee, the student should be in need of such assistance, respectful, and have a time to spare during their program.“

Race/Ethnicity: Asian-Indian origin
Outside Interests: Singing, sewing, reading, biking
Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Contact Information: anjali.joshi@ttuhsc.edu
Outside Interests: Children's programs, reading, traveling, and international interventions and programs

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: gilbert.handal@ttuhsc.edu
Race/Ethnicity: I am bicultural, bilingual. My background is Mexican and also Polish. I was born in the United States and raised here. My father is an immigrant from Mexico, and my mother is first generation American whose parents immigrated from Poland. I am very familiar with Mexican and Latin American culture and fluent in Spanish. I have familiarity with Polish culture, but I’m not fluent in that language.

Outside Interests: Reading – fiction; music – play and write music (piano, guitar, drums, bass): all forms from classical to punk, jazz to conjunto; film – I host a film group where we watch films and discuss them from a psychological perspective.

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: m.escamilla@ttuhsc.edu
SITRATULLAH OLAWUNMI MAIYEGUN, M.D., FAAP

Race/Ethnicity: I am a Nigerian-American.
I was born in Nigeria.

Outside Interests: Dancing and singing

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: sitratullah.maiyegun@ttuhsc.edu

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.”
Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:

“Mentor and Mentee: Develop a growing relationship, keep communication open, offer support, define expectations, encourage feedback, provide feedback, and be kind.”

Race/Ethnicity: White/Caucasian
Outside Interest: Meditation, reading, and relationships
Not able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Contact Information: By text at 915.355.2872
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
Did not indicate if able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Contact Information: By text at 505.340.6820
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

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: cynthia.perry@ttuhsc.edu
Thwe Htay, M.D., FACP
Associate Professor
Medical Education

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

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

CONTACT INFORMATION: thwe.htay@ttuhsc.edu
Anoop Ayyappan, M.D.
Assistant Professor
Radiology

Outside interests: Traveling, photography
Contact Information: anoop.ayyappan@ttuhsc.edu

Did not indicate if 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
Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:

“Mentor should provide availability to meet with and talk with mentee to help guide them through their first year. Mentee should be willing to reach out and discuss how their year is going.”

Alfredo A. Maldonado, M.D.

Pediatric Emergency Medicine
El Paso Children’s Hospital Pediatric ER

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic; Mexican-American; I was born and raised here in El Paso.
Outside Interests: Photography, basketball, Ultimate Frisbee, and gardening
Not able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Contact Information: By text at 646.321.5804
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.

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.

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: shaked.laks@ttuhsc.edu
Outside Interests: Reading and swimming

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: By text at 646.413.836

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“Work together, mentor should guide the mentee and help each other.”
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.
Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Contact Information: pedro.maldonado@ttuhsc.edu
MARIE LEINER, PH.D.

Race/Ethnicity: I was born in Mexico
Outside interests: Swimming, bike riding
Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Contact information: marie.leiner@ttuhsc.edu
Associate Professor
Center of Emphasis in Cancer

Race/Ethnicity: Asian

Committee: American Heart Association

Hobbies: Soccer

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: By phone at 915.215.4197

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“Professionalism and communication.”
Lisa Ayoub - Rodriguez, M.D.
Assistant Professor

Pediatrics

Vision of mentor-mentee relationship:

“An opportunity to help mentee grow and develop during the critical years of medical school. The mentor should provide an outlet to help with challenges or crossroads. Both the mentor and mentee should bring respect of time and accountability.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic
Outside interests: Painting, hiking, exercising, swimming, Cooking
Did not indicate if able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Contact Information: Lisa.ayoub-rodriguez@ttuhsc.edu
Or Text 806-239-1212
Jorge Cervantes, M.D., Ph.D.

Assistant Professor | Microbiology | Department of Medical Education

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“I would like to participate in this program as I think I could bring advice from my personal experience as a Latino working and studying in several countries.”

Race/Ethnicity: Latino
Outside interests: Cycling, volleyball, art, photography
Able to provide mentee with research opportunity
Contact Information: jorge.cervantes@ttuhsc.edu
Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“For this program, just being a person who could help a student who may be interested in the field of surgery. I am a mentor for the American College of Surgeons Women’s mentoring program; that program is more focused to help with career goals. Basically, whatever the student needs for this program.”

Race/Ethnicity: Mixed. My father was part Native American. Mom was of English and Swiss descent, but basically Southern.

Able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Contact Information: susan.mclean@ttuhsc.edu
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
Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“A mentor plays a key role in shaping the professional advancement, which is tailored to that specific individual.”
Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“A mentor should help the mentee focus on their goal. They should also be there to listen and give advice as requested. The mentor should encourage the mentee to pursue appropriate goals.”

Race/Ethnicity: Hispanic
Hobbies: Chess, guitar, food
Contact Information: By text at (469) 879-6222
Not able to provide mentee with research opportunity
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: Black/Nigerian
Contact information: Ogechika.Aozie@ttuhsc.edu
Not able to provide mentee with research opportunity

Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“The keys to establishing a successful mentoring relationship include creating a relationship of trust, clearly defining roles and responsibilities, establishing short and long-term goals, using open and supportive communication, and collaboratively solving problems. Mentees are able to learn and grow under the mentor’s guidance, are able to experiment with creative solutions to problems within a safe and supportive environment, and become stronger and more intentional in their teaching. A mentor should have the ability and willingness to communicate what they know, preparedness, approachability, availability, and ability to listen, and compassion and genuineness.”
Vision of a mentor-mentee relationship:
“Assist in helping the mentee in providing guidance and help in career decisions and CV development, and provide guidance in research projects.”

Race/Ethnicity: Middle Eastern  
Hobbies: Sports, reading  
Contact information: Tarif.Khair@ttuhsc.edu  
Able to provide mentee with research opportunity: Yes