HEALTH RESEARCH CHALLENGE

DIRECTORY OF PARTICIPANTS

November 17, 2025

UT San Antonio™
The University of Texas at San Antonio

UT San Antonio
HEALTH
RESEARCH CHALLENGE

Health Research Challenge Kick-Off Event

On Monday, November 17, 2025, the Office for Research and Innovation hosted an event at the health campus to officially kick off the **Health Research Challenge**. The networking event brought together **more than 200 faculty and staff members** from across all colleges and schools, creating a dynamic environment for interdisciplinary collaboration. This initiative aims to foster connections between researchers from both campuses, with the goal of forming innovative teams eligible for internal funding opportunities. The kick-off served as a catalyst for building partnerships, sharing ideas, and advancing UT San Antonio's commitment to impactful health research.

Next Steps for Participants:

- **Explore the Directory of Participants:** Review the list of registered attendees, organized by research neighborhoods, to identify potential collaborators. These neighborhoods reflect areas in which participants may have expressed an interest in exploring collaborative opportunities and should not be interpreted as a comprehensive representation of their research agendas.

- **Reach Across Neighborhoods:** Consider partnerships beyond your immediate research area to develop transdisciplinary projects.

- **Form Your Research Team:** Begin conversations with colleagues and outline project ideas that align with the Health Research Challenge goals.

- **Apply for Internal Funding:** Take advantage of the funding opportunities available to support collaborative research initiatives.

Please note: Attendance at the Kick-Off event is **not required** to apply for funding. All eligible faculty and staff are encouraged to participate in the Health Research Challenge.

Event Hosts:

- **Jennifer Potter, PhD, MPH**
  Senior Executive Vice President for Research and Innovation
  Email: Jennifer.Potter@utsa.edu
- **Siobhan Fleming, PhD**
  Assistant Vice President, Strategic Research Initiatives
  Email: Siobhan.Fleming@utsa.edu

For assistance in connecting with a specific researcher, please contact **Julie Sylvan, Assistant to the SEVP**. Email: Julie.Sylvan@utsa.edu

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Table of Contents

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Aging & Brain Health Neighborhood

Swati Banerjee, PhD, Associate Professor
Cellular and Integrative Physiology
Long School of Medicine
Email: banerjees@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My broad research interest lies in neurodegeneration, particularly in age-related disorders such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases.

Manzoor Bhat, PhD, Professor
Vice Dean for Research, Long School of Medicine
Email: bhatm@uthscsa.edu

Melanie Carless, PhD, Professor
Neuroscience, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
College of Sciences
Email: melanie.carless@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Expertise in molecular genetics and epigenetics, population studies, cell-based studies, development and/or optimization of sequencing protocols, complex diseases (including psychiatric disorders, Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy, obesity and diabetes).

Ching-Kang Jason Chen, PhD, FARVO, Professor, Molecular Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: chenc10@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Visual Neuroscience, G-protein signal transduction, mouse genetics, retina.

Lynne Cossman, PhD, Professor, Sociology and Demography
Dean, College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: Lynne.Cossman@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Current research is largely focused spatial health-related disparities, particularly in mortality and prescription drug fill rates.

Aging & Brain Health Neighborhood

Marcel Daadi, PhD, Associate Professor, Cell Systems & Anatomy
Long School of Medicine
Email: daadi@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research is focused on Neurological disorders, neural stem cell biology and translational research, with interest in preclinical development, animal and in vitro 2D, 3D organoids human cell models of neurological disorders including, TBI / PTSD, Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease related dementias and other neurodegenerative diseases and brain injuries.

Lily Dong, PhD, Professor, Cell Systems & Anatomy
Long School of Medicine
Email: Dongq@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Obesity and adipokine discovery.

Kirsten Eom, PhD, Assistant Professor
Health Policy and Health Services Administration
School of Public Health
Email: eomk@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Health Services Research, Quasi-experimental analysis, Complex and large datasets, Policy Evaluation, Cancer Survivorship and Caregiving.

Aleksandra Gruslova, PhD, Assistant Professor
Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: aleksandra.gruslova@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Device development, animal and test model development, cardiology.

Lyle Hood, PhD, Associate Professor
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: lyle.hood@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I develop medical devices, primarily for pre-hospital, first-responder care. I also have some projects in surgical devices and implantable drug delivery systems.

Aging & Brain Health Neighborhood

Amrita Kamat, PhD, Professor, Geriatrics
Long School of Medicine
Email: amrita.kamat@va.gov
Research Expertise and Methods: Lipids and Parkinson's disease.

Donghun Lee, PhD, Assistant Professor, Counseling
College of Education and Human Development
Email: donghun.lee@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Mental health outcomes across diverse populations/ Psychological determinants of well-being and functioning (e.g., wellness, burnout, self-efficacy, perfectionism)/Quantitative methods for data analysis in counseling, psychology, and social sciences.

Hyoung-gon Lee, PhD, Associate Professor
Neuroscience, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
College of Sciences
Email: hyoung-gon.lee@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Research areas: Molecular mechanism of Neurodegenerative disease; Pathogenic mechanisms of Alzheimer's disease; Pathogenic mechanism of peripheral neuropathy.
Research expertise: animal and cell culture models, molecular and biochemical analysis of neurodegeneration.

Han Liu, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow in Bridge-To-Faculty Program
Sociology and Demography
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: han.liu2@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research focuses on social determinants of health. I use both quantitative methods and Geographic Information Systems to analyze secondary survey, administrative, and digital trace data. My current projects mainly cover two areas. The first one is spatial disparities in health outcomes. The second one is health disparities over the life course.

Aging & Brain Health Neighborhood

David Maguire, PhD, Assistant Professor, Pharmacology
Long School of Medicine
Email: maguired@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a behavioral pharmacologist with over 20 years of experience working investigating behavioral and physiological effects of drugs in a variety of species.

Soumya Maity, PhD, Assistant Professor/Research
Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: Maity@uthscsa.edu

Marcelo Marucho, PhD, Professor, Physics and Astronomy
College of Sciences
Email: marcelo.marucho@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Electrical activities in neurons, Neuronal electric circuits, Cytoskeleton filament structures, and organization.

Sharon Nichols, PhD, Professor, Educational Psychology
College of Education and Human Development
Email: Sharon.Nichols@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am an educational psychologist with expertise in learning/learners (motivation), teaching, and policy. I employ mixed methods. As director of UEI seeking partnerships to engage in evaluation work, and to provide educational lens on projects that incorporate intervention and education work. UEI also can provide independent evaluation work.

Neda Norouzi, PhD, Associate Professor, School of Architecture + Planning
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: neda.norouzi@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Inclusive Design: Architecture for people of all ages and abilities. Qualitative studies through behavioral observation mapping,

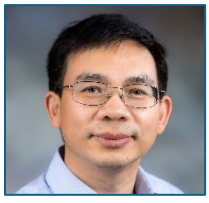
Aging & Brain Health Neighborhood

Gregory Orewa, PhD, MBA, MSc, Assistant Professor, Public Health
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: gregory.orewa@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Strategic Management and Organizational Performance in Health Care, Workforce Dynamics, and Employee Well-being.

Pankaj Prasad, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Greehey Children's Cancer Research Institute
Long School of Medicine
Email: prasadp1@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I have been doing research in cancer, epigenetics, stem cells, single cell sequencing and molecular biology for more than a decade. I would like to integrate my research with automation and AI.

Jason Pugh, PhD, Associate Professor
Cellular and Integrative Physiology
Long School of Medicine
Email: PughJ@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Cellular neurophysiology, synaptic transmission, synaptic plasticity/learning, electrophysiology, neurodevelopmental disorders, Muscular dystrophy, endocannabinoid system.

Paul Rad, PhD, Associate Professor, Computer Science
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: peyman.najafirad@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: AI, Computer Vision, and Large Language Models.



Qitao Ran, PhD, Professor, Cell Systems and Anatomy
Long School of Medicine
Email: ran@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Alzheimer's disease; ALS; Animal models; Ferroptosis; Mitochondrial dysfunction.

Aging & Brain Health Neighborhood

Tim Reistetter, PhD, OTR, Professor, Occupational Therapy
School of Health Professions
Email: reistetter@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Rehabilitation Health Services and Outcomes Research.

