

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

- Daniel Bustamante, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pathology
- Jose Castro Garcia, M.D., Assistant Professor, Surgery
- Abhizith Deoker, M.D., Associate Professor, Internal Medicine
- Katherine Hartl, M.D., Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine
- Hugo Kato, M.D., Assistant Professor, Pediatrics
- P. Antonio Maldonado, M.D., Associate Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H., Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine, Immediate Past-President
- Claudia Maria Prospero Ponce, M.D., Assistant Professor, Neurology
- Dale Quest, Ph.D., Professor, Medical Education
- Lela Ruck, M.D., Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine - Transmountain
- 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 Member
- Richard Lange, M.D., M.B.A., President, TTUHSC El Paso, Dean, PLFSOM, Ex-Officio, Non-Voting Member

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE:

- Adam Adler, M.D., Associate Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery & Rehabilitation
- Mary Josephine Amaro Esparza, D.O., Family Medicine - Transmountain
- Alok Dwivedi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Molecular and Translational Medicine, President
- Vital Rangashamanna, M.D., Assistant Professor, Radiology
- Wayde Miller, M.D., Assistant Professor, Anesthesiology
- Sarah Walker, M.D., PLFSOM EPCMS Representative, Non-Voting Member

GUESTS:

- Andrew Tyler, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery & Rehabilitation
- Zuber D. Mulla, Ph.D., Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology; Interim Associate Dean, Faculty Development
- Miranda Alvarez, Director for Faculty Services, Office of Faculty Affairs
- Michelle Brown, Analyst II, Office of Faculty Affairs
- Danielle Lara, Coordinator, Office of Faculty Affairs
- Kristina Levitt, Lead Analyst, Office of Faculty Affairs

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dale Quest, Ph.D.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Dale Quest, Faculty Council President-Elect, welcomed all attendees joining the November 27, 2023 Faculty Council meeting in-person and via WebEx. He called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dale Quest, Ph.D.
PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

After quorum was met, the Faculty Council meeting minutes from October 16, 2023 were approved as presented.

III. DEAN'S REPORT

Richard Lange, M.D., M.B.A.
Dean, PLFSOM

Dr. Lange provided a brief update:

A. Dr. Lange thanked Miranda Alvarez, MA, Director of Faculty Services, for her years of terrific service to the institution. She will be leaving the institution this month and will be missed.

B. Donor Luncheon

A donor luncheon was held last week for 160 individuals from the community. In the past year, community donors raised \$2.2 million in student scholarship funds. An announcement was made for an additional \$250,000 scholarship gift to the Foster School of Medicine students, which will be matched by the institution with \$500,000 towards PLFSOM. Donations come from grateful patients and community members that have received care from the institution, or from individuals with educational experience with our institution.

C. Leadership Position Searches

- A search will begin for the Department Chair of Radiology. Our current chair, Dr. Tom Dykes, will be retiring this spring, but he will continue to work part-time. A search committee has been formed.
- A search will also begin for the Department Chair of Family and Community Medicine at Kenworthy.
- The search for the Dean for PLFSOM is underway. Dr. Lange will stay on as President, but will step down from the role of dean. He is looking for someone to share the workload by devoting all of their time to the medical school. When Dr. Lange took on these responsibilities 10 years ago, the campus had only 2 schools, 450 students, 1500 employees, and annual budget of about \$180 million. Today the campus has grown to include 4 schools, 950 students, 300 residents, and annual budget of \$325 million. The Office of Faculty Affairs is coordinating the search efforts.

D. Board of Regents Approvals

- The Board of Regents approved an architect design firm for two buildings that will sit right next to each other.
- The cancer center received \$65 million from the state with an additional anticipated \$25-30 million, for a 90,000 sq. ft. comprehensive cancer center.
- A clinical building will be built adjacent to the cancer center. The state approved \$60 million for a 120,000 to 160,000 sq. ft. building. The clinic building and cancer center will share an imaging center.
- Over the next several months focus groups will meet with the architect firm to obtain opinions and will present architectural renderings.

