As we have started a new year, I want to take a moment to reflect on our accomplishments and the many incredible opportunities that lie ahead. The past year has been a testament to our collective dedication and unwavering commitment to advancing knowledge through the different domains of our research enterprise.

Let us embrace the many opportunities with a renewed sense of purpose and enthusiasm, and continue to explore and collaborate across disciplines to address the pressing health and wellness needs facing our society. Our commitment to research excellence remains steadfast, and together, we will make impactful contributions to our research endeavors and science at large. I encourage each one of you to set ambitious goals, push the boundaries of your imagination and seek out new opportunities for collaborations. Let us foster an environment that nurtures innovation and empowers each one of us to thrive.

The journey of discovery is not without its challenges, but it is through challenges that we learn, grow, and innovate. Let us support one another, learn from each other’s experiences, and celebrate our collective achievements.

On behalf of the Long School of Medicine Office for Research, I wish you continued success and a productive year ahead!

- Manzoor Bhat, MS, PhD
Thursday, March 28
8:00 AM–3:30 PM
LEC 3.102B | Holly Foyer

Registration and abstract submission now open!

Deadline to submit is March 11
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

8:00 - 8:20 AM  Doors Open, Breakfast
8:20 - 8:30 AM  Welcome, Dean Hromas
8:30 - 10:00 AM Trainee Podium Presentations
10:15 - 11:45 AM LSOM Rising Star Presentations
12:00 - 1:00 PM  Keynote Presentation
1:00 - 3:30 PM  Lunch
1:30 - 2:30 PM  Poster Session I
2:30 - 3:30 PM  Poster Session II

WELCOME

ROBERT HROMAS, MD, FACP
Dean and Professor of Medicine,
Joe R. and Teresa Lozano
Long School of Medicine
Vice President for Medical Affairs,
UT Health San Antonio

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

LARRY SCHLESINGER, MD
Professor, President and CEO
Texas Biomedical Research Institute

TRAINEE PODIUM PRESENTATIONS

- Medical Student
- MD/PhD Student

- Graduate Student
- Clinical Fellow
- Resident
- Post-doctoral Fellow

PRESENTATIONS BY RISING STAR AWARDSEES

JOSEPHINE TAVERNA, MD
Assistant Professor
Department of Medicine

MOHAMAD HABES, PHD
Assistant Professor
Radiology Research Imaging Institute

KEVIN KORONOWSKI, PHD
Assistant Professor
Department of Biochemistry & Structural Biology

HYE YOUNG LEE, PHD
Associate Professor
Department of Cellular and Integrative Physiology

CLAUDIA SATIZABAL, PHD
Associate Professor
Department of Population Health Sciences
Distinguished Mentor

Over the past three decades, Dr. France has received continuous extramural grant support and has led many ground-breaking research programs with a high impact in advancing medications to prevent and treat opioid use disorders.

PATRICK SUNG, DPHIL
Director of Greehey Children’s Cancer Research Institute
Professor of Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair in Chemistry

PATRICK SUNG, DPHIL
Director of Greehey Children’s Cancer Research Institute
Professor of Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair in Chemistry

Distinguished Researcher

Dr. Sung is an outstanding scientist with boundless enthusiasm and unlimited generosity, and above all an extraordinary mentor to colleagues and trainees at all stages of career development.

CHARLES FRANCE, PHD
Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair in Chemistry
Professor of Pharmacology & Psychiatry

“Congratulations to the champions of inquiry and the architects of innovation. Your dedication to pushing boundaries has paved the way for transformative discoveries. Your commitment to excellence serves as an inspiration to all aspiring researchers.

- Dean Hromas

RISING STAR AWARDS

Josephine Taverna, MD
Medicine

Mohamad Habes, PhD
Radiology Research Imaging Institute

Kevin Koronowski, PhD
Biochemistry & Structural Biology

Hye Young Lee, PhD
Cellular & Integrative Physiology

Claudia Satizabal, PhD
Population Health Sciences

The rising star award is an annual recognition from the Dean, School of Medicine. This accolade honors junior faculty members who exemplify UT Health San Antonio’s research mission, showcasing the promise of thriving in independent research careers.
Clinical Trials Pilot Project Awardees

This award supports the development of multi-investigator research teams focused on clinical trials through two years of pilot funding support.

**CAROLINA SOLIS-HERRERA, MD**
Department of Medicine/Division of Endocrinology
Title: Novel T2DM Management in Kidney Transplant: Transplant – PROTECT

Co-Investigators:
Rupal Patel, MD, Suverta Bhayana, MD, Kumar Sharma, MD, Madesh Muniswamy, MS, PhD, Geoffrey Clarke, PhD

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**ANDREW MEYER, MD**
Department of Pediatrics/Division of Pediatric Critical Care
Pilot Tranexamic Atomized for Pediatric Tonsillectomy Hemorrhage (pTEAPOT)

Co-Investigators:
Marisa Earley, MD, Robert De Lorenzo, MS, MD, Whitney Schwarz, MD

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**NEW**
PROGRAM PROJECT GRANTS PILOT FUNDING

The LSOM Office for Research will support application development of NIH Program Project Grant application submissions with up to $100,000 in pilot funding. Pilot funding will be available up to one-year with the end goal of Program Project grant submission within nine months post funding support.