Brij Singh, PhD, Professor, Associate Dean for Research
School of Dentistry
Email: singhbb@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Ion channels & cell signaling.

Anjali Sivaramakrishnan, PhD, PT, Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy
School of Health Professions
Email: sivaramakris@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Parkinson's disease, rehabilitation of balance and gait disorders, exercise and virtual reality.

Oren Upton, Research Scientist, Lab Director
Information Systems and Cybersecurity
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: oren.upton@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: We have a POC Sandra Andari in the Dental Department, and researchers in the CAICC department with AI experience with medical information analysis.

Carolina Vivas-Valencia, PhD, Assistant Professor
Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: carolina.vivasvalencia@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: predictive modeling, healthcare big data, computational policy, population modeling informatics, biomedical data science, autisms, opioids, women's health, pregnant and postpartum populations, colorectal cancer.

Aging & Brain Health Neighborhood

David Wampler, PhD, LP, Professor, Emergency Health Sciences
School of Health Professions
Email: wamplerd@uthscsa.edu

Stephen Wirkus, PhD, Professor, Mathematics
College of Sciences
Email: stephen.wirkus@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: mathematical modeling of retinal systems; I create mathematical models for biological systems that evolve over time using differential equations.

Yuexia Zhang, PhD, Assistant Professor, Statistics and Data Science
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: yuexia.zhang@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research interests include causal inference, microbiome data analysis, high-dimensional statistics, longitudinal data analysis, missing data, robust estimation, measurement error, and interdisciplinary research.

Xiaoyi Zhang, PhD, Assistant Professor, English
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: Xiaoyi.zhang@utsa.edu

Tianhai Zu, PhD, Assistant Professor, Operations & Analytics
Alvarez College of Business
Email: tianhai.zu@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: High-dimensional Analysis, Network Analysis.

Chris Rathbone, PhD, Associate Professor
Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: chris.rathbone@utsa.edu

Cancer & Translational Discovery

David Akopian, PhD, Professor, Electrical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: david.akopian@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: 10 plus years in developing automated conversational systems for health promotion.

Lacy Barton, PhD, Assistant Professor
Neuroscience, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
College of Sciences
Email: Lacy.Barton@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Fields: Developmental reproductive biology, hormones and germline biology, reproductive aging, fertility, cell migration. Methods: we use Drosophila, mouse, and cell culture models, advanced Drosophila genetics, fixed and live in vivo confocal imaging, fertility and viability assays, genetic screens.

Malvika Behl, PhD, Assistant Professor, Counseling
College of Education and Human Development
Email: malvika.behl@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: School Counseling, international students, people with learning disabilities, mental health of the geriatric population.

Renata Belfort De Aguiar, MD, PhD, Associate Professor, Diabetes Division
Long School of Medicine
Email: belfortda@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Human Metabolism.

Rhonda BeLue, PhD, Professor, Public Health
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: rhonda.belue@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Systems science methods, organizational and community development relate to health promotion, health services research. Quant/mixed methods, evaluation.

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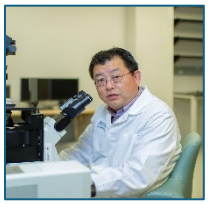
Lorenzo Brancaleon, PhD, Professor
Physics and Astronomy
College of Sciences
Email: lorenzo.brancaleon@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Photoreceptor proteins, melanin, energy transduction in biomolecules, photobiomodulation. Optical spectroscopy: UV-visible absorption spectroscopy, fluorescence spectroscopy, circular dichroism spectroscopy, Raman spectroscopy, infrared spectroscopy. Time-resolved methods: fluorescence decay, femtosecond transient absorption. Computational methods: molecular dynamics simulations, docking simulations, density functional theory and time-dependent density functional theory.

Sandeep Burma, PhD, Professor, Neurosurgery
Long School of Medicine
Email: burma@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: DNA repair; senescence as a driver of cancer development and recurrence; brain cancer.

Erika Tatiana Camacho, PhD, Professor
Mathematics and Neuroscience, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
College of Sciences
Email: erika.camacho@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research includes using mathematical modeling to understand physiological processes, in particular mathematical ophthalmology. Currently my work is expanding from dynamic mathematical and computational multi-scale models of cellular and molecular processes to include experimental work that complements current retina degeneration research, in particular retinitis pigmentosa (RP) and age-related macular degeneration (AMD). My work to-date includes mathematical models of key metabolic pathways in cones (particularly aerobic glycolysis) and glutathione redox system, photoreceptors and RPE interactions, and treatments to slow photoreceptor degeneration. My research investigates both the healthy and diseased retinas at the cellular and molecular levels and disruptions in the photoreceptors' metabolic processes resulting from nutrient deprivation, increased oxidative stress, and oxygen imbalance. This research will help identify pathways and mechanisms within the photoreceptors and retinal pigmented epithelium (RPE) that can help prevent or slow down their degeneration, including those involved in metabolic adaptation, redox balance restoration, and protective stress responses in diseased and aging retinas, and generating data to develop and complement dynamic mathematical models. My mathematical models, calibrated with real-world data, provide new insights into methods that can reduce vision impairment.

Cancer & Translational Discovery

F. Frank Chen, PhD, Professor
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: ff.chen@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Improving Healthcare Delivery efficiency and effectiveness using Lean, Six Sigma, AI and Industry 4.0 tools and technologies. sample paper - "Deploying Deep Convolutional Neural Network to the Battle Against Cancer: Towards Flexible Healthcare Systems," Informatics in Medicine Unlocked (an international gold open access journal), Vol. 47, June 2024, 101494, available online 4/16/2024, total 17 pages, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.imu.2024.101494.



Xiao-Dong Chen, PhD, Professor
Comprehensive Dentistry
School of Dentistry
Email: chenx4@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Stem cell biology, extracellular matrix biology, and bone biology.

Robert Chilton, MD, Professor, Cardiology
Long School of Medicine
Email: chilton@uthscsa.edu

Eunhee Chung, PhD, Associate Professor, Kinesiology
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: eunhee.chung@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Heart (Hemodynamics, Echocardiography); mitochondrial respiratory function (Oroboros, O2k), maternal diet and exercise effects on cardiometabolic health of offspring; expand to MAFLD (liver) related to menopause using mouse models.

Eloise Dray, PhD, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Long School of Medicine
Email: dray@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Breast cancer; DNA damage repair, biochemistry, imaging.

Cancer & Translational Discovery

Connor Evans, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Emergency Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: evansc5@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Background in biomedical engineering with a focus on medical devices, and medical imaging, and innovation.

Qingming Fang, MD, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Long School of Medicine
Email: fangq1@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: DNA Repair, Chemotherapy, Base excision repair, Homologous recombination.

Maria Gaczynska, PhD, Associate Professor
Molecular Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: gaczynska@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: 1. Molecular and cellular atomic force microscopy for cancer biomarking, drug design and biomaterial characterization. 2. Design and characterization of allosteric regulators of ubiquitin-proteasome pathway as drugs for cancer and neurodegeneration. 3. Biophysical basis of cancer metastasis.

Brett Ginsburg, PhD, Professor, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Long School of Medicine
Email: ginsburg@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Pharmacokinetics, medication monitoring, small molecule measurement, biomarkers.

Brian Hermann, PhD, Professor
Neuroscience, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
College of Sciences
Email: brian.hermann@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My lab studies the mechanisms regulating SSCs fate specification during testicular development, SSC fate in adults during steady-state spermatogenesis, and potential SSC-based therapeutic strategies for male infertility. I also founded the UT San Antonio Genomics Core, which specializes in single-cell and spatial methodologies, and have applied those approaches to understanding the identity of SSCs and their regulatory framework.

Cancer & Translational Discovery

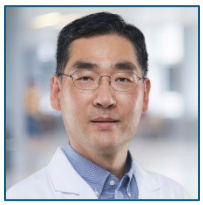
Rosalind Horowitz, PhD, Professor, Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching
College of Education and Human Development
Email: rosalind.horowitz@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Orality and Literacy among Diverse Populations, Cognition and Critical Thinking using Multi-Modalities, International research.