E. Lighting for Hope Holiday Event Campus Lighting Ceremony

- Dr. Lange invited all faculty members to attend the Lighting for Hope on December 1, 2023. The event will include a lighting ceremony and fireworks on campus for the first time.

IV. DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

Lela Ruck, M.D.

Department Representative, Internal Medicine

Dr. Ruck provided a report on the Department of Internal Medicine:



**Please see attached report*

Q. Does the simulation center activity occur at the Alberta site or Transmountain site?

A. All simulations are at the Alberta site as Transmountain does not have simulation facilities.

Q. Do first, second, and third years complete their simulations here?

A. Last year, the simulations started with only first and second years. It was the same simulation for all, but the hope for this year is to conduct different simulations for different levels. Dr. Quest suggested exploring whether any simulations equipment is portable.

Q. When faculty and students travel to Alberta, do they have parking permits? Where do they park? Do they get ticketed?

A. Last year when using the simulation centers at Tech North and Tech South, they provided parking permits for the day to avoid getting ticketed. Planning ahead and asking for parking permits or knowing where to park is essential. Parking is a barrier to attending events at Alberta site.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Dale Quest, Ph.D.

PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

A. Calls for Nominations

The Faculty Council is soliciting nominations to fill faculty member vacancies on the committees listed below. Please send nominations via email to fservices@ttuhsc.edu by December 8th.

- a. Committee on Continuing Medical Education (4 seats)**
- b. Committee on Medical School Admissions (3 seats)**
- c. Committee on Student Grading and Promotion (1 seat)**
- d. Physician and Student Well-Being Committee (2 seats)**
- e. Committee on Clinical Affairs (5 seats)**

B. EPCMS Representative Nominations

The Faculty Council is soliciting for one (1) El Paso County Medical Society Faculty Council Representative Nominations for the 2024 Calendar year. Dr. Walker is the current representative and is interested in

continuing in this role. The two representatives will be required to attend monthly EPCMS meetings and provide a report at the PLFSOM Faculty Council meetings each month. Any voting PLFSOM faculty member may be nominated for this role. This is not limited to PLFSOM Faculty Council Representatives. Please submit nominations to fservices@ttuhsc.edu by December 8th.

C. PLFSOM Academic Council Election

The following faculty have been nominated to fill one (1) seat on the PLFSOM Academic Council. An E-vote was distributed to the faculty council representatives last week. Faculty Council members are able to cast their vote through November 30th.

- Gilbert Handal, M.D., Professor, Department of Pediatrics
- Narges Khanjani, M.D., Ph.D., Department of Medical Education
- Avi Kopstick, M.D., Department of Pediatrics
- Mingtao Zeng, Ph.D., Department of Molecular & Transitional Medicine

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Dale Quest, Ph.D.

PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

A. New Committee Appointments

The Faculty Council previously solicited nominations to fill vacancies on multiple committees. The following faculty members have been appointed to these PLFSOM Standing Committees by the dean:

a. Committee on Clinical Affairs

- Eseosa Bazuaye-Ekwuyasi, MD, Pediatrics

b. Committee on Medical School Admissions

- Churchill Ihentuge, MD, PhD, Medical Education

c. Committee on Student Affairs

- Michael Rytting, M.D., Pediatrics

d. Committee on Student Grading and Promotion

- Namrata Singh, M.D., Medical Education

e. Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee

Having received no volunteers for the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee, the Faculty Council officers graciously agreed to serve on the committee. This ad hoc committee will begin the crucial work of reviewing and making proposed revisions to the faculty bylaws to become compliant with Senate Bill 17 before the law takes effect on January 1, 2024. They will work with the various committees, and stakeholders and present a draft for review in the coming months.

- Alok Dwivedi, Ph.D., Molecular & Translational Medicine
- Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H., Emergency Medicine
- Dale Quest, Ph.D., Medical Education

Dr. Quest mentioned the Committee on Clinical Affairs has faced another barrier in meeting due to a lack of assigned administrative support. The Faculty Council is addressing this matter with the Office of Clinical Affairs.

