UTSouthwestern Medical Center

ACADEMIC CONNECTIONS



Congratulations, Drs. DeBose-Boyd and Pan!

<u>Russell DeBose-Boyd, Ph.D.</u>, Professor of Molecular Genetics, and <u>Duojia Pan, Ph.D.</u>, Professor and Chair of the Department of Physiology, have been elected to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), one of the highest honors bestowed upon an American scientist.

With their election, UT Southwestern now has 26 members of the NAS on its faculty, more than any other institution in Texas. Read more.

Strategic Assessment: School of Health Professions







To look closely at the priorities and opportunities before the UT Southwestern School of Health Professions (SHP), a special Assessment and Strategic Recommendations Work Group was appointed last fall. Composed of UTSW faculty, staff, and external advisers, and chaired by Dwain Thiele, M.D., Vice Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Initiatives, the group analyzed each of the school's programs and charted a vision for the future based on those findings.

<u>The report</u> revealed SHP faculty spend a greater percentage of their efforts directing educational courses than their colleagues in other UTSW schools. The School's programs accounted for 30% of all degrees conferred by UTSW in 2022. Data showed its graduates have excellent initial pass rates on licensure exams and achieve near 100% employment rates within one year of graduation.

The degrees offered by the SHP – particularly Master of Physician Assistant Studies, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Master of Prosthetics-Orthotics, Master of Clinical Nutrition, and the new Master of Genetic Counseling (starting in 2024) – are aligned with professions projected to have very high areas of job growth over the next decade.

The work group suggested that, as UTSW prepares to address evolving health care needs, there is

room to grow the SHP's curriculum and develop new health professions education offerings. For example, expanding the subspecialty residencies in Physical Therapy to include pediatrics, neurology, acute care, and geriatrics, and enabling additional specialized fellowship training for physician assistants and nurse practitioners will be important as we grow our enterprise.

Looking ahead, and to ensure the SHP continues to excel and strengthen all areas of our mission, we will be identifying opportunities to integrate its clinical practices and training programs with those of the Health System and the Medical School.

Faculty Announcements

Dr. Moreland Appointed Associate Dean for Faculty Development

Jessica Moreland, M.D., Professor of Pediatrics and Division Chief of Pediatric Clinical Care, is the new Associate Dean for Faculty Development. In this role, Dr. Moreland will work with the academic leadership team to design, grow, and implement professional faculty development programs that foster career progression, leadership development, and improve faculty performance and retention for faculty at all levels.

Since joining the faculty of UT Southwestern and staff of Children's Medical Center Dallas in 2013, she has served on several important institutional committees. Most notably, she has been an active member of the UT Southwestern Promotion and Tenure Committee, which she has co-chaired for the past three years.



As Chief of Pediatric Critical Care, Dr. Moreland has nearly doubled the size of the Division faculty in the last 10 years with significant enhancement of its diversity, mentorship, and academic productivity. By focusing on individuals and their unique strengths, a third of its faculty have been successfully presented for promotion, with 11 promotions in the last two years.

With experience in both patient care and laboratory research, a strong record as a division chief and co-Chair of the Promotion and Tenure Committee, and a deep understanding of UT Southwestern culture, Dr. Moreland will work to expand the opportunities for our faculty to develop and advance their careers in all disciplines.

Drs. Hobbs and Cohen Win the 2023 Ross Prize in Molecular Medicine



Helen Hobbs, M.D., and Jonathan Cohen, Ph.D., are being recognized with the 2023 Ross Prize in Molecular Medicine "for their pioneering and collaborative work in defining the genetic risk factors for dyslipidemias and metabolic liver disease that have led to the rational design of new therapies."

The prize was established 10 years ago by the Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research and the open-access journal *Molecular Medicine* to recognize biomedical scientists whose discoveries have transformed the way medicine is practiced.

Breakthroughs made by the Hobbs-Cohen laboratory include finding that mutations in a gene called *PCSK9* were associated with reduced plasma levels of LDL cholesterol and decreased risk of heart disease – which led to the development of a new class of cholesterol-lowering agents – and unveiling the first genetic cause of fatty liver disease in humans.

Dr. Hobbs, Professor of Internal Medicine and Molecular Genetics and Director of the Eugene McDermott Center for Human Growth and Development, and Dr. Cohen, Professor of Internal Medicine, in the Center for Human Nutrition, and in the Eugene McDermott Center for Human Growth and Development, will each receive a \$50,000 award and deliver keynote addresses during the 2023 Ross Prize Symposium later this month.

