



MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Adam Adler, M.D., Assistant Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery & Rehabilitation
- Olufemi Aduroja, M.D., M.P.H., Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine – Transmountain
- Mary Josephine Amaro Esparza, D.O., Assistant Professor, Family Medicine – Transmountain
- Lisa Ayoub-Rodriguez, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pediatrics, Immediate Past-President
- Jorge Cervantes-Gonzalez, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Medical Education
- Abhizith Deoker, M.D., Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
- Alok Dwivedi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Molecular and Translational Medicine
- Wayde Miller, M.D., Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology
- Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H., Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine, President-Elect
- Steven Radtke, M.D., Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
- KoKo Aung, M.D., M.P.H., Vice President for Faculty Success, TTUHSC El Paso, Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, PLFSOM, Ex-Officio, Non-Voting
- Richard Lange, M.D., M.B.A., President, TTUHSC El Paso, Dean, PLFSOM, Ex-Officio, Non-Voting

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

- Daniel Bustamante, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pathology
- Jose Castro-Garcia, M.D., Assistant Professor, Surgery
- Gerardo Vazquez, M.D., Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine
- Anantha Vellipuram, M.D., Assistant Professor, Neurology, President

GUESTS:

- Munmun Chattopadhyay, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Molecular & Translational Medicine
- Deborah Clegg, Ph.D., Professor, Internal Medicine
- J. Manuel De La Rosa, M.D., M.Sc., Professor, Pediatrics
- Anna Eiring, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Molecular & Translational Medicine
- David Fallah, D.D.S., Associate Professor, Surgery
- Norma Garcia, R.N., Faculty Associate, Pediatrics
- Thwe Htay, M.D., Associate Professor, Medical Education
- Edward Michelson, M.D., Professor, Emergency Medicine
- Jennifer Molokwu, M.D., M.P.H., Associate Professor, Family & Community Medicine
- Zuber Mulla, Ph.D., M.S.P.H., Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Chandra Ojha, M.D., Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine
- Gregory Patek, M.D., O.D., Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine
- Dale Quest, Ph.D., Professor, Medical Education
- Irene Sarosiek, M.D., Professor, Internal Medicine
- Jerzy Sarosiek, M.D., Ph.D., Professor, Internal Medicine
- Sarah Walker, M.D., Assistant Professor, Surgery
- Miranda Alvarez, M.A., Associate Director, Office of Faculty Affairs and Recruitment
- Michelle Brown, Analyst II, Office of Faculty Affairs
- Cindy Camarillo, Sr. Director, Office of Faculty Affairs and Recruitment

I. CALL TO ORDER

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Stormy Monks, PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect, called the meeting to order at 12:08 P.M.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Quorum was established. The Faculty Council meeting minutes from June 20, 2022 were approved as presented.

III. DEANS REPORT

Richard Lange M.D., M.B.A.
President, TTUHSC El Paso & Dean,
PLFSOM

Dr. Lange provided an update:

- **Mission** - Dr. Lange reminded attendees of the school's mission to improve the lives of people in our state and our community. He noted that this is done by focusing on the unique health care needs of our diverse border population by integrating education, research, and excellent patient care. Dr. Lange thanked the faculty and noted that this is accomplished not based upon policies and procedures but based upon the school's values of service, teamwork, accountability, advancement, respect, and integrity.
- **Research** - Dr. Lange noted that Dr. Deborah Clegg, Vice President of Research, recently presented advances in clinical research opportunities and positions to department chairs. She volunteered to present the information to each department. Dr. Lange encouraged the faculty to take part in these presentations.
- **Recruitment** – Dr. Lange reported that Jennifer Erickson, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources, presented improvements and ideas to further improve the recruitment process for both faculty and staff to the department chairs. She also presented a dashboard which is available on a weekly basis to monitor the hiring process.
- **COVID-19** - COVID-19 cases are rising nationally. On campus, 20 individuals reported being COVID-19 positive, not acquired on campus. If experiencing upper respiratory tract symptoms, please do not come to work so as to have minimal disruption to the education and the clinical care of patients. An alert was sent to the campus encouraging full vaccination, boosters, wearing masks indoors, handwashing, and avoiding touching the nose and face.
- **Medical Student Interviews** - Dr. Cynthia Perry, Associate Dean for Admissions, is asking for volunteers for the medical student interview process as the school plans to recruit 120 individuals this fall for the next class. Dr. Lange encouraged widespread involvement of the faculty to participate in the selection process.
- **UMC Update** - UMC requested a certificate of obligation (bonds which don't typically require public vote) for a total of about \$346 million to increase operating room availability in the ambulatory surgery center, to increase the number of beds in the El Paso Children's Hospital, and to add both a primary care clinic and an oncology center. This would also allow UMC to purchase the TTUHSC El Paso property

(Clinical Sciences Building and Academic Education Center) on the west side of Reynolds. If this occurs, the clinic and office spaces would be relocated to the east side of Reynolds.