VII. FACULTY COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dale Quest, Ph.D.

PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

A. December Meeting and Mix & Mingle – 12/18

- The next faculty council meeting is set for December 18, 2023. All PLFSOM faculty are invited to join for a brief meeting and stay afterward for food, networking and holiday cheer.

B. January 2024 Meeting Rescheduled – 1/16/24

- The January Faculty Council meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, January 16, 2023 due to the MLK Holiday. All PLFSOM faculty are welcome to join.

VIII. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Dale Quest, Ph.D.

PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Not Applicable

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Dale Quest, Ph.D.

PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect

Dr. Quest announced the next Faculty Council meeting will be held on December 18, 2023. All faculty are invited to attend. With no further business to discuss, Dr. Quest adjourned the meeting at 12:43PM.

Approved:

Dale Quest

Dale Quest (Apr 11, 2024 15:27 MDT)

Dale Quest, Ph.D.

PLFSOM Faculty Council President-Elect



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
EL PASO

Paul L. Foster School of Medicine

Department Report

PRESENTATION TO THE FACULTY COUNCIL

BY: LELA RUCK MD

DATE: 11/27/2023



Department Breakdown

▶ Total Number of Faculty:

- ▶ Number of Instructors: 0
- ▶ Number of Assistant Professors: 10
- ▶ Number of Associate Professors: 1
- ▶ Number of Professors: 1

▶ New Faculty:

- ▶ Hospitalist/General IM:
 - ▶ Dr. Azucena Del Real (9/2022)
 - ▶ Dr. Barney Soskin (10/2022)
- ▶ Geriatrics:
 - ▶ Dr. Maanit Kohli (5/2022)
- ▶ Pulmonology:
 - ▶ Dr. Patrick Kicker (8/2022)
- ▶ Rheumatology:
 - ▶ Dr. Zeeshan Afzal (2/2023)

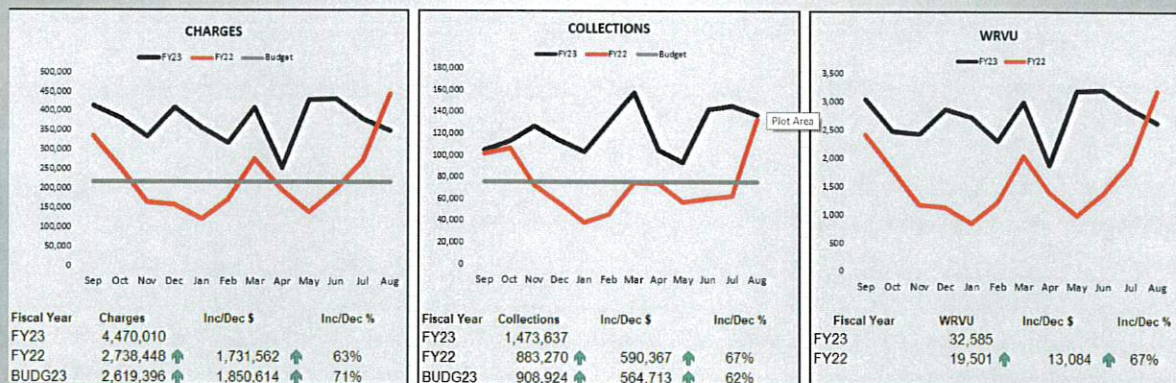
Leadership

- ▶ **Dr. Dan Schuller-** Chair, Dept. Internal Medicine & Chief of Service for Internal Medicine (THOP-TM)
- ▶ **Dr. Sudhagar Thangarasu-** Assistant Dean GME (Transmountain) & IM Residency Program Director
- ▶ **Dr. Gowri Renganathan-** TY Program Director & IM Associate Program Director (outpatient)
- ▶ **Dr. Lela Ruck-** IM Associate Program Director (inpatient)

Leadership

- ▶ **Dr. Patrick Kicker-** Medical Director of the ICU at THOP-TM
- ▶ **Dr. Maanit Kohli-** Clerkship Director for the THOP-TM IM rotation for MS3 and Sub-internship for MS4
- ▶ **Dr. Maria Opina-** Medical Director of Pulmonary Medicine and Respiratory Services at THOP-TM.

