

# medicine minute

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

## kudos

### AWARDS

#### Trainees, Faculty Receive Awards at Residency Graduation Event



In addition to 66 residents, 17 trainees and faculty members were honored at the 2024 Graduation and Awards event on May 18. Awardees included:

**Naveen Balakrishnan, M.D.** – Clerkship Teaching Awards – R3

**Blake Lackey, M.D., Patrick O’Hara, M.D., and Kaitlin Regan, M.D.** – Clerkship Teaching Awards – R2

**Daniel Feuer, M.D., Nilesh Kapoor, M.D., Mansi Maini, M.D., and Harsh Upreti, M.D.** – Clerkship Teaching Awards – R1

**Fieke Hoff, M.D.** – Best Article by a Resident

**Ambarish Pandey, M.D., M.Sc.** – Outstanding Research Mentor

**Gene Hu, M.D.** – Outstanding Teaching by a Fellow

**Adan (Adam) Mora, M.D.** – Outstanding Teaching by a Faculty Member

**Krystal Lai, M.D.** – Lorraine Sulkin-Schein Resident Award in Geriatric Medicine

**Jonathan Dowell, M.D. and Jameson Wilbur, M.D.** – Donald W. Seldin Award in Internal Medicine for Outstanding Intern

**Naveen Balakrishnan, M.D.** – Ellwood Jones Award in Internal Medicine for Outstanding Senior Resident

**Muhammad Abu-Rmaleh, M.D.** – John S. Miller Award for Outstanding Senior Resident

To see pictorial tributes to each of the graduating residents, by firm, see below.

To view **Firm A** tributes, click [here](#).

To view **Firm B** tributes, click [here](#).

To view **Firm C** tributes, click [here](#).

To view **Firm D** tributes, click [here](#).

To view **Firm E** tributes, click [here](#).

### CONFERENCES

#### Faculty Members Share Expertise at AACE Annual Meeting



**Iram Hussain, M.D.** (seated, left, with moderator Kaniksha Desai, M.D. of Stanford University), an Associate Professor in the Division of Endocrinology, was one of several faculty members who presented lectures and courses at the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology annual meeting in New Orleans. Dr. Hussain's presentation: "Radiofrequency Ablation for the Treatment of Thyroid Diseases."

Also at the conference, **Jaime Almandoz, M.D., M.B.A.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Endocrinology and Section Chief of Weight Wellness and Obesity Medicine, gave two lectures on obesity management; **Oksana Hamidi, D.O.**,

an Associate Professor in the Division of Endocrinology, presented her research in congenital adrenal hyperplasia, lectured on pheochromocytoma, and participated in a panel discussion of Cushing disease; and **Alex Tessnow, M.D., M.B.A.**, an Associate Professor in the Division of Endocrinology, conducted a workshop on thyroid ultrasound.

## research roundup

### PUBLICATIONS

## Study Shows High-Volume Physical Activity Does Not Advance Coronary Artery Calcification



In a cohort study that included data from 8,771 healthy men and women 40 years and older, **Benjamin Levine, M.D.**, a Professor in the Division of Cardiology and Director of the Institute for Exercise and Environmental Medicine at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, and colleagues found that high-volume exercise, such as in marathoners and triathletes, is not associated with the progression of coronary artery calcification (CAC). The [study](#), published in *JAMA Cardiology*, indicates that highly active individuals with elevated CAC do not accelerate the process of atherosclerosis if they continue to train at a high level.

"Nonetheless, there is evidence that engaging in [physical activity] could lead to adverse cardiovascular adaptations as well as acute cardiac events (related to exercise) among some individuals," the authors write, acknowledging that "additional longitudinal research on more diverse samples is needed."

*Other UT Southwestern authors include Amit Khera, M.D., medical student William Turlington, and former faculty member Jarett Berry, M.D.*

*Dr. Levine holds the Distinguished Professorship in Exercise Sciences at UT Southwestern and the S. Finley Ewing Chair for Wellness and the Harry S. Moss Heart Chair for Cardiovascular Research at Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas.*

*Dr. Khera holds the Dallas Heart Ball Chair in Hypertension and Heart Disease.*

### FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

## Kidney Cancer Program Announces Intramural Grant Competition

The Kidney Cancer Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) is sponsoring an intramural competition for three to six grants of \$25,000 to \$40,000 (direct costs) as part of its Developmental Research and Career Enhancement programs.

The **Developmental Research Program** supports high-risk/high-payoff projects and projects with a translational projection. The **Career Enhancement Program** supports pilot projects from junior faculty, as well as established investigators refocusing their careers to include kidney cancer research.

Women and under-represented minority faculty are strongly encouraged to apply.