IV. FACULTY AFFAIRS UPDATE

KoKo Aung, M.D., M.P.H.

Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, PLFSOM

Dr. Aung provided a brief update:

- **Official Transcripts** - The Office of Faculty Affairs will be reaching out to faculty to request official academic transcripts not on file. The transcripts are part of the documentation of qualifications for teaching assignments for the Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) accreditation process. Official transcripts must be sent directly from the issuing institution to the Office of Faculty Affairs in a sealed envelope and printed on official paper bearing an official seal and signature of the registrar. This request is part of the required documentation process to remain compliant with the guidelines for faculty credentials. For faculty whose institutions are out of the country, closed, or do not disclose transcripts to third parties, the attempts made to obtain the transcript must still be documented even if it is known that the institution will not respond. Please keep an eye out for emails from the Office of Faculty Affairs.

Q&A

Q: There are services which receive transcripts from foreign schools, store them, and translate them. Will these be accepted?

A: No, for the accreditation purpose for SACSCOC, the original transcript in its original language must be received directly from the degree granting institution. If the original transcript is not in English, then translation becomes part 2 of the process. Faculty often ask about the Federation Credentials Verification Service (FCVS) which is the credentialing body/entity for the license application process with state medical boards. FCVS cannot be used in lieu of an original transcript because their purpose is to verify documents for the state boards, not accreditation with SACSCOC.

V. COMMITTEE REPORT

Gregory Patek, M.D.

Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs, PLFSOM

Dr. Patek reported on the Committee on Medical School Admissions:



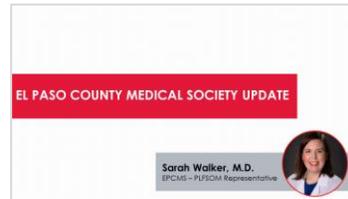
*Please see attached report

VI. EL PASO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY UPDATE

Sarah Walker, M.D.

EPCMS – PLFSOM Representative

Dr. Walker reported on the El Paso County Medical Society (EPCMS):



*Please see attached report

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H.

PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Monks provided an update:

A. PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect Nominations

- Nominations are still being accepted for 2022-2023 Faculty Council President-Elect. Elections will be held in August 2022. A nominee must be a current Faculty Council representative. Those interested may self-nominate or you may nominate fellow Council representatives.
- As a reminder, this is a 3-year commitment, as the nominee will assume the role of President-Elect in September 2022, then President and Immediate Past-President in the subsequent two years. Nominees are required to submit a one-paragraph statement about what they think the Faculty Council's role should be at PLFSOM and what they would like to accomplish if elected to the position.
- Please submit nominations to Miranda Alvarez in the Office of Faculty Affairs by July 29, 2022.

B. Faculty Council Seats up for Election/Re-election

- As a reminder, in accordance with the terms prescribed in the Faculty Bylaws, several department's voting seats on the PLFSOM Faculty Council are up for election/re-election:
 - Anesthesiology (Wayde Miller, M.D.)
 - Family Medicine – Transmountain (Mary Josephine Amaro Esparza, D.O.)
 - Internal Medicine (Abhizith Deoker, M.D.)
 - Medical Education (Jorge Cervantes-Gonzalez, M.D., Ph.D.)
 - Orthopaedic Surgery & Rehabilitation (Adam Adler, M.D.)
 - Pediatrics (Lisa Ayoub-Rodriguez, M.D.)
 - Psychiatry (Fabrizio Delgado Ramos, M.D. - leaving institution)
 - Surgery (Jose A. Castro Garcia, M.D.)
- Department chairs will be notified via email to hold an election to re-elect their current rep or elect a new representative. Interested, eligible faculty must have at least 2 or more years of service at TTUHSC El Paso. New or re-elected representatives will take their seat on the council in September 2022.