Qinyou Hu, PhD, Assistant Professor, Economics
Alvarez College of Business
Email: qinyou.hu@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I'm an applied microeconomist studying how social environments and policies shape adolescent mental health, violence prevention, and human capital. I design and evaluate scalable interventions (e.g., empathy-building anti-bullying programs) and leverage causal inference (RCTs; DiD/IV; network & structural models) with large, secure linked administrative data from schools and health systems to quantify effects and spillovers. I'm eager to partner with clinicians and public health teams to test, target, and scale cost-effective interventions that advance health equity in San Antonio.

Lara Jones, DO, Assistant Professor, Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: JonesLK@uthscsa.edu

Dajung Jun, PhD, Assistant Professor
Health Policy and Health Services Administration
School of Public Health
Email: jund@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I have a longstanding interest in applying machine learning methods to causal analysis. In one of my recent papers, I have already employed causal forest estimation. Building on that, I have been exploring approaches that integrate matching techniques—particularly between health care providers and patients—to enhance causal estimation and better understand how these relationships influence patient outcomes.

Cancer & Translational Discovery



Minkyu Kim, PhD, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Long School of Medicine
Email: minkyu@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Quantitative proteomics.

Nozrin Laskar, DDS, MS, Clinical Assistant Professor
Predoctoral Education
School of Dentistry
Email: nozrinlaskar@gmail.com
Research Expertise and Methods: I have conducted research in microbiology labs. I have worked with biofilms, green tea polyphenols, and antibiotic resistance studies.

Hong Yu Li, PhD, Professor, Pharmacology
Long School of Medicine
Email: lih1@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Protein Degradation, Inhibitor development, PK, Formulation, chemical biology.

Melissa Manus, PhD, MSc, Assistant Professor
Anthropology
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: melissa.manus@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Global health; evolutionary medicine; human biology; social determinants of health; microbiome; genomics; anthropometry; data science.

Stanton McHardy, PhD, Professor and Director, Chemistry
College of Sciences
Email: stanton.mchardy@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Our labs have expertise and capabilities in all aspects of small molecule synthesis, medicinal chemistry and drug discovery. The four cores within the CIDD have expertise in computer-aided drug discovery, high-throughput in vitro screening, synthesis and medicinal chemistry, as well as in vitro ADME, PK and DMPK.

Cancer & Translational Discovery

Michael Menzies, MA, Lecturer, Anthropology
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: michael.menzies@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a social science researcher at the intersection of raciolinguistics, language education, and medical care. I am an ethnographer working in clinical and pre-clinical spaces.

Asish Misra, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Surgery
Long School of Medicine
Email: misraa2@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: materials engineering, nanotechnology, tissue engineering, drug delivery.

Susannah Nicholson, MD, Associate Professor
Surgery, Division of Trauma and Emergency Surgery
Long School of Medicine
Email: nicholsons@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Trauma and resuscitation, clinical research, gut microbiome.

Pawel Osmulski, PhD, Associate Professor, Molecular Medicine
Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Email: osmulski@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: biophysics, cancer metastasis, neurodegenerative diseases, drug design, precision medicine, atomic force microscopy.

Raghav Rao, PhD, Professor
Information Systems and Cybersecurity
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: hr.rao@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Information systems.

Eric Salazar, MD, PhD, Associate Professor
Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: salazare6@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Clinical Laboratory Medicine. Clinical Informatics.

Cancer & Translational Discovery

Christopher Sandford, PhD, Assistant Professor, Chemistry
College of Sciences
Email: christopher.sandford@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research lab is focused on new catalytic methods to make key bonds in pharmaceutical targets. We especially work in two areas: developing more sustainable routes to drug design for process chemistry applications, and designing switchable organometallic systems for iterative synthesis methodologies. Our work spans organic synthesis, analytical and computational studies in physical organic chemistry, and data science.

Stephanie Santorico, PhD, Dean and Professor
College of Sciences
Email: stephanie.santorico@utsa.edu

Rebecca Schroeder, PhD, Professor of Instruction
Multidisciplinary Studies
Associate Dean for Research, University College
Email: rebecca.schroeder@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: PhD in Experimental Therapeutics and Pharmacology, emphasis on bladder and gastric cancer. At UTSA I have been working in the realm of data science and would be interested in collaboration on translational research projects.

Mirsada Serdarevic, PhD, Assistant Professor
Quantitative and Qualitative Health Sciences
School of Public Health
Email: serdarevic@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Epidemiology, Substance Use Research.

Vidya Sharma, PhD, RD, LD, CDCES, Assistant Professor of Practice
Nutrition & Dietetics Program
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: vidya.sharma@utsa.edu

Cancer & Translational Discovery

Kumar Sharma, MD, Professor, Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: sharmak3@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Precision medicine, spatial omics, biomarkers, therapeutics, kidney, cardiovascular brain disorders.

Amith Skandhan, MD, Associate Professor Clinical
Division of Internal Medicine & Hospital Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: skandhan@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am an Associate Professor in the Division of Internal Medicine & Hospital Medicine at the Long School of Medicine, with a growing research interest in integrating artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and data analytics into clinical medicine and healthcare systems. I recently completed a review article exploring the role of data analytics and AI across inpatient and outpatient settings, and I am pursuing a postgraduate certification in AI and machine learning to further strengthen my technical and research foundation.

Elizabeth Sooby, PhD, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy
College of Sciences
Email: elizabeth.sooby@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Nuclear fuel synthesis, materials science, thermal analysis, oxidation at high temperatures, uranium chemistry, radiological materials science. Happy to just observe.

Gongchen Sun, PhD, Assistant Professor
Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: gongchen.sun@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My lab develops microfluidic devices and microfluidic-based 3D printing technologies. Our technology could be useful for cell separation and purification based on their biophysical properties, microdevice-based platform for cell and organoid culturing and for drug screening, and 3D printing-based biomanufacturing for tissue engineering.

Cancer & Translational Discovery

Josephine Taverna, MD, Associate Professor, Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: tavernaj@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am physician scientists finding ways to target tumor microenvironment for sarcoma, lung, glioblastoma and breast cancer. I am using mouse models and patient derived organoids to help with clinical trial design.

Ratna Vadlamudi, PhD, Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
Long School of Medicine
Email: vadlamudi@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research focuses on identifying novel oncogenes and tumor suppressors, mechanisms of endocrine therapy resistance, and developing targeted therapeutics for breast, ovarian, endometrial, and other gynecologic cancers. My work integrates molecular biology, drug development, epigenetics, and tumor microenvironment studies to advance translational cancer therapies.

Suryavathi Viswanadhapalli, PhD, Associate Professor
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Long School of Medicine
Email: viswanadhapa@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Specializes in developing, characterizing, and validating novel therapies for women's cancers. Focuses on discovering therapeutic targets and identifying drugs to overcome resistance in breast, ovarian, and endometrial cancers. Our lab is equipped to generate explants, organoids, and xenograft models derived from patient samples.

Jing Yong Ye, PhD, Professor
Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: jingyong.ye@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Photoacoustic Imaging, Molecular Probes.

Cancer & Translational Discovery

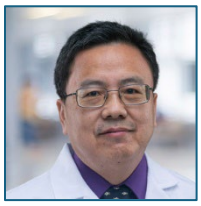
Hongyi Zhu, PhD, Assistant Professor
Information Systems and Cybersecurity
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: hongyi.zhu@utsa.edu

Research Expertise and Methods: I am interested in developing advanced AI models for mental health and mobile health analytics for vulnerable populations, such as students and seniors. I primarily focus on (1) developing data encoding and modeling methods to extract behavioral information (e.g., activities) from high-volume, high-velocity sensor data, (2) examining issues related to data scarcity, security, and privacy for mobile and mental health, and (3) exploring the development of mental health guidelines-compliant AI models (e.g., large language models).

Chronic & Metabolic Disease

Francisca Acosta, PhD, Assistant Professor of Research
Medicine - Endocrinology
Long School of Medicine
Email: AcostaFM@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Metabolism, Engineering, Obesity.

Jeremy Davis, PsyD, MBA, Professor, Neurology
Long School of Medicine
Email: davisj20@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I'm a clinical neuropsychologist interested in digital and AI-enabled approaches to cognitive assessment. My research integrates neuropsychology, data science, and computational modeling to improve the precision and scalability of cognitive testing. Current projects involve automated scoring of speech-based tasks, psychometric and entropy-based modeling, and development of digital tools for early detection and personalized care.