Clinical Activity: Internal Medicine-Transmountain



Accomplishments

▶ Dr. Zeeshan Afzal-

- ▶ Member of clinical competency committee.
- ▶ Currently working on starting an infusion clinic at THOP-TM.

▶ Dr. Azucena Del Real-

- ▶ Member of clinical competency committee, research committee, and wellness committee (TTUHSC TM).
- ▶ Facilitator for IM Resident Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso Transmountain 6/2023
- ▶ **Won Faculty of the Year for AY 2022-2023!**

Accomplishments

▶ Dr. Patrick Kicker-

- ▶ Member of the critical care committee (Co-Chair), THOP-TM credentialing committee, and clinical competency committee (TTUHSC TM).
- ▶ Facilitator for the MS4 Bootcamp Septic Shock Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM), 3/2023.
- ▶ Judge for Scholarly Activity and Research Program (SARP) Spring 2023 Virtual Poste, TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM), 4/2023.
- ▶ Volunteer, Medical Student Run Clinic (MSRC), TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM).

Accomplishments

▶ Dr. Maanit Kohli-

- ▶ Member of the research committee and wellness committee (TTUHSC TM).
- ▶ Facilitator for IM Resident Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso Transmountain 6/2023.

▶ Dr. Maria Theresa Opina-

- ▶ Chair of the Internal Medicine Transmountain Research and Scholarly Activity Committee (TTUHSC HM).
- ▶ Member of the physician student well-being committee (PLFSOM) and performance improvement/patient safety/utilization management committee (UM/PI/PS) (THOP- TM).
- ▶ Facilitator for the MS4 Bootcamp Septic Shock Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM), 3/2023.
- ▶ Facilitator for IM Resident Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso Transmountain 6/2023.

Accomplishments

▶ Dr. Gowri Renganathan-

- ▶ Co Chair of the clinical competency committee (TTUHSC TM).
- ▶ Member of the GME subcommittee and governance committee (TTUHSC TM).
- ▶ Volunteer, Medical Student Run Clinic (MSRC), TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM).
- ▶ Participant in General Internal Medicine Statewide Preceptorship Program (GIMSPP) through Texas ACP (PLFSOM).

Accomplishments

▶ Dr. Lela Ruck-

- ▶ Chair of the clinical competency committee (TTUHSC TM).
- ▶ Member of the GME subcommittee (TTUHSC TM) and THOP-TM credentialing committee (THOP-TM).
- ▶ Facilitator for the MS4 Bootcamp Septic Shock Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM), 3/2023.
- ▶ Lead Facilitator for IM Resident Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso Transmountain 6/2023.
- ▶ Volunteer, Medical Student Run Clinic (MSRC), TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM).
- ▶ Participant in General Internal Medicine Statewide Preceptorship Program (GIMSPP) through Texas ACP (PLFSOM).

Accomplishments

▶ Dr. Barney Soskin-

- ▶ Member of the performance improvement/patient safety/utilization management committee (UM/PI/PS) (THOP- TM) and sepsis committee (THOP-TM).
- ▶ Facilitator for IM Resident Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso Transmountain 6/2023.

▶ Dr. Sudhagar Thangarasu-

- ▶ Chair GME subcommittee (TTUHSC TM) and performance improvement/patient safety/utilization management committee (UM/PI/PS) (THOP- TM).
- ▶ Member of the Joint Advisory Board (TTUHSC TM/THOP-TM), strategic planning task force for Transmountain, and medical executive committee (THOP-TM)
- ▶ Facilitator for IM Resident Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso Transmountain 6/2023.

▶ Dr. Dan Schuller-

- ▶ Member of the Joint Advisory Board (TTUHSC TM/THOP-TM), strategic planning task force for Transmountain, and medical executive committee (THOP-TM).
- ▶ Facilitator for the MS4 Bootcamp Septic Shock Simulation, TTUHSC El Paso, Paul L. Foster School of Medicine (PLFSOM), 3/2023.