- If a Faculty Council representative whose seat is up for election/re-election is elected as President-Elect, they will be exempt from the departmental election and their term will be extended as the department representative for the next 3-years to serve out their terms of office as President-Elect, President, and then Immediate Past President, per the Faculty Bylaws

C. Faculty Governance Retreat Summary

- The 2022 PLFSOM Faculty Governance Retreat Summary reflects the compilation of faculty concerns and potential solutions from the the discussions from the March 21st retreat. The summary will be distributed to retreat attendees and presented to senior leadership in September.

D. Standing Committee Calls for Nominations

- **Committee on Student Grading and Promotion:**
 - The PLFSOM Faculty Council is seeking nominations to fill one (1) seat on the PLFSOM Committee on Student Grading and Promotion.
 - The committee is charged with evaluating reports of grades and other performance evaluations of students and making decisions regarding student promotion, remediation and dismissal.
 - All PLFSOM faculty members with an FTE of 50% or greater in a department with teaching responsibilities in the undergraduate medical curriculum are eligible to serve.
 - The committee meets on the third Friday of each month. Interested faculty members must be available to meet with no scheduling conflicts.
 - An email will be sent out to the faculty with a call for nominations. Please keep an eye out. The deadline to submit nominations is August 5, 2022.
- **Committee on Clinical Affairs**
 - The Faculty Council has been soliciting for nominations to fill sixteen (16) vacant seats, one seat per department, on the Committee on Clinical Affairs. We received nominations from nine (9) out of the sixteen (16) departments. The following faculty have been nominated:
 - Maanit Kholi, M.D., Internal Medicine-Transmountain
 - Sarah Sepulveda, M.D., Family and Community Medicine
 - **The Faculty Council approved the motion to forward these two nominees to the Dean for consideration.**
 - Nominations are still pending from the following departments:
 - Anesthesiology
 - Family Medicine – Transmountain
 - Molecular & Translational Medicine
 - Orthopaedic Surgery & Rehabilitation
 - Psychiatry

- Radiology
- Please submit nominations to the Office of Faculty Affairs by email to fservices@ttuhsc.edu no later than August 5, 2022
- **Committee on Medical School Admissions**
 - The Committee on Medical School Admissions has been soliciting to fill seven (7) seats. The following nominations were received:
 - Shefali Aggarwal, M.D.
 - Ricardo Badillo, M.D.
 - Denease Francis, M.D.
 - Aimee Hechanova, M.D.
 - Tanis Hogg, Ph.D.
 - Hugo Kato, M.D.
 - Narges Khanjani, M.D., Ph.D.
 - Rajkumar Lakshmanaswamy, Ph.D.
 - Patricia Ortiz, M.D.
 - Manu Rajachandran, M.D.
 - Zoe Tullius, M.D.
 - Saeed Wajeeha, M.D.
 - **The Faculty Council approved the motion to forward this list of nominees to the Dean for consideration.**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H.

PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Monks provided an update on the following items:

A. Call for Nominations for Curriculum and Educational Policy Committee (CEPC)

- The Faculty Council is soliciting nominations to fill two (2) seats (one clinical sciences faculty and one college mentor) on the Curriculum & Educational Policy Committee.
 - The Committee is charged with the development, design, implementation, management, monitoring, integration, review, evaluation, and revision of the undergraduate medical education curriculum to ensure continuous quality improvement.
 - Eligible faculty must be a voting faculty member of PLFSOM (0.5 FTE or more) and must be a clinician to fill the clinical sciences faculty vacant seat.
 - The term of service is 4 years and meetings typically occur monthly
- An email will be sent out to the faculty with a call for nominations. Please keep an eye out. The deadline to submit nominations is August 12, 2022.

IX. FACULTY COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Monks announced the following:

A. TTUHSC El Paso All Faculty Meeting – July 26, 2022

- Faculty can register now for the TTUHSC El Paso All Faculty Meeting. The meeting will be held on July 26th in the AEC Misenhimer Auditorium. All faculty are encouraged to attend. Please check email for the registration link. This meeting is offered in person and through Webex.

B. PLFSOM General Faculty Meeting – August 15, 2022

- The next PLFSOM General Faculty Council meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2022 from 12-1 PM via WebEx. This meeting will be in lieu of the regular monthly faculty meeting. All PLFSOM faculty are encouraged to attend. Please register via the email distributed to faculty with meeting & registration details.

X. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Monks opened the floor for Round Table Discussion:

Discussion: Dr. Radtke shared several concerns from faculty in his department:

- Improvement of the flow of information related to clinical/financial productivity metrics is needed.
- The shortage on ancillary staff needs to be addressed.
- There is a gap between clinical operations and clinical management that must be bridged. For example, we have had issues sending letters to referring physicians who are from outside institutions. Communication is key to promoting the referral of patients to our institution. One suggested solution is to have a standardized process within Electronic Health Records (EHR) department to print or send a letter, which is something we have been working on for several months with little progress.

Dr. Monks thanked Dr. Radtke and noted the Faculty Council officers have discussed the need for the Clinical Affairs Committee to be reactivated due to the disconnects in the clinical setting. This is something that Dr. Lange has graciously taken the time to discuss with us. It has been heard and we are working toward fixing it. The Faculty Council will continue to talk about it this year and work on getting these situations in the clinic addressed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Monks reminded all attendees that the next PLFSOM General Council meeting will take place on August 15, 2022 and adjourned the meeting at 1:05 P.M.


[Stormy Monks \(Oct 19, 2022 16:41 MDT\)](#)

Stormy Monks, M.D.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

PLFSOM Committee on Medical School Admissions

Presented to Faculty Council - 7/18/2022

Gregory Patek, M.D., Chair



Committee Composition and Terms of Service

- ▶ 22 committee members:
- ▶ 20 Voting Members
- ▶ 2 Current Vacancies
 - ▶ Chair: Gregory Patek, MD
 - ▶ Vice-Chair: Ricardo Belmares, PhD
 - ▶ EPCMS Rep James Boone, MD
 - ▶ 2 Ex-Officio (non-voting): Associate Dean of Admissions and Senior Director of Admissions

Last Name	First Name	Degree	Academic Rank	Department	Committee Position	Term Start Date	Term Expiration Date	Comments
Vellipuram	Anantha	MD	Assistant Professor	Neurology	Member	2022	2025	second term
Rangashamanna	Vital	MD	Assistant Professor	Radiology	Member	2022	2025	
Ababie	Jude	PhD	Associate Professor	Pathology	Member	2021	2024	
Greenberg	Harvey	MD	Associate Professor	Ob/Gyn	Member	2021	2024	
Al Lawati	Zainab	MD	Assistant Professor	Surgery	Member	2021	2024	
Patek	Gregory	MD	Assistant Professor	Emergency Med	Chair	2021	2024	Second term
Belmares	Ricardo	PhD	Assistant Professor	Medical Education	Vice Chair	2020	2023	
Singh	Ajay	MD	Assistant Professor	Peds	Member	2020	2023	
Cervantes	Jorge	MD, PhD	Assistant Professor	Medical Education	Member	2020	2023	second term
Andrade	Alonso	MD	Clinical Instructor	Surgery	Member	2020	2023	
Bustamante	Daniel	M.D.	Assistant Professor	Pathology	Member	2020	2023	
Thabet-Hagag	Ahmed	MD	Assistant Professor	Orthopaedic Surgery	Member	2020	2023	
Tullius	Zoe	MD	Assistant Professor	Pediatrics	Member	2020	2023	
Boone	James	MD	Assistant Professor	Anesthesiology	Member			EPCMS Rep
Vacant								
Vacant								
Vacant								
Vacant								
Vacant								
Vacant								
Perry	Cynthia	PhD	Associate Dean for Admissions	Admissions	Ex Officio			
Olivas	Laura	MBA	Senior Director of Admissions	Admissions	Ex Officio			

Committee Charge

- ▶ The Committee shall have full authority to **select members of the medical school entering class** based on the screening assessments and interview evaluation reports and to **fill vacancies that may occur in any of the medical school classes**. A list of recommended candidates to be offered positions through the Texas Medical and Dental School Application Service (TMDSAS) matching process will be prepared **based on a ranking determined following deliberations by the Committee**. The Committee also shall have the **responsibility to review the requirements for admission and, if necessary, to recommend revisions** to the faculty.