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Long School of Medicine
Email: liuy9@uthscsa.edu

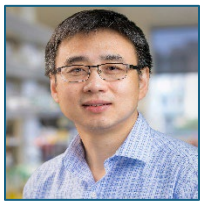
Emily Moes, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow, Anthropology
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: emily.moes@utsa.edu

Salma Quraishi, PhD, Senior Director, Strategic Research Initiatives
Research and Innovation
Email: quraishi@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Research Development, Basic & Clinical.

Lisa Trevino, MS, Lecturer, Biology, Health and the Environment
College of Sciences
Email: lisa.trevino@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I teach Anatomy and Physiology.

Chronic & Metabolic Disease

Xiaodu Wang, PhD, Professor
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: Xiaodu.wang@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Bone biomechanics focusing on prediction and prevention of age-related bone fragility.



Yan Xiang, PhD, Professor
Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics
Long School of Medicine
Email: xiangy@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Dr. Xiang's laboratory focuses on the mechanisms of antiviral immunity and the molecular strategies used by viruses to evade host defenses. The research combines virology, biochemistry, cell biology, and structural biology approaches to define virus–host interactions at the molecular level. Experimental methods include viral genetics and replication assays, biochemical characterization of host restriction factors and viral antagonists, nucleic acid biochemistry (RNA and tRNA analysis), and structural and computational studies such as cryo-EM and protein modeling.

Hai Zhang, DMD, PhD, Professor, Comprehensive Dentistry
School of Dentistry
Email: zhangh7@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Dental biomaterials, tissue engineering and regeneration.

Community & Health Variability

Tracey Barnett, PhD, Associate Professor
Quantitative and Qualitative Health Sciences
School of Public Health
Email: barnettt2@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: adolescent and young adult tobacco (including new nicotine-only products); chronic disease prevention; Quant and Qual methods.

Sylvia Botros-Brey, MD, MSCI, Professor, Office for Faculty
Long School of Medicine
Email: botrosbrey@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Medical education research.

Egle Bytautiene Prewit, MD, PhD, Associate Professor
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Long School of Medicine
Email: prewite@uthscsa.edu

Guadalupe Carmona, PhD, Professor and Executive Director
Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching
College of Education and Human Development
Email: guadalupe.carmona@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Mathematical Modeling, STEM Education, Assessment, Quantitative & Qualitative Research Methods.

Estrella Sandra Chocron, PhD, Instructor, Radiation Oncology
Long School of Medicine
Email: chocrons@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: research in Alzheimer's, brain aging, glioblastoma, astrocytes, cellular metabolism, metabolic disease.

Community & Health Variability

Carma Deem Bolton, PhD, Instructor, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Long School of Medicine
Email: deembolton@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Focus on applying population and implementation science to improve substance use disorder services in community and clinical settings with a particular focus on women, children, and families; workforce retention and well-being among peer recovery support specialists; and equity in access and treatment outcomes. My methodological expertise includes mixed-methods, qualitative inquiry, and implementation science approaches that identify and address barriers and facilitators to effective service delivery.

Marc Feldman, MD, Professor
Biomedical Engineering and Chemical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: feldmanm@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Cardiology and Biomedical Engineering.

Erin Finley, PhD MPH, Professor, Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: finleye@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Implementation scientist; Director, Dissemination and Implementation Science Consultation Core.

Saralyn Foster, PhD, RDN, LD, Postdoctoral Fellow in Bridge-To-Faculty Program, Nutrition & Dietetics Program
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: saralyn.foster@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Maternal and child nutrition, latent class mixed models.

Community & Health Variability

Kimberly Garza, PhD, Associate Professor, English
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: kimberly.garza3@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am primarily a creative writer (fiction and nonfiction) with a secondary specialty in Latinx literature and studies, and I direct the UTSA Creative Writing Program. As a teacher of creative workshops and a writer myself, I'd love to find ways for me and all the UTSA creative writing students and teachers to collaborate with healthcare. Some ideas include guiding writing workshops for the community and/or healthcare workers, or tracking how poetry and life writing can support illness or trauma recovery, etc. Just some ideas--there's a lot of potential I know I haven't thought of, and would like to see ways in which our community can support healthcare.

Simon Gayther, PhD, Professor, Medicine - Hematology
Long School of Medicine
Email: gayther@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: We are integrating modeling of cancer in the population with novel genomic studies (e.g. spatial multiomic analysis) to define the human 3D genome in organoid models of early stage cancer development.

David Gimeno Ruiz de Porras, PhD, Professor
Environmental & Occupational Health
School of Public Health
Email: gimeno@uthscsa.edu

Cody Gonzalez, PhD, Assistant Professor
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: Cody.gonzalez@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Novel methods for increasing dialysis speed and treating kidney disease, stents, and lattices.

Yogesh Gupta, PhD, Associate Professor, Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Long School of Medicine
Email: guptay@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Development of small molecule inhibitors as novel anticancer and antiviral agents.

Community & Health Variability

Michael Halpern, MD, PhD, Professor
Health Policy and Health Services Administration
School of Public Health
Email: halpernm@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Data science (including analysis of large data resources), health economics/cost-effectiveness, quality of care/quality improvement, patient-reported outcomes (quality of life, experience of care, patient satisfaction).

Allison Ihle, PhD, RN, FAAN, Assistant Professor
Office of Faculty Excellence, School of Nursing
Email: ihlea@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: women's health, AI, incarceration, criminal legal system, qualitative, substance use, mood disorder, trauma, doula support.

Angela Kennedy, SLPD, CCC-SLP, Assistant Professor
Communication Sciences and Disorders
School of Health Professions
Email: kennedyaj@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Clinical IPE, community based clinical training.

Shamshad Khan, PhD, Associate Professor, Communication
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: shamshad.khan@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Health Communication; Community-based program and implementation science; Global Public Health; Social determinants of health and health equity.

Community & Health Variability

Kim Kline, PhD, Professor, Communication
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: kim.kline@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I conduct research on persuasion in health campaigns, the health media environment, and social management of health issues. For these initiatives, I bring my expertise in interdisciplinary theory and research methodology including social scientific theory relevant to crafting messages in terms of measurable attitudinal and behavioral outcomes, various theoretical perspectives relevant to addressing cultural variation in health understandings, and expertise in both qualitative and quantitative methodologies used in planning and evaluating the effectiveness of the interventions.

Ashley Labay, MS, Associate Professor, Educational Psychology
College of Education and Human Development
Email: ashley.labay@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a Clinical Associate Professor with a primary focus on teaching and supervision in applied behavior analysis. Although my experience with research has been limited, I am actively expanding my knowledge and application of research methodologies, particularly single case design. My current research interests include the telehealth, training others (i.e. interns, parents), integration of advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), and the assessment and treatment of challenging behavior. I am also interested in applying behavior analytic principles to support individuals with Alzheimer's disease and dementia, with the goal of improving quality of life.

Kevin D. Martin, PMP, CPM, Lecturer, Management
Alvarez College of Business
Email: Kevin.martin2@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Advanced Leadership Disciplines & Creation of Value from Chaos.

Ritu Mathur, PhD, Professor, Political Science and Geography
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: ritu.mathur@utsa.edu

Community & Health Variability

Patrick Ng, MD, Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: Ngp@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Translational and clinical research.

Michelle Parish, SLPD, CCC-SLP, Assistant Professor
Communication Sciences and Disorders
School of Health Professions
Email: parish@uthscsa.edu

Humberto Pena, PhD, Assistant Professor, Educational Psychology
College of Education and Human Development
Email: humberto.pena@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I have experience in single-case experimental design and systematic review methodologies. My research focuses on improving neurodivergent adolescents and individuals with intellectual disabilities transition to adulthood (e.g., employment, community, college, independent living) through evidence based practices. I am also expanding my work to address behavioral and quality of life outcomes in dementia care. I am currently working with others on a review on dementia.

Alan Peterson, PhD, Professor, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Long School of Medicine
Email: petersona3@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a board-certified clinical health psychologist with expertise in the areas of behavioral medicine, psychological trauma, and resiliency. I have specific clinical and research experience in the areas of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), sleep disorders (insomnia, nightmare disorder, obstructive sleep apnea [OSA], and combined insomnia and OSA [COMISA]), chronic pain (fibromyalgia, musculoskeletal pain, temporomandibular disorders, functional restoration) substance use disorders (smoking cessation, smokeless tobacco cessation, alcohol use disorder), tinnitus, suicide prevention, and Tourette's Disorder.