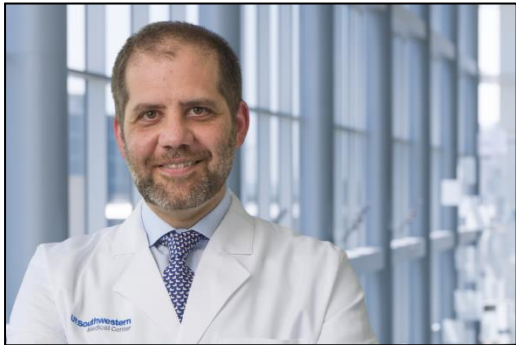
**James Brugarolas, M.D., Ph.D.**, a Professor in the Division of Hematology and Oncology and Director of the Kidney Cancer Program, and **Payal Kapur, M.D.**, a Professor of Pathology and Urology, are available to discuss potential projects.

Deadline for submission is **Monday, June 17**. Awardees will be notified on **Monday, July 22**.

For more information, contact Program Coordinator [Kathy Worland](#).

## in memoriam

### Aslan Turer, Professor, Division of Cardiology



**Aslan Turer, M.D., M.H.S., M.B.A.**, Professor in the Division of Cardiology, died at his home after a lengthy illness, surrounded by his family, on Friday, May 17. He was 49.

Dr. Turer's work ethic was surpassed only by his dedication to his family. His wife, Christy Turer, an Associate Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine, and their five children, Sebastian, Edison, Linus, Charley, and Jack, will miss his sense of humor, selflessness, and devotion, especially his contributions to the household chores and school-related activities.

He found great comfort in his work and in giving back to his patients and colleagues, even on days when he was feeling poorly. His many patients and colleagues will miss his warm and endearing nature that would so often brighten their days.

Dr. Turer held a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of California Los Angeles. He earned his medical degree from the University of California San Francisco, and received internal medicine residency training, followed by a cardiology fellowship, and a coronary and structural interventional cardiology fellowship at Duke University Medical Center, where he also conducted postdoctoral research. He also held a Master of Health Sciences degree from Duke University and a Master of Business Administration degree from Southern Methodist University.

He joined the faculty at UT Southwestern in 2009. In 2011, he received the L. David Hillis Teaching Award for Excellence in Teaching. He was known regionally and nationally within the field of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and led the program at UT Southwestern to become a Center of Excellence, a distinction held by only about 40 hospitals in the U.S. In 2016, he became the Medical Director of the Clinical Heart and Vascular Center. He was also involved in major clinical trials in the field of hypertrophic cardiomyopathy and other heart conditions, helping to bring new care options to his patients.

Aslan Teyfik Turer was born on Aug. 8, 1974, to Hiltrud and Erol Turer, both physicians. His younger brother, Emre, followed him to UT Southwestern, where he is now an Assistant Professor in the Center for Genetics of Host Defense.

A patron of eclectic arts, Dr. Turer played the clarinet, collected vinyl records and stamps, participated in philatelic societies and conifer clubs, enjoyed fly fishing, and was an avid reader. Later in life, he became an accomplished home cook and a gifted watercolorist.

In addition to his wife and children, he is survived by his parents and his brother.

*An Arabic-language Muslim prayer service will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22, followed by a Christian memorial service with reflection time at 6 p.m. at the Sparkman/Hillcrest Funeral Home, 7405 W. Northwest Highway, Dallas, TX, 75255. A*

funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, May 23, at Christ the King Catholic Church, 8017 Preston Road, Dallas, TX, 75225. Dr. Turer's family has asked that participants wear colorful attire in celebration of his life.

## in case you missed it

### EXHIBITIONS

## Link and Hunter Display Art at Publication Event



**Mark Link, M.D.**, a Professor in the Division of Cardiology, and **Wynn Hunter, M.D.**, a senior cardiac electrophysiology fellow, recently exhibited their original works of art at an event in the Faculty Club celebrating the publication of [The Healing Arts](#), a resident-initiated humanities journal.

Dr. Link began painting with oils at age 5. "I primarily worked in the mediums of oil and gouache," he says, "but now I generally use gouache because paper is so much easier to store than canvases."

Dr. Hunter has created more than 200 mixed-media pieces which are primarily abstract representations of medical, philosophical, and natural phenomena. He has 45 pieces on display at UT Southwestern, primarily in the Division of Cardiology's administrative office on H8. "I've sold several off the walls," he says. "My oldest daughter, Tekla, has autism and proceeds from the sales of my original works and prints support her autism therapies."

*Dr. Link is the Laurence and Susan Hirsch/Centex Distinguished Chair in Heart Disease.*

## Articles and Videos Featuring Internal Medicine Colleagues

- [Home Ventilation Consult: Specialist Input on a Sudden Shift in Device Availability](#) (via *CHEST Physician*, pg. 16, with **Bethany Lussier, M.D.**)
- [Fibromyalgia, IBS Patients Linked to Multiple-drug Intolerance](#) (via the UTSW Newsroom, with **David Khan, M.D.**)



**Internal Medicine News Portal**  
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## need to know

### TRAINING

## Reminder: Performance Evaluation Season is Here



It's time to note last year's accomplishments while identifying opportunities for future growth.