Scholarly Activity

▶ Dr. Zeeshan Afzal-

- ▶ Multiple resident lectures.
- ▶ Developing Rheumatology elective curriculum.

▶ Dr. Azucena Del Real-

- ▶ Multiple resident lectures.

▶ Dr. Paul Estrada-

- ▶ Multiple resident lectures.

▶ Dr. Maria Theresa Opina-

- ▶ "From Asthma to Aging Research and The Importance of Mentorship". Keynote Speaker. Las Palmas Del Sol Annual Resident Research Symposium, El Paso, TX 4/2023.

▶ Dr. Roberto Prieto-

- ▶ Poster Presentation:
 - ▶ Sharma, P, Mistry H, Subramany, R, Chenupatti K, Prakash T, **Prieto, R**. Hypercalcemia as Presenting Sign of Diffuse Large B Cell Lymphoma (3/2023). Presented, Society of Hospital Medicine National Conference, San Deigo. 2023.

Scholarly Activity

▶ Dr. Patrick Kicker-

- ▶ Publications:
 - ▶ Poornachandran Mohankumar, **P. Kicker**. Hidden on Plain Film: A Case of Asymptomatic Allergic Bronchopulmonary Aspergillosis with an Incidentally Discovered Mucoid Impaction in the Right Mainstem Bronchus. Abstract submitted to the American College of Chest Physicians (CHEST) Annual Meeting. 8-11 Oct 2023.
- ▶ Ongoing Projects/Publications:
 - ▶ Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group Phase 3 study to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of SAR440340 / REGN3500 / itepekimab (anti-IL-33 mAb) in patients with moderate-to-severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). IRB# E22038. Sub-Investigator.
- ▶ Multiple resident lectures.

Scholarly Activity

▶ Dr. Maanit Kohli-

- ▶ Currently building the geriatrics rotation curriculum for the IM program.
- ▶ Invited Talks:
 - ▶ "Optimizing palliative care for older adults"; Edinburgh International Course in Medicine of the Older Adult. CME Lecture. 9/2022.
 - ▶ "Optimizing palliative care for older adults"; Saint Peter's University Hospital/ Rutgers University, NJ. Grand Rounds. 6/2023
- ▶ Abstract Reviewer:
 - ▶ AGS Annual Scientific Meeting 2023
 - ▶ American College of Physicians (ACP) National Abstract Competition 2023.
- ▶ Poster Presentations:
 - ▶ Rukshan,R, Eliogu,C, Brar,S, Mistry,A, Kohli,M. A Lost Finger: Could Early Diagnosis Have Saved It? (Oct 2023)- Presented Texas Chapter ACP, Texas 2023
 - ▶ Satani,B, Kohli,M. Acute Epiploic Appendagitis: A Hidden Culprit Behind LLQ Abdominal Pain (Oct 2023)- Presented Texas Chapter ACP, Texas 2023
- ▶ Publications:
 - ▶ Charilaou P, Mohapatra S, Doukas S, **Kohli M**, Radadiya D, Devani K, Broder A, Elemento O, Lukin DJ, Battat R. Predicting inpatient mortality in patients with inflammatory bowel disease: A machine learning approach. J Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2023 Feb;38(2):241-250. doi: 10.1111/jgh.16029. Epub 2022 Nov 18. PMID: 36258306; PMCID: PMC10099396.

Scholarly Activity

▶ Dr. Gowri Renganathan-

- ▶ Projects:
 - ▶ QI project: "Using Retina Vue camera in office for screening diabetic retinopathy"- Ongoing, unpublished.
 - ▶ Multiple Resident Lectures.

▶ Dr. Lela Ruck-

- ▶ Currently building the simulation and quality improvement/patient safety curriculum for the IM Program.
- ▶ Projects:
 - ▶ Quality Improvement Project: "Who is Who and When? Connecting floor nurses to the correct covering physicians."- Ongoing, unpublished.
 - ▶ Multiple resident lectures.