Community & Health Variability

Vasan Ramachandran, MD, Professor and Dean, School of Public Health
School of Public Health
Email: vasan@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Community-based research, Epidemiological Studies, Cohort Studies, Chronic Disease Prevention.

Jeffrey Rollman, MPH, NRP, Assistant Clinical Professor
Emergency Health Sciences
School of Health Professions
Email: rollman@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a paramedic, educator, and researcher with a background in health policy and public health. My research interests lie at the intersection of prehospital emergency care and public health, including fall prevention, mental health, and community risk reduction. I have several pilot Quality Improvement projects partnering with firefighters and paramedics to address community health challenges. I'm looking forward to meeting other UT San Antonio faculty with similar interests in community-partnered research or QI.

Arka Roy, PhD, Associate Professor, Operations & Analytics
Alvarez College of Business
Email: arkajyoti.roy@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Optimization, Machine Learning, Radiotherapy Treatment Planning, Scheduling.

Philipp Schmidpeter, PhD, Assistant Professor, Chemistry
College of Sciences
Email: philipp.schmidpeter@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: membrane proteins, biophysics, structural biology, cryo-EM, ion channels, lipid modulation, protein folding.

Shafqat Shah, MD, Professor, Pediatrics
Long School of Medicine
Email: shahs2@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Clinical care of neuro-oncology and cancer survivorship patient populations in Pediatrics. PI for Children Oncology Group for UTHealth.

Community & Health Variability

Erica Sosa, PhD, MPH, Professor, Public Health
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: erica.sosa@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: chronic disease prevention; minority health; implementation science; community-engaged research.

Johnelle Sparks, PhD, Professor, Sociology and Demography
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: johnelle.sparks@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: population health, adult and infant mortality, sexual minority health, maternal health.

Maryam Tabar, PhD, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: Maryam.Tabar@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am working in the areas of Data Science for Social Good and Machine Learning. In particular, my research aims to propose innovative data-driven solutions to help mitigate grand social challenges in the society, especially pressing challenges faced by vulnerable and disadvantaged communities (such as substance use disorder among youth experiencing homelessness).

Jon Taylor, PhD, Professor, Political Science and Geography
College of Liberal and Fine Arts
Email: jon.taylor@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Texas Politics; Urban Politics; Quantitative Methods.

Erika Thompson, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor
Quantitative and Qualitative Health Sciences
School of Public Health
Email: thompsone1@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: HPV-related cancer prevention; mixed methods research; community-engaged research; evaluation.

Community & Health Variability

Cathy Torrington Eaton, PhD, Assistant Professor
Speech-Language Pathology
School of Health Professions
Email: torringtonea@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I specialize in aphasia from stroke and neurodegenerative disease. My interests are in training healthcare providers to communicate more effectively with patients with aphasia.

Joel Tsevat, MD, MPH, Professor, Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: tsevat@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: community-engaged research, health services research, ECHO telementoring, dissemination & implementation science, preventive medicine, evidence-based medicine, patient-reported outcomes, shared decision-making, primary care.

Sarah Ullevig, PhD, RD, LD, Associate Professor
Nutrition & Dietetics Program
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: sarah.ullevig@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Healthy aging, chronic disease, inflammation, digital health, dietary supplements.

Carmen Valdez, PhD, Professor and Associate Dean of Research and Partnerships, Office of Research and Partnerships
School of Public Health
Email: valdezcr@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Community engagement, youth and family mental health, environmental sciences.

Enya Vroom, PhD, MS, Assistant Professor, Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: vroom@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Specializing in qualitative and mixed methods designs, my research program employs community-engaged and implementation science approaches to examine factors and strategies for the adoption, implementation, and sustainability of substance use treatment and recovery efforts, as well as innovative efforts to build workforce capacity in implementation science and practice among investigators and healthcare professionals.

Community & Health Variability

Chinyu Wu, PhD, Associate Professor , Occupational Therapy
School of Health Professions
Email: wuc7@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: randomized-controlled trial, photovoice, serious mental illness, lifestyle interventions.

Muge Yayla-Kullu, PhD, Associate Professor, Operations & Analytics
Alvarez College of Business
Email: Muge.Yayla-Kullu@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Healthcare operations management, workforce scheduling, nursing, cross training.

Guoquan Zhang, DVM, PhD, Professor
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology
College of Sciences
Email: Guoquan.zhang@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Using phage display library for development of mimotope vaccines. Monoclonal antibody development and antibody-engineering DNA or mRNA-based vaccines against bacterial pathogens. Animal models for infectious diseases.

Infectious Threats & Immunity

Elizabeth Bailey, PhD, Assistant Professor
Earth and Planetary Science College of Sciences
Email: elizabeth.bailey2@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Earth and planetary scientist curious about how nocturnal light exposure interacts with biological timing. Open to conversations with endocrinology or women's-health researchers.

Evelien Bunnik, PhD, Associate Professor
Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics
Long School of Medicine
Email: bunnik@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Human immunology, antibodies, bioinformatics, parasitology.

Cara Gonzales, DDS, PhD, Associate Professor
Comprehensive Dentistry
School of Dentistry
Email: Gnzalesc5@uthscsa.esu
Research Expertise and Methods: Cancer, drug development, pain.

Reuben Harris, PhD, Professor, Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Long School of Medicine
Email: rsh@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Cancer biology, virology, drug development.

Md Rakibul Hasan, Doctoral Student
Information Systems and Cybersecurity
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: mdrakibul.hasan2@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Multi-modal Medical Image, EHR, and Text Analysis using AI models.

Chia Hsu, PhD, Assistant Professor, Kinesiology
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: chia.hsu@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Exercise, Inflammation, Programmed Cell Death, Macrophage, Neuromuscular Injury.

Infectious Threats & Immunity

Katie McCance, PhD, Assistant Professor
Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
College of Education and Human Development
Email: katherine.mccance@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: STEM equity and pedagogy in higher ed and K-12. STEM faculty and graduate student professional development to improve teaching practices. Motivations, best practices, and outcomes of interdisciplinary collaboration teams. Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods.

Laurence Morel, PhD, Professor
Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics
Long School of Medicine
Email: morel@uthscsa.edu

Jeffrey Vedanayagam, PhD, Assistant Professor
Neuroscience, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
College of Sciences
Email: jeffrey.vedanayagam@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Bioinformatics/Biological data analysis, Germline development and reproductive biology, Long-read DNA and RNA sequencing, Genome informatics, and multiomics analyses.

Luan Vu, PhD, Assistant Professor
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology
College of Sciences
Email: luan.vu@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Research Expertise Summary
Our research program investigates the cellular, molecular, and systems mechanisms by which respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and SARS-CoV-2 infections shape immune development and long-term lung health, including asthma. We integrate human infant and maternal–cord blood cohorts, neonatal mouse models, and multi-omics profiling (single-cell, transcriptomic, epigenetic, and metabolic) to dissect how innate lymphoid cells, cytokine signaling, and neuroimmune circuits orchestrate inflammation and disease susceptibility. Our central question asks how early-life infections reprogram the developing immune system to predispose individuals to asthma and chronic airway diseases. We welcome interdisciplinary collaborations across pediatrics, neonatology, maternal–fetal health, developmental immunology, microbiome science, systems biology, and bioengineering. Visit our lab website: https://imuai.github.io/vulab/.

Infectious Threats & Immunity

Hongjie Xie, PhD, Professor, Earth and Planetary Science
College of Sciences
Email: hongjie.xie@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Remote sensing, GIS, spatial data science for health related pollution, heat, water quality.

Mental & Behavioral Health

Omar Abbaas, PhD, Assistant Professor
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: omar.abbaas@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Operations research, supply chain, and process design and improvement.

