

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to announce the appointment of **Benjamin Chong, M.D., M.S.C.S.**, as Associate Dean for Medical Student Research, effective Sept. 1.

In this role, previously held by Rene Galindo, M.D., Ph.D., Dr. Chong will help establish the direction and priorities for our medical student research programs. Working closely with our faculty and the Office of Undergraduate Medical Education, Dr. Chong will monitor and develop programs, foster interdisciplinary collaborations, and support the academic and professional growth of our medical students. He will oversee and enhance the wide range of student research activities at UT Southwestern including basic, clinical, patient safety and quality, educational, community advocacy, and global health.



Dr. Chong is Professor of Dermatology at UT Southwestern, Director of the UT Southwestern Autoimmune Skin Disease Clinic, and Medical Director of the Parkland Dermatology Clinic. He also holds the Anita C. Gilliam, M.D., Ph.D. Professorship in Dermatology.

After earning his undergraduate degree at Harvard College, Dr. Chong obtained his medical degree at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He completed his dermatology residency at Henry Ford Hospital. Dr. Chong joined our faculty in 2008 and earned a master's in clinical science with distinction in research at UT Southwestern.

Dr. Chong has established himself as an internationally known clinical and translational researcher studying cutaneous lupus, an autoimmune and photosensitive skin condition in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus. He serves as the principal investigator of the UT Southwestern Cutaneous Lupus Registry. His research has been supported by the Dermatology Foundation, the American College of Rheumatology, the Arthritis Foundation, the Rheumatology Research Foundation, Department of Defense, and the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Chong has mentored more than 50 UT Southwestern medical and graduate students.

We would like to express our appreciation for **Luke J. Engelking, M.D., Ph.D.**, for his service as interim Associate Dean for Medical Student Research this past year. Dr. Engelking developed innovative directions for our medical student research programs, setting the curriculum up for success for our upcoming accreditation cycle. We are grateful for his leadership.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Chong in his new role.

Sincerely,

Sherry Huang, M.D.

Vice Provost and Senior Associate Dean for Education

W. P. Andrew Lee, M.D.

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Dean, UT Southwestern Medical School