

medicine minute

July 15, 2025

kudos



NIH Grant will Expand Aging Research Training for Medical Students

UT Southwestern has been awarded a T35 training grant from the National Institute on Aging (NIA), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), to support the University of Texas Medical Students Training in Aging Research (UT-MSTAR) program. This grant will fund summer research experiences for four UTSW medical students annually, fostering the next generation of physician-scientists in the field of aging.

Unique to this initiative, UTSW shares the program with three partner institutions: UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, UT Medical Branch at Galveston, and UT Health Science Center at Houston. Students from all sites participate in a shared curriculum, including virtual core lectures and a collaborative research symposium held in San Antonio.

Students are paired with a research mentor, ensuring a robust and personalized research experience. This summer, the program has already exceeded expectations by supporting three additional students, thanks to philanthropic contributions.

Ambarish Pandey, M.D., M.S.C.S., an Associate Professor in the divisions of Cardiology and Geriatric Medicine, serves as the Principal Investigator (PI) for the grant, with **Deborah Freeland, M.D.**, an Assistant Professor in the Division of Geriatric Medicine, as Co-PI, overseeing program administration, clinical training, and medical education components.

"This grant ensures the sustainability of a program that not only advances aging research but also builds a collaborative pipeline of future leaders in geriatric medicine," says **Craig Rubin, M.D.**, Professor and Chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine. "The T35 made it possible to have two students from outside schools for the first time. This year, students from UT San Antonio and UT Medical Branch at Galveston were accepted." ■

Dr. Rubin, a Distinguished Teaching Professor, holds the Margaret and Trammell Crow Distinguished Chair in Alzheimer's and Geriatric Research; the Seymour Eisenberg Distinguished Professorship in Geriatric Medicine; the Katy Sinor and Kay Pritchard Professorship in Medical Education Honoring Donald W. Seldin, M.D.; and the Walsdorf Professorship in Geriatrics Research.



Murphy Honored with Resident Psychiatric Educator Award

Kayla Murphy, M.D., a fourth-year resident in the Internal Medicine-Psychiatry Combined Residency program, has received the Resident Psychiatric Educator Award from the Association for Academic Psychiatry. This two-year fellowship recognizes residents who show exceptional promise as educators and scholars in academic psychiatry. As part of the award, Dr. Murphy will present her work – through posters, workshops, or works-in-progress – at the AAP Annual Meeting.

Originally from Minnesota, Dr. Murphy holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Baylor University and a medical degree from the University of Minnesota, where she was elected to the Gold Humanism Honor Society. Her career interests include geriatric mental health and the physical care of older adults. ■

announcements



Basit Appointed Assistant Vice President and CMIO for Advanced Analytics

Mujeeb Basit, M.D., M.M.Sc., an Associate Professor in the Division of Cardiology, has been appointed Assistant Vice President and Chief Medical Informatics Officer (CMIO) for Advanced Analytics for the UT Southwestern Health System.

In his new role, Dr. Basit will spearhead the Health System's enterprise strategy for advanced analytics, driving initiatives in predictive modeling, data science integration, and AI-powered workflows throughout clinical operations. A nationally recognized expert in advanced clinical decision support, Dr. Basit will work closely with operational leaders across the Health System and clinicians within the Medical Group to accelerate the application of real-world data in clinical research and innovation.

Originally from Hyderabad, India, Dr. Basit grew up in Houston. He holds a bachelor's degree with honors in computer science from Baylor University. He earned his medical degree at George Washington University and completed a master's degree in clinical informatics at Harvard University. He received internal medicine residency training at George Washington University, followed by fellowships in cardiology at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Boston, and clinical informatics at Harvard. ■

Internal Medicine News Portal

in case you missed it

News and Digital Media Featuring Internal Medicine Colleagues

- [Household Mold Linked to Inflammatory Lung Disease](#) (via *UTSW Newsroom*, with Traci Adams, M.D., and Craig Glazer, M.D., M.S.P.H.)
- [Comparing Aortic Valve Replacement Procedures](#) (via *UTSW Newsroom*, with Anthony Bavry, M.D., M.P.H., and Dharam Kumbhani, M.D.)
- [Deciding Between Drugs to Lower Cardiovascular Risk](#) (via *UTSW Newsroom*, with Shubham Agarwal, M.B.B.S.; Ildiko Lingvay, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.C.S.; Mujeeb Basit, M.D., M.M.Sc.; and Michael Bowen, M.D.)

need to know

Shine Academy Nominations Open Through July 25

Nominations for the Kenneth I. Shine, M.D., Academy of Health Science Education are being accepted through Friday, July 25. The academy honors excellence in health science teaching across a wide range of disciplines throughout the UT System.