Whether you're a manager providing feedback or an individual reflecting on your progress, intentional engagement throughout this process will support personal, professional, and collective success for UT Southwestern.

Important reminders:

- For managers: Ratings must be saved in iPerform for eligible employees by **Friday, May 31**.



- For employees: All eligible recipients of an FY 24 annual evaluation must provide their final acknowledgment by **Saturday, Aug. 31**.

If you have questions regarding the evaluation process, the Performance Management team offers virtual training sessions tailored for both [employees](#) and [managers](#). Also, for self-guided tips on completing your evaluation, you can refer to the HR Knowledge Base.

Check out these resources for additional support:

- [Email Performance Management with questions](#)
- [Performance Management SharePoint](#)
- [Tips about how to complete the process](#)
- [Book a one-on-one appointment](#)

#### DESIGNATED HOLIDAY

### Clinics, Academic Offices, and Labs Closed on Monday, May 27



Memorial Day, **May 27**, is a [designated holiday](#) for UTSW as we remember and honor those who gave their lives in service to our nation.

All UT Southwestern clinics, central administration, academic offices, and research labs will be closed. Hospitals will be fully operational with the appropriate staff in support areas.

**Note: Due to the holiday weekend, there will be no Internal Medicine Grand Rounds on Friday, May 24.**

*If you have questions about the holiday policy, call Human Resources at 214-*

*648-0821.*

## this week

#### COLLABORATION

### Faculty Members to Present at Research Colloquium



**George Jackson, M.H.A., Ph.D., Saad Omer, M.P.H., Ph.D., MBBS, Robert Toto, M.D., Una Makris, M.D., M.Sc., Arthur Hong, M.D., and Gary Reed, M.D.,** will participate as panelists and presenters at the [Advancing Implementation & Improvement Science \(AIIS\) program Research Colloquium](#) on **Thursday, May 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.** in Y2.206.

Sponsored by the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) program and the O'Donnell School of Public Health, the event will bring together scientists, practitioners, health systems, and community stakeholders to develop methods, tools, and research opportunities to improve health outcomes

and address disparities.

**Amy Kilbourne, Ph.D., M.P.H.,** Professor of Learning Health Sciences and Associate Chair for Research at the University of Michigan Medical School, will deliver the keynote address.

*To register for the free event, click [here](#).*

## Noteworthy Lectures & Events

- **Tuesday, May 21, Noon:** [Pathology Seminar Series](#) with **Dr. Kwok-Kin Wong** (NYU/Langone Cancer Center) – “Novel Therapeutic Strategies for Lung Cancer”
- **Wednesday, May 22, 8 a.m.:** [Geriatrics Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Rasha Alaameri** (Geriatric Medicine) – “Osteoarthritis in Older Adults”
- **Wednesday, May 22, Noon:** [Excellence in Immunology Lecture Series](#) with **Dr. Florencia McAllister** (MD Anderson Cancer Center) – “Microbial Matters in Pancreatic Cancer”
- **Thursday, May 23, 8 a.m.:** [Infectious Diseases & Geographic Medicine Grand Rounds](#) with **Dr. Ank Nijhawan** (Infectious Diseases & Geographic Medicine) – “Navigating Health Equity for Justice-Involved People with HIV in Dallas”

## reminders

### PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT

## Faculty Wellness Retreat Scheduled for June 7



The Office of Faculty Wellness will host its second annual Faculty Wellness Retreat on **Friday, June 7, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** at Pegasus Park. The in-person, CME-certified event will focus on maximizing professional efficiency and include workshops, facilitated discussions, and networking opportunities to advance a culture of wellness at UT Southwestern. The theme is “Enhancing Efficiency, Embracing Trust to Maximize Professional Fulfillment.”

The keynote address will be delivered by **Jody Hoffer Gittel, Ph.D.**, a Professor at Brandeis University’s Heller School for Social Policy and Management. She is known for having

developed the Relational Coordination theory – coordinating highly interdependent work through shared mutual values and based upon high-quality relationships and communication.

To register for the retreat, click [here](#).

### LEADERSHIP LECTURE SERIES

## Ahn to Speak on Transformational Communication on June 13



The Leadership Lecture Series concludes on **Thursday, June 13, at noon** with a presentation by **Christina Ahn, Ph.D.**, Leadership Coach in the Office of Women’s Careers. Her topic: “Transformational Communication Using Coaching Skills.”

All lectures are virtual, informal, and brown bag. Faculty, APPs, administrators, and trainees are welcome to attend.

To register for the virtual event, click [here](#).



**Internal Medicine Events Calendar**

[Click to view additional events](#)

Look for the next *Medicine Minute* on **Tuesday, May 28, 2024.**

Share feedback and news items with us at [IMNews@UTSouthwestern.edu](mailto:IMNews@UTSouthwestern.edu)

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