▶ Dr. Barney Soskin-

- ▶ Multiple resident lectures.

Scholarly Activity

▶ Dr. Sudhagar Thangarasu-

- ▶ Currently building the quality improvement/patient safety curriculum and point of care US curriculum for the IM Program.
- ▶ Invited Talks:
 - ▶ Multiple talks for the IFDP, Wellness Champion Cohort, and TTUHSCEP.
 - ▶ "Internist 2030- Training Physicians for the Future." UT Rio Grand Valley Grand Rounds. 10/2023
- ▶ Peer Reviewer:
 - ▶ Journal of Investigative Medicine High Impact Case Reports
 - ▶ Cureus Journal of Medical Science
 - ▶ Journal of Graduate Medical Education (JGME)
- ▶ Multiple resident lectures.

Scholarly Activity

▶ Dr. Dan Schuller-

- ▶ Invited Talks:
 - ▶ "Hot Topics in PAH: What we've learned in the past year. " Academy for Continued Healthcare Learning. 11/2022.
- ▶ Abstract Reviewer:
 - ▶ American College of Chest Physician Annual Meeting 2023
 - ▶ Society of Critical Care Medicine Annual Meeting 2023.
- ▶ Poster Presentations:
 - ▶ Chennupati K; Arango A; Sharma P; Schuller D. Diagnostic value of hemosiderin laden macrophages in alveolar fluid. ACP Texas Chapter Annual Meeting, Dallas Texas 2022
 - ▶ Ream S; Natarajan P; Gupta S; Schuller D. Paraneoplastic hypereosinophilia in poorly differentiated adenocarcinoma of the lung. ACP Texas Chapter Annual Meeting, Dallas Texas 2022
- ▶ Ongoing Projects/Publications:
 - ▶ Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, parallel-group Phase 3 study to evaluate the efficacy, safety, and tolerability of SAR440340 / REGN3500 / itepekimab (anti-IL-33 mAb) in patients with moderate-to-severe chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). IRB# E22038. Principal Investigator.
- ▶ Publications:
 - ▶ Fadah K, Cruz Rodriguez J, Alkhateeb H, Mukherjee D, Garcia H, **Schuller, D**, Khan M, Sahay S, Nils, Prognosis in Hispanic Patient Population with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension: An Application of Common Risk Stratification Models Running Title: Risk Stratification Models for Hispanic Patient with PAH. Pulmonary Circulation. DOI: 10.1002/pul2.12209 (March 2023)
 - ▶ Ream S, Natarajan P, Gupta S, et al. Paraneoplastic Hypereosinophilia in Poorly Differentiated Adenocarcinoma of the Lung. Cureus 15(1): e34386. doi:10.7759/cureus.34386 (January 30, 2023)
 - ▶ Mistry H Y, Betancourt D, **Schuller D**, et al. Hypoxemic Respiratory Failure Due to Alveolar Pulmonary Sarcoidosis Following COVID-19 Infection. Cureus 15(3): e35790. doi:10.7759/cureus.35790 (March 5, 2023)
- ▶ Multiple resident lectures.

Residency Program

- ▶ ACGME initial accreditation received 5/18/2020.
- ▶ First class started in July of 2021.
- ▶ Maximum number of residents: 30 (10 per year x 3 years).
- ▶ We had an ACGME site visit 5/2022 resulted in continued accreditation with citations.
- ▶ Most recent ACGME follow up site visit 9/2023 went well. We are still awaiting the results of the visit but are optimistic.
- ▶ We do now have 3 PGY3 Chiefs: Drs. Rutul Patel, Simran Brar, and Hemanshi Mistry.



Issues/Concerns

- ▶ Faculty Retention
- ▶ Faculty Recruitment
 - ▶ The 5 year relocation agreement continues to be a barrier
- ▶ Lack of patient volume for resident outpatient continuity clinic
- ▶ Hybrid Hospital: mixing of academic and community physicians
- ▶ TTUHSC vs THOP TM: different organization, vision, mission
- ▶ Scholarly and Research activity

Questions?