Actions taken since last report (Jan 2022)

- ▶ Received 4808 primary applications & 3109 completed applications (decrease of 678 total and 549 complete apps vs. EY21)
- ▶ Completed 612 interviews, 24 interview days
- ▶ Sat 124 new students (9 OOS), Avg MCAT 509, ovGPA 3.8
- ▶ Scholarship sub-committee; awarded 60 scholarships from Admissions Office (16 Foster, 8 Excellence, 3 OOS Waivers, 12 need based, 21 private)
- ▶ Residents are now eligible to interview based on PD approval
- ▶ Still looking for clinical departments interested in hosting scribes from our Foster Admissions Med Prep Program (FAMPP)- Internal Pathway program for eligible UTEP students

Admissions Committee Process

- Candidates discussed
- Voting (high priority, acceptable, reject)
- Categorized by vote:
 1. High Priority (unanimous high priority votes)
 2. Highly Acceptable -1, -2, -3
 3. Very Acceptable (4+ acceptable votes)
 4. Acceptable (majority acceptable votes)
 5. Reject
- Ranked within category by weighted scores
(Interview: 30%, MCAT: 30%, SGPA: 35%, GPA: 5%)

**Rank list is generated after the first interview date and updated weekly throughout interview season.

Upcoming actions

- ▶ All interviews will continue to be held virtually
- ▶ EY season begins July 28th
- ▶ Committee Meetings continue to be offered virtually
- ▶ Plan to again sit **124** new students for EY2023
- ▶ Goal to interview 620 this season
- ▶ Will host Second Look campus tours for interviewees
- ▶ Working with IA to expand scholarship funds to remain competitive

Current Issues/Concerns

- ▶ We are significantly **behind in # of interviewers** signed up, only 367 slots filled (need 620)
- ▶ Anticipating class size expansion moving forward we will need to interview more candidates to meet demand
- ▶ 6 committee vacancies need to be filled to meet quorum

EL PASO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY (EPCMS) UPDATE

Sarah Walker, M.D.
EPCMS – PLFSOM Representative



EPCMS Report

Sarah Walker, MD
July 18, 2022

EMTALA and Abortion Access

- This week Secretary Becerra (HHS) sent a letter to all hospitals and health care providers reminding them of their obligation to comply with EMTALA. The Secretary's letter
 - clarifies that EMTALA requirements preempt any state laws that restrict access to stabilizing medical treatment, including abortion procedures and other treatments that may result in the termination of a pregnancy.
 - <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/emergency-medical-care-letter-to-health-care-providers.pdf>
- CMS updated guidance to hospitals reinforcing that EMTALA requirements apply to all hospitals in all states regardless of the state law to the contrary.
 - <https://www.cms.gov/medicareprovider-enrollment-and-certificationsurveycertificationgeninfo/policy-and-memos-states-and/reinforcement-emtala-obligations-specific-patients-who-are-pregnant-or-are-experiencing-pregnancy-0>
- CMS held a conference call with stakeholders on these communications. There were a number of questions about preemption. CMS officials repeatedly stated that EMTALA would preempt state law and would be a defense for criminal prosecutions. AMA staff fully anticipate that this issue will end up in the courts.

COVID-19

- Centralized lists in West TX/Southern NM
 - <https://www.reduce therisk915.org/>
 - <https://www.reduce therisk915.org/es/pagina-principal/>
- Texas Department of State Health Services
 - GetTheVaccine.dshs.texas.gov
 - Phone: (833) 832-7067
- New Mexico Department of Health
 - cvvaccine.nmhealth.org/
 - (855) 600-3453
- City of El Paso
 - epcovidvaccine.com/
 - (915) 212-6843



Community Health Needs Assessment

- https://ascendient.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cNf9PIEi6dMrdsy
- El Paso Public Health Department and community partners conducting needs assessment to address major health issues

CME Offering

- El Paso County Medical Society/Border RAC CME
- “Protecting your practice from Cyber Security Threats and Ransomware”
- Moderator: Dr. Jeffrey Spier
Panelist: Cathy Bryant, RR, BSN, MHA, CHPC from Texas Medical Liability Trust
- <https://cybersecurityforyourpractice.eventbrite.com/>



RotaCare Clinic 5K

- RotaCare Free clinic 5K Healthcare Run
- September 11, 2022 at Ascarate Park
- 6900 Delta
- <https://runsignup.com/Race/TX/ElPaso/RotacareFreeClinic5KHealthcareRun>



Upcoming Event

- July 28, 2022 – 7:00 pm El Paso Physician TV program – “Covid’s Impact on Cancer Screening”