View the RFA and apply now!
Up to $100,000 in funding
March 1st Deadline
“Our programs enhance the grantsmanship skills of early and mid-career clinical and tenure-track basic science faculty. It features a hybrid design to encourage involvement with clinical and basic science colleagues.”

-David Gius, MD, PhD
Assistant Dean for Research

CPRIT Established Investigator Recruitment Award

CPRIT’s Established Investigator Recruitment program helps recruit exceptional faculty to Texas universities and research institutions. The $6,000,000 award honors outstanding senior investigators with proven track records of research accomplishments combined with excellence in leadership and teaching.

Dr. Simon Gayther’s addition will bring transformative expertise to our cancer-focused programs. He will assist in recruiting outstanding investigators, further bolstering our population cancer science programs. Additionally, his contributions will play a key role in realizing our institutional vision of becoming a leading research center for Inherited Oncogenesis.

Simon Gayther, PhD

Dr. Gayther was recruited from Cedar Sinai Medical Center to UTHSCSA as a Professor of Medicine, Mays Family Endowed Chair in Inherited Oncogenesis, and inaugural Director of UT Health San Antonio’s Centers for Inherited Oncogenesis.
Our LSOM faculty have published significant scientific breakthroughs in high-impact journals. Huge congratulations to their department and research team!
New Faculty Welcome  
*September 29, 2023*

The LSOM Office for Faculty along with the Office for Research hosted the annual New Faculty Welcome. During this event, new faculty were introduced to Dean Hromas, LSOM Dean’s Cabinet members, key administrators and colleagues.

The event provided insights into the institution’s culture and mission and served to highlight the institution’s commitment to promote a culture of collaborative innovation.

Vice Chairs for Research Luncheon  
*October 13, 2023*

The luncheon hosted for the Vice Chairs for Research provided a remarkable exchange of insights, experiences, and innovative ideas among our clinical and basic science department leadership. Through these discussions we witnessed the profound expertise and enthusiasm for advancing research.

We took the opportunity to discuss our collective achievements, acknowledging the significant milestones reached by our departments. Moreover, we identified new avenues for collaboration, emphasizing the importance of interdisciplinary teamwork in enhancing patient care, research endeavors, and educational initiatives.
49,599 SQ. FT. OF RENOVATED LAB SPACE
$20.6 MILLION IN TOTAL RENOVATION COST
235,725 HOURS OF LABOR

LSOM Departments acquiring renovated space:
Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics, Neurosurgery, Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Structural Biology, Cell Systems and Anatomy, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Psychiatry, Medicine- Cardiology

RESEARCH SPACE FOR THE CENTER FOR MUCOSAL & MICROBIOME BIOLOGY
LSOM, 5th Floor

Dr. Mansour Zadeh is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Molecular Genetics and Director of the Center for Mucosal & Microbiome Biology.

Dr. Zadeh's lab space was renovated on the fifth floor of the Medical School. The renovations required complete dismantling of ~3,000 square feet of space to create laboratory space, tissue culture rooms, designated freezer space, equipment areas, and procedure rooms.

We gratefully acknowledge support from the following departments:
Facilities Management, Environmental Health and Safety, Space Planning, Information Technology, Purchasing, Materials Management and UT Health Police
Registration is open for upcoming training sessions

“In 2024, we will create a repository that includes recorded sessions and various additional resources. This repository will be accessible to trainees who want to expand their knowledge of research methodologies and clinical investigation.”

- José Cavazos, MD, PhD
  Associate Dean for Resident Research

GME RESEARCH TRAINING

These comprehensive workshops feature collective research presentations, offering attendees a deep dive into various facets of clinical investigation.

AUGUST 24, 2023
Understanding and Applying for IRB Protocols at UT Health San Antonio

NOVEMBER 9, 2023
Approaching Biostatistics Support at UT Health San Antonio

FEBRUARY 15, 2024
Funding Opportunities for Residents & Fellows

MAY 9, 2024
Writing and Presenting Your Science
The LSOM Office for Research hosts an annual Fall Social, offering incoming medical students a chance to explore research prospects available at LSOM. Additionally, it serves as a networking opportunity where students can connect with equally passionate peers in the field of research.

The event brought together 14 research interest groups to facilitate meaningful interactions between student group leaders and MS1s and MS2s interested in joining a research interest group.

Connect with us for upcoming opportunities

@UTSOMResearch
SOMresearch
Long School of Medicine
OFFICE FOR RESEARCH

Meet the Team

Manzoor Bhat, MS, PhD
Vice Dean for Research

Patrick Sung, DPhil
Assoc. Dean for Research

David Gius, MD, PhD
Asst. Dean for Research

Kate Lathrop, MD
Asst. Dean - Medical Student Research

José Cavazos, MD, PhD
Assoc. Dean - Resident Research

Chris Valdez, PhD
Assoc. Dir., Research Operations

Jennifer Maldonado
Executive Assistant

Jonathan Castro
Student Intern