Announcing Search Committee for Vice Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs

After 40 years of distinguished service at UT Southwestern, Dr. Dwain L. Thiele, Vice Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Initiatives, Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, and holder of the Jan and Henri Bromberg Chair in Internal Medicine, will step down from his leadership position after his successor is identified.

Jay Horton, M.D., Professor and Director of the Center for Human Nutrition, will serve as chair of the committee that will conduct a national search. Other members of the committee are:

- Cecelia Brewington, M.D., Professor and Vice Chair of Clinical Operations, Department of Radiology
- Michael Jessen, M.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery
- Heakyung Kim, M.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Melissa Kirkwood, M.D., Professor and Division Chief of Vascular Surgery, Department of Surgery
- Elan Louis, M.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Neurology
- David Mangelsdorf, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Pharmacology
- Sharon Reimold, M.D., Professor and Vice Chair for Clinical Operations and Faculty Development, Department of Internal Medicine
- Michael Rosen, Ph.D., Professor and Chair, Department of Biophysics
- Stephen Skapek, M.D., Professor and Division Chief of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology, Department of Pediatrics
- Lance Terada, M.D., Professor and Division Chief of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine

This important search will be launched shortly, and we look forward to receiving faculty input.

Grant Writing Library Now Available

To support UT Southwestern researchers in the process of securing National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding, the Office of Clinical Research and the UTSW CTSA Program have purchased access to a grant writing library developed by Meg Bouvier, Ph.D.

The series of virtual, self-paced training courses explain step-by-step how to write a successful NIH submission. Fill the <u>registration form</u> to take advantage of this learning platform.

Send questions to clinicalresearcheracademy@utsouthwestern.edu



Call for New WISMAC Members



The Women in Science and Medicine Advisory Committee (WISMAC) is seeking new faculty members to advance its mission of advocacy, education, and career development.

Faculty, learners, and staff in basic and clinical departments who are passionate about advancing the careers of women in science and medicine are invited to apply. Responsibilities of membership include regular attendance at monthly noon hybrid meetings. In addition, faculty members should be committed to contribute in at least one of the annual core events.

Apply by May 19. Send questions to sharon.reimold@utsouthwestern.edu.

Important Dates and Upcoming Events

Faculty Assembly

The annual UT Southwestern Faculty Assembly is an opportunity to learn about the Faculty Senate's efforts over

the year and hear updates from executive leaders.

• May 4, 5-6 p.m., McDermott Lecture Hall, South Campus, D1.600

Medical School Commencement

<u>UT Southwestern Medical School</u> will honor over 200 graduates in <u>this year's commencement</u> ceremony.

 May 11, 11 a.m., Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center



Simulation (SIM) Center Forum

This <u>forum</u> brings together individuals from a broad array of backgrounds, all with a common interest in health care simulation, quality improvement, and research.

• May 17 Register to attend.

Graduate School Commencement

<u>UT Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences</u> will honor over 100 graduates in this year's commencement ceremony.

• May 18, 7 p.m., Tom and Lula Gooch Auditorium.

Didactic Session: Understanding the Grant Review Process*

Monthly sessions on successful project development and the grant application process are part of the Clinical Researcher Catalyst, a career development program for clinical researchers.

• May 30. Register to attend.

Charles Pak Family Cancer & Bone Initiative

Supported by the Dean's Office and the Department of Internal Medicine, this funding opportunity is available to UTSW faculty investigating various aspects of skeletal metastasis and/or bone metabolic disease due to cancer or as a consequence of therapy.

Apply by June 1.

Hansjörg Wyss Geriatric Fracture Symposium

Hosted by the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, the symposium features guest speakers from across the country who will present on orthopedic case studies and foster discussion on geriatric fractures.

 June 2-3, T. Boone Pickens Biomedical Building (ND), third floor, NG3.112. Register to attend.

Faculty Wellness Retreat

Hosted by the Office of Faculty Wellness, the retreat includes interactive workshops on practical ways to maximize your professional fulfillment and operationalizing change in your local health care environment.

• June 9 at Pegasus Park. Register to attend.

*Sponsored by the UT Southwestern CTSA Program

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