Sara Abu Aridah, PhD, Lecturer
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: sara.abu-aridah@utsa.edu

Yau Adamu, PhD, RPh, MPH, Assistant Professor
Environmental & Occupational Health
School of Public Health
Email: adamuy@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Dr. Yau Adamu is an Assistant Professor with interdisciplinary training in pharmacy, pharmacology, epidemiology, and human toxicology, and my research bridges environmental health, toxicology, and population science. Dr. Adamu utilizes GC-ICP-LC-MS and MS/MS approach for chemicals/metabolites analysis, metabolomics and proteomics for identifying exposure biomarkers and linking them to health outcomes, as well as employing data science and pharmacokinetics/PBPK modeling for quantitative exposure-outcome modeling linking internal dose metrics with adverse effects to inform regulatory risk assessments. He welcomes collaborators in areas that match his research expertise, including investigating the roles of environmental exposures/exposomes in neurodegenerative diseases, maternal and child health, exposure science and toxicology, one health and public health, data science in environmental epidemiology, adverse drug reactions/pharmacovigilance and pharmacogenomics exposure and health outcomes, e-cigarettes/vaping and adolescent health systematic review and meta-analysis of treatment outcomes, and community-engaged research in South Texas.

Gustavo J. Almeida, PhD, PT, Associate Professor
Physical Therapy School of Health Professions
Email: almeidag@uthscsa.edu

Mental & Behavioral Health

Ellen Andrews, PhD, Assistant Professor
Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Long School of Medicine
Email: andrewse2@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a clinical psychologist who specializes in psychological assessment (testing) of youth. I have a background in working with acutely suicidal adolescents and using dialectical behavior therapy. My research has explored the use of text message reminders about home safety practices to prevent adolescent suicide. I'm interested in meeting other mental health providers and researchers in general, and particularly those who work with youth.

Hamid Beladi, PhD, Professor, Economics
Alvarez College of Business
Email: hamid.beladi@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods:

- International Trade and Finance
- Foreign Investment and Designing of Incentive - Compatible Contracts
- Migration Models of Economic Development
- Decision-Making Under Uncertainty
- Myopic mergers and incomplete information

Jessica Bergden, DC, PhD, Assistant Professor, Cell Systems & Anatomy
Long School of Medicine
Email: bergden@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Survey development and validation, medical education, eLearning, qualitative research.

Nora Charles, PhD, Associate Professor, Psychology
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: Nora.Charles@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a licensed clinical psychologist and I primarily study adolescent problem behaviors- things like delinquency and substance misuse. I am interested in better predicting these problems so that we can prevent them and also how to effectively treat them with behavioral (mental health) interventions in community settings.

Mental & Behavioral Health

Nancy Cheak Zamora, PhD, Professor, Public Health
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: nancy.cheak-zamora@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Disability Studies, Health Care Transition, Youth Empowerment and Health Service Research.

Jennifer Cook, PhD, Associate Professor, Counseling
College of Education and Human Development
Email: jennifer.cook@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: aAddictions, disability, counseling, qualitative designs, mixed methods designs.

Samuel DeJulio, PhD, Associate Professor
Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching
College of Education and Human Development
Email: samuel.dejulio@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I do literacy research, particularly related to teacher preparation. I am working with colleagues interested in dyslexia

Uchenna Emenaha Miles, PhD, Assistant Professor
Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching
College of Education and Human Development
Email: uchenna.MILES@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research expertise centers on culturally responsive pedagogy (CRP), science and mathematics teacher education, and identity-a irming STEM instruction. Broadly, my work explores how sociocultural and place-based factors shape pre-service teachers' development of critical consciousness, belonging, and instructional practices in STEM classrooms.

Kathy Ewoldt, PhD, Assistant Professor
Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching
College of Education and Human Development
Email: kathy.ewoldt@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Students with disabilities in inclusive classrooms; Null hypothesis significance; Single case research design (experimental).

Mental & Behavioral Health

Kimberly Ferland, EdD, OTR, CHT, Assistant Professor
Occupational Therapy
Email: ferlandk@uthscsa.edu

Kathryn Henderson, PhD, Associate Professor
Bicultural-Bilingual Studies
College of Education and Human Development
Email: Kathryn.Henderson2@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Qualitative research methods, dual language bilingual education, language ideologies, and language policy.

Kevin Hirschi, PhD, Assistant Professor, Bicultural-Bilingual Studies
College of Education and Human Development
Email: kevin.hirschi@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Applied linguist with second language, corpus linguistic, language perception, speech technology, and quantitative research expertise. I work primarily with the learning and perception of adult language learner populations through classroom and technology-enhanced paradigms.

Rachel Im, PhD, MSN, RN, Postdoctoral Research Fellow
Office of Nursing Research and Scholarship
School of Nursing
Email: imc@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Cardio-Oncology, Symptom Management, Patient Outcomes.

Claudia Interiano-Shiverdecker, PhD, Assistant Professor, Counseling
College of Education and Human Development
Email: claudia.interiano-shiverdecker@utsa.edu

Mental & Behavioral Health

Rebecca Jones, PhD, Assistant Professor, Population Health Sciences
Long School of Medicine
Email: jonesr13@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Cancer screening and prevention, Community engagement, Health services research.

Amir Karimi, PhD, Assistant Professor, Operations & Analytics
Alvarez College of Business
Email: a.karimi@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Global health, healthcare supply chains.

Kunal Kate, PhD, Associate Professor
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: kunal.kate@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I specialize in advanced manufacturing and materials engineering, with expertise in powder-polymer processing, 3D printing of metals/ceramics/composites, and smart materials for biomedical applications. My research bridges fundamental materials science with practical applications, including development of biocompatible implants, functionally graded structures, and sustainable polymer composites.

Renee Lastrapes, PhD, Professor, Health Sciences
PhD in Health Sciences Program
School of Health Professions
Email: lastrapes@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Research design, statistics, education research, survey research.

Mei-Ling Lin, PhD, OTR, Assistant Professor, Occupational Therapy
School of Health Professions
Email: linm2@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Mix-methods, pediatrics, maternal health.

Mental & Behavioral Health

Kathryn Mayer, PhD, Associate Professor, Physics and Astronomy
College of Sciences
Email: kathryn.mayer@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I work in two areas that connect to health research: Nanomedicine based cancer therapies (plasmonic photothermal therapy, nanoparticle enhanced radiation therapy), and Biosensors (nanoparticle based optical sensors).

Kevin "Chris" McMains, MD, PhD, Professor
Otolaryngology/Medical Education
Long School of Medicine
Email: Kevin.mcmains@va.gov
Research Expertise and Methods: PhD thesis on Professional Identity Formation among medical faculty members; interests in the role of ritual in professional growth and in human performance research applications to the practice of surgery.

Andrew Meyer, MD, MS, Associate Professor, Pediatrics
Long School of Medicine
Email: meyera@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Coagulation, biomedical device, immune inhibitors, trauma.

Jordan Morgan, PhD, Assistant Professor, School Psychology
College of Education and Human Development
Email: jordan.morgan@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am the director of the Psychological Assessment and Consultation Center, or PACC, at UT San Antonio in the School Psychology department. I'm interested in collaborating with teams who might want to partner with an assessment center for research.

Mental & Behavioral Health

Leslie Neely, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA, Professor
Neuroscience, Developmental and Regenerative Biology
College of Sciences
Email: LESLIE.NEELY@UTSA.EDU
Research Expertise and Methods: My research and clinical expertise centers on progressing the treatment of severe behavior (e.g., aggression, self-injury, and property destruction) for persons with autism and developmental disabilities with the science of applied behavior analysis (ABA). For the past couple of years, I have also partnered with colleagues in computer science, engineering, cyber security, education, health, and kinesiology, to establish an innovative lab focused on integrating advanced technologies, including artificial intelligence, augmented reality and virtual reality, into the therapy and education of individuals with autism and developmental disabilities.

Bruce Nicholson, PhD, Professor, Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Long School of Medicine
Email: nicholsonb@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: We study the molecular mechanisms of Endometriosis lesion formation, and are developing small molecule therapeutics and gene expression based diagnostics.

Sara Oswalt, MPH, PhD, CSE, Professor, Public Health
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: sara.oswalt@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods:
College student health and well-being with special interest in sexual and reproductive health, mental health, and the connection of well-being to academic success.

John Quarles, PhD, Professor, Computer Science
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: john.quarles@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Virtual reality, augmented reality, mixed reality, training simulation.