UT Southwestern may nominate up to four faculty members who demonstrate outstanding contributions in areas such as direct teaching, curriculum development, learner assessment, mentoring, educational leadership, or scholarship. ■

For more details, contact [Pamela Munoz](#).

this week



The Brigham's Lindsey Baden to Discuss Infectious Diseases and Vaccines on July 18

Lindsey Baden, M.D., a Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Vice President of Clinical Research at Brigham and Women's Hospital, will present the [Internal Medicine Grand Rounds](#) lecture on **Friday, July 18, at 8 a.m. in D1.502**. His topic: "HIV, SARS-CoV, Vaccines and What we Have Learned."

Dr. Baden holds a degree in chemistry and psychology from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. He received his medical degree from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and completed internal medicine residency training at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, where he served as both Chief Resident and a Clinical Research Fellow. He also holds a master's degree in clinical investigation from Harvard Medical School.

In his role as Vice President, Dr. Baden provides comprehensive oversight of clinical research at the Brigham and is responsible for developing and implementing operational strategies, as well as building and maintaining the necessary infrastructure and resources in support of its clinical research mission and operational goals. He also oversees the Center for Clinical Investigation, serves as the primary liaison with Harvard Catalyst/Harvard Medical School, and has responsibility for increasing and maintaining research relationships across the partnering institutions and local collaborators.

An infectious diseases specialist, Dr. Baden joined the Brigham in 1995, where he served in several leadership roles, including directing the Infectious Diseases Immunocompromised Host program at the Brigham and Dana-Farber, acting as program leader for the Clinical Research Centers of Harvard Catalyst and directing the Center for Clinical Investigation.

Dr. Baden has received continuous funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) throughout his career and is an expert in developing new therapeutics and vaccines. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, he was integral in the design and conduct of the pivotal NIH co-sponsored vaccine efficacy trials. ■



Lee to Discuss Research Grant Budgets on July 18

Syann Lee, Ph.D., Assistant Director of Grants Administration, will present the [Internal Medicine Research Career Development](#) conference on **Friday, July 18, at noon in D1.502**. Her topic: "Preparing and Managing a Grant Budget."

Originally from Canada, Dr. Lee holds a bachelor's degree in genetics from the University of Alberta, where she also earned her doctoral degree in medical genetics and received postdoctoral training from **Rachel Wevrick, Ph.D.** She then conducted postdoctoral research with **Joel Elmquist, D.V.M., Ph.D.**, first at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston and, finally, at UT Southwestern.

She joined the UT Southwestern faculty in 2015 and became Co-Director of the Touchstone Diabetes Center's Metabolic Phenotyping Core. She has served in her current role since 2022. ■

Other Noteworthy Lectures & Conferences This Week

- **Wednesday, July 16, 9 a.m.:** [Komen Breast Cancer Forum](#) with **Dr. Chengcheng Liao** (Pathology) – “Targeting Cancer Stem Cells in Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Through the KIF20A-SMARCA4 Axis”
- **Thursday, July 17, 9 a.m.:** [Hamon Center for Therapeutic Oncology Research & SCCC Experimental Therapeutics Program Lecture](#) with **Dr. K. Leigh Greathouse** (Baylor University) – “Harnessing AI for Precision Medicine: Unraveling Diet-Microbiome Dynamics in Cancer Therapy”
- **Thursday, July 17, 11 a.m.:** [New Research Assistants Session](#) with **Liz Barksdale** and **John Carter** (Health Sciences Digital Library and Learning Center) – “Exploring Scopus AI and Open Evidence”
- **Thursday, July 17, Noon:** [Infectious Diseases Works in Progress](#) with **Walid Bibi** (Tatara Lab) and **Dr. Priscila Campos** (Shiloh Lab) – “Exploring Catheter Mechanoprophylaxis Against Candida Species” and “SURF2 Negatively Regulates Cell-Autonomous Immunity Against *Mycobacterium Tuberculosis*”

Look for the next *Medicine Minute* on **Tuesday, July 22, 2025**.
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