Mental & Behavioral Health

Kara Robinson, RDH, Assistant Clinical Professor
Division of Dental Hygiene
School of Dentistry
Email: Robinsonk1@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Current PhD student pursuing efforts to research IPE within medical healthcare and dental school programs.

Devon Romero, PhD, LPC, NCC, Associate Professor, Counseling
College of Education and Human Development
Email: devon.romero@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a professional counselor whose research focuses on trauma among historically marginalized, at-risk, and underserved populations (particularly children, youth, and individuals who have experienced sex trafficking). I have a graduate certificate in quantitative educational research though much of my work in more recent years has been mixed methods or qualitative. I am trained in neurofeedback and have experience with training and intervention development/implementation, program evaluation, and scale development.

Jason Rosenfeld, DrPH, MPH, CHWI, Associate Professor, Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: RosenfeldJ@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Community based participatory research; community-based health promotion; participatory and peer to peer health promotion; interests in social capital and health, collective action and health behavior change. I have expertise in mixed methods research, with a strong background in qualitative and participatory research methods.

Steve Schwab, PhD, Assistant Professor, Management
Alvarez College of Business
Email: stephen.schwab@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am a health economist studying the value of relationships in healthcare. Most of my work revolves around the doctor-patient relationship and how managerial decisions affect the delivery of healthcare (e.g. use of temporary vs permanent nurses, effect of AI on clinician burnout etc.).

Mental & Behavioral Health

Kyle Shaney, PhD, Assistant Professor
Biology, Health and the Environment
College of Sciences
Email: kyle.shaney@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I study wildlife ecology and biodiversity science. I work with a range of wild animal species throughout the world, including mountain lions, crocodiles and other species. I am actively developing projects throughout the southwestern US and throughout Latin America. I work in many remote regions with species of wildlife that can be involved with zoonotic spillover events. There may also be potential for biological compound and drug discovery that can be applied to medical applications. I plan to collect insects and fungi from remote regions which may have biological compounds that can be used for a variety of medical applications. I am interested in other possible collaborative opportunities at the nexus between the environment, wild animals and people.

Janet Solis Rodriguez, PhD, Assistant Professor
Educational Leadership and Policy Studies
College of Education and Human Development
Email: janet.solisrodriguez@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Interested in interdisciplinary research at the intersection of mental health and education, with a focus on improving mental health and wellness among teachers and school leaders in K-12 schools; Expertise in quantitative methods.

Ian Thacker, PhD, Associate Professor, Educational Psychology
College of Education and Human Development
Email: ian.thacker@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I study STEM teaching, learning, and teacher education. I use qualitative and quantitative methods to investigate the role of attitudes, emotions, beliefs, and biases in conceptual change. I pursue three strands of research focused on: (a) interdisciplinary learning, (b) the use of technology for STEM teaching and learning, and (c) teacher beliefs and biases that contribute to gender- and race-based achievement disparities in STEM. NOTE: I selected "Behavioral Sciences" as my area of interest, but to be honest, I am more interested in cognitive/affective factors than behavioral.

Mental & Behavioral Health

Masa Umeda, PhD, Associate Professor, Kinesiology
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: masataka.umeda@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research centers on understanding of pain using various pain tests, physical activity assessments, and cardiovascular psychophysiology techniques.

Ruxin Wang, PHD, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
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Research Expertise and Methods: Smart Device-enabled Health Management.

Susan Weintraub, PhD, Professor, Biochemistry & Structural Biology
Long School of Medicine
Email: weintraub@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Proteomics, protein analysis/characterization.

Matthew Wicklund, MD, Professor, Neurology
Long School of Medicine
Email: wicklund@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Natural history, clinical trials, and some translational research.

Yan Zhang, PhD, Associate Professor of Research
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology
College of Sciences
Email: yan.zhang@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Infection Disease and Immunology.

Technology & Innovation

Shaza Abass, BDS, PhD, Assistant Professor
Developmental Dentistry - Orthodontics
School of Dentistry
Email: abass@uthscsa.edu

Katherine Adams, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow in Bridge-To-Faculty Program
Operations and Analytics, Alvarez College of Business
Email: katherine.adams@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Predictive and prescriptive analytics to improve resource allocation and decision-making in healthcare (methods include optimization modeling and machine learning).

Sandra Andari, DDS, MS, Assistant professor, Developmental Dentistry
School of Dentistry
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Tanveer Hossain Bhuiyan, PhD, Assistant Professor, Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: tanveer.bhuiyan@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My research methodology is focused on developing data-driven mathematical models and solution algorithms for solving decision-making problems, particularly decision-making under uncertainty and in game-theoretic setting. My research methodology also includes big data analytics utilizing high-performance computing and statistical-learning-based optimization. In the healthcare domain, my research has been applied to opioid use disorder, trauma care, and healthcare logistics (e.g., aerial drone-based faster delivery of critical time-sensitive medical items, such as defibrillators, blood products, and naloxone).

Mitra Bokaei Hosseini, PhD, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: mitra.bokaeihosseini@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Software engineering and privacy.

Technology & Innovation

Curtis Bone, MD, MHS, Assistant Professor
Family and Community Medicine
Long School of Medicine
Email: bonec@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: My expertise is in clinical medicine, addiction medicine, health services research, behavioral health, and epidemiology.

Dave Brown, PhD, Professor of Practice and Executive Director
National Security Collaboration Center (NSCC)
Research and Innovation
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James Bynum, PhD, Professor, Surgery
Long School of Medicine
Email: bynumj@uthscsa.edu

Rogie Royce Carandang, PhD, Assistant Professor
Health, Behavior, and Society
School of Public Health
Email: carandangr@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Implementation science, maternal and child health, aging, mental health.

Albert Carrisalez, Associate Vice President for Government Affairs
Governmental Relations
Government Relations
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Krystel Castillo, PhD, Professor, Mechanical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
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Research Expertise and Methods: Machine learning data science.

Technology & Innovation

Yuxuan Du, PhD, Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
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Research Expertise and Methods: My research focuses on developing statistical, machine-learning, and AI methods for genomic studies, such as metagenomics and transcriptomics. Research Interest: 1) Computational Biology and Bioinformatics; 2) Metagenomics and Transcriptomics; 3) Applied Statistics and Artificial Intelligence; 4) Cell Cytology and Cancer Genomics; 5) Large Language Model and Genomic Foundation Model.

Ender Finol, PhD, Professor
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: ender.finol@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: I am interested mostly in cardiovascular diseases. I use computational AI methods to create patient-specific models from clinical images to interrogate the clinical management strategy of patients with abdominal aortic aneurysm. I also apply stress analysis and fluid flow modeling techniques to analyze large blood vessel mechanics.

Mario Flores, PhD, Assistant Professor, Electrical Engineering
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: mario.flores@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: A central goal of my research is to bridge the gap between large-scale biological datasets and clinically actionable insights. My laboratory has developed several state-of-the-art DL/AI frameworks for predicting gene dependencies and detecting regulatory element dysregulation during disease initiation and progression. These methods integrate multi-omics data (e.g., genomics, transcriptomics, epigenomics) and leverage advanced architectures such as graph neural networks, transformer-based models, and probabilistic inference methods to capture complex biological interactions.

Anthony Francis, Associate Vice President, Innovation and Development
Research and Innovation
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Technology & Innovation

Eduardo Gandara, DrPH, MPH, Assistant Professor, Public Health
College for Health, Community and Policy
Email: eduardo.gandaragarcia@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Community-based Participatory Research, Community Health Workers, First-Generation Students, Latinos, African Americans, Religion, Spirituality, Spanish-language health promotion.

Allison Grimes, MD, MSCI, Associate Professor, Pediatrics
Hematology/Oncology
Long School of Medicine
Email: grimesa@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Children's Oncology Group (COG) Cancer Care Delivery Research trial development and execution, COG Cancer Control & Supportive Care clinical trial development and oversight (nutrition studies focus), COG Adolescent & Young Adult (AYA) Cancer trial development (related to CCDR and supportive care), HOV vaccination implementation studies for cancer survivors.

Richard Guo, PhD, Associate Professor
Information Systems and Cybersecurity
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
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Research Expertise and Methods: Machine learning, generative artificial intelligence, large language models, multimodal learning.

David Han, PhD, Associate Professor, Statistics and Data Science
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Kirsten Hanson, PhD, Associate Professor
Molecular Microbiology and Immunology
College of Sciences
Email: kirsten.hanson@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Quantitative bio-imaging, Plasmodium cellular and developmental biology, host-pathogen interactions, automated feedback microscopy, drug discovery.

Technology & Innovation

Tianzhi He, PhD, Assistant Professor
Civil and Environmental Engineering and Construction Science Management
Klesse College of Engineering and Integrated Design
Email: tianzhi.he@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Wearable sensing for human states identification (physiological states such as thermal comfort, psychological states such as stress, fatigue), Wrist-worn wearable sensor (e.g., Empatica E4) Data processing, Smart built environments with AI agents for proactive human well-being interventions, Machine Learning and Deep Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Large Language Models.

Joe Houpt, PhD, Professor, Psychology
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Research Expertise and Methods: AI/machine learning, human factors psychology, cognitive modeling.

Emmanuel Iyiegbuniwe, PhD, Associate Professor
Environmental & Occupational Health
School of Public Health
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Research Expertise and Methods: my research focuses on various environmental & occupational health determinants of significant public health importance. My research interests span the broad areas of environmental health and industrial hygiene, including the evaluation of indoor air quality, environmental & occupational lead exposure assessment and other occupational health issues and substances of significant public health importance.

Nalu Kaahaaina, Chief Technology Officer
National Security Collaboration Center (NSCC)
Research and Innovation
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Research Expertise and Methods: Securing program funding from national security agencies.

Technology & Innovation

Turgay Korkmaz, PhD, Professor, Computer Science
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Research Expertise and Methods: In general, I work in the area of computer networking, AI, robotics. Recently, through a DoE grant, I have been working on AI and robotics to develop automated labs for scientific experiments.

Dhireesha Kudithipudi, PhD, Professor, Computer Engineering
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Venkatesh Kumaresan, PhD, Assistant Professor of Research, Molecular Microbiology and Immunology
College of Sciences
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Research Expertise and Methods: Transcriptomics analysis (single-cell and bulk), Bacterial pathogen-Host interactions, vaccine development, host-directed therapeutics. I am interested in meeting researchers involved in energy metabolism.

Hyejeong Lee, PhD, Assistant Professor
Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching
College of Education and Human Development
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Research Expertise and Methods: AI and Education, AI Literacy, Data Science Education, AI Ethics, Mental Health Education.

Zhiyong Lin, PhD, Assistant Professor, Sociology and Demography
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Research Expertise and Methods: My research focuses on population health and aging, with expertise in social isolation, cognitive aging, and health disparities. I use longitudinal and cross-national data and apply multilevel and growth curve modeling. I am interested in interdisciplinary collaborations that connect social, behavioral, and biological perspectives on aging.

Technology & Innovation

Hannah MacNaul, PhD, BCBA-D, LSP, Assistant Professor
Educational Psychology
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Research Expertise and Methods: Autism, developmental disabilities, assessment and treatment of severe behavior.

Panos Markopoulos, PhD, Associate Professor
Computer Engineering College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: panagiotis.markopoulos@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Machine learning (efficient and trustworthy).

Fred Martin, PhD, Professor, Interim Dean
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
Email: fred.martin@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Computing, AI, and data science education.

Don McGeary, PhD, Professor, Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences
Long School of Medicine
Email: mcgeary@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Applied clinical and translational trials. Most of my work is now moving toward applications of Bayesian models and LLM for individualized treatment.

Jennifer Milton, MBA, BSN, Clinical Assistant Professor
Alvarez Center for Transplantation, Hepatobiliary Surgery and Innovation Long School of Medicine
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Research Expertise and Methods: Our program operates a dedicated donor care unit, embedded with a research team and biorepository, to ensure every gift of organ and tissue donation fulfills its greatest potential for both transplantation and research. We facilitate access to donated human organs, tissues, and related biological samples and data—when authorization for research and education is present—integrating this work seamlessly into the continuum of organ, eye, and tissue donation. We are seeking collaborators whose research could benefit from access to human samples and data to advance scientific discovery and innovation.

Technology & Innovation

Herta Montoya, PhD, Assistant Professor
Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering
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Research Expertise and Methods: My expertise lies in digital twins and cyber-physical systems, integrating experimental and computational methods to study system behavior and resilience. I'm interested in collaborating on projects that use mechanistic modeling, uncertainty quantification, or real-time testing to advance healthcare technologies or patient-centered monitoring.

Thuy Phung, MD, PhD, Professor, Pathology
Long School of Medicine
Email: PhungL@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Molecular diagnostics, pathology AI.

Priscilla Prasath, PhD, Associate Professor, Counseling
College of Education and Human Development
Email: priscilla.prasath@utsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: College student mental health; positive psychological and strengths-based approaches to mental health promotion; factors that promote well-being, thriving, and flourishing; training and curriculum development. Additional areas include group dynamics and leadership development. Recently, my work has expanded to explore the intersection of artificial intelligence (AI) and social media with mental health practices, teaching, and counselor education—particularly how AI tools can support learning, clinical training, and well-being initiatives.

Jeff Prevost, PhD, Associate Professor, Computer Engineering
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Research Expertise and Methods: Quantum sensing techniques for advanced diagnostics.

Zhijun Qiu, PhD, Assistant Professor of Research, Medicine
Long School of Medicine
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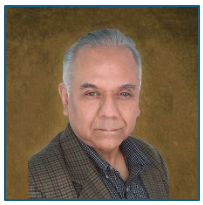
Technology & Innovation



Richard Rodriguez, Director for New Ventures
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Research Expertise and Methods: Behavioral analysis using LLMs, artificial intelligence, machine learning, data science/analysis.

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Microbiology, Immunology & Molecular Genetics
Long School of Medicine
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Research Expertise and Methods: Genomics and Multiomics, sequencing, GWAS, bioinformatics.

Bonita Sharma, PhD, Associate Professor, Social Work
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Research Expertise and Methods: Community-based, survey, qualitative, gender and environment issues, extreme weather and health impacts.

Yun Shi, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Family and Community Medicine
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Research Expertise and Methods: Primary care, community health, health literacy.

Technology & Innovation

Bilal Siddiqui, PhD, Assistant Professor of Instruction
Statistics and Data Science
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Research Expertise and Methods: I am an expert in computer vision, where I focus on image segmentation, classification, etc. These skills can be applied to medical imaging. Furthermore, I am a data scientist and am very interested in using data for optimal health. Another topic that I find interesting (but have no experience in) is endocrinology, specifically thyroid disease. My Ph.D. was in parameter efficient neural networks - that is how to make deep learning models (e.g. ChatGPT or image search) leaner and faster. The broad application of the work means I am fairly well versed on how to deploy even advanced LLMs on constrained resource budgets. I currently teach DS5003: Introduction to Data Science, DS5033: Machine Learning, and DS5043: Generative AI.

Jeong-Hyeon Sohn, MD, Professor, Ophthalmology
Long School of Medicine
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Research Expertise and Methods: Ophthalmology, Retina.

Nilam Soni, MD MS, Professor
Division of Pulmonary Diseases & Critical Care Medicine
Medicine Long School of Medicine
Email: sonin@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Development of point of care diagnostic tools including ultrasound and related technologies with artificial intelligence.

Azizeh Sowan, PhD, Professor, Nursing
School of Nursing
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Research Expertise and Methods: Informatics, mixed methods, log data, ICU.

Technology & Innovation

Sandeep Subramanian, PT, PhD, Associate Professor, Physical Therapy
School of Health Professions
Email: subramanias3@uthscsa.edu
Research Expertise and Methods: Motor control, Motor learning, Virtual Reality, Outcomes, neurorehabilitation, stroke, TBI, Kinematics.

Ke Yang, PhD, Assistant Professor, Computer Science
College of AI, Cyber and Computing
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Research Expertise and Methods: Expertise in Trustworthy AI, AI-driven data analysis, and Machine Learning.

Siyuan Zheng, PhD, Associate Professor, Population Health Sciences
Long School of Medicine
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Research Expertise and Methods: Bioinformatics, computational biology, cancer genomics, AI, pediatric cancer.

Open Neighborhood

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Open Neighborhood

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