

UT Southwestern / Children's Medical Center - Dallas Pediatric PL-1 House Staff, 2019-2020

This booklet is intended to help integrate our pediatric interns into the busy and bustling interdisciplinary teams that keep our hospital running.

The entries here may offer you starting points for worthwhile conversations and interactions. In addition to basic geographic and training background facts, some facets of what our interview process noticed and appreciated in individual intern applicants are listed. For each intern, these lists include some – but not all – of their past endeavors and passions. They mention early – but not exclusive or restrictive – areas of interest.

The thoughtful and personalized cultivation of new colleagues and their diverse talents is essential to our long term mission as an academic medical center and to our immediate levels of function.

The attending who pulled me aside years ago in a hallway to “welcome another Cubs fan to prerounding” started a profoundly meaningful relationship with a grin and a wink. Given my lack of interest in baseball (and especially the Cubs), this conversation rapidly morphed to discussions about our patient’s renal function, which may have been the intent all along. Regardless, the fact that I still recall this conversation so vividly proves its impact. Likewise, the nurse who kindly and expertly taught me how to plot vital trends on a bedside monitor at 2AM did more for me and my patients than I think she ever realized.

I hope you, too, are willing to take time to thoughtfully engage with our trainees. If so, I strongly suspect you can directly help and develop them, and our institution.

-Jeff McKinney

Sonia Allouch, M.D.



- Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, M.D.
- Medical Student Research Award, Weill Cornell Qatar
- Achievement Award, American Society of Hematology (ASH)
- Founding member, Qatar Medical Student Association, International Federation of Medical Student Associations (IFMSA)
- International Director, Standing Committee on Sexual and Reproductive Health, IFMSA
- Volunteer, Red Crescent Qatar (community outreach and refugee care)
- Class representative, Medical School Executive Council-Qatar
- Research: Cooperative suppression of MEIS2 mediates dexamethasone enhancement of lenalidomide killing in myeloma cells
- Arabic (native/functionally native) / French (fair)

Career Interests: Research, Hematology-Oncology

Hobbies: Travel, photography, biking, cooking her grandmother's recipes

Donovan Berens, M.D.



- McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, M.D.
- Texas A&M University, B.S. in Biomedical Sciences and Entomology
- Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Peer Mentor, McGovern Medical School MSII Buddy Program
- Student Representative, McGovern Curriculum Committee
- Microbiology Course Representative, McGovern
- Team Lead/Volunteer, Emergency Response for Hurricane Harvey
- Research: Collection and inoculation of local mosquitos with Dengue fever and Zika virus
- Spanish (good)

Career Interests: Academic Medicine, Physician-Educator

Hobbies: Fly-tying, fly-fishing, basketball, drawing/painting, Spanish

Alexis Boulter, M.D.



- University of Florida College of Medicine, M.D., Local and Global Health Equity Track
- University of Florida, B.S. in Biomedical Sciences
- AOA
- Chapter President, Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Vice Chair of Minority Issues Committee, AMA Medical Student Section
- Research Grant Recipient, Howard Hughes Institute
- Public Health Committee Leader/Student Director, UF College of Medicine Project Haiti
- Carlos Alvarez Program Review Panel Member, Florida Department of Health
- Research: Health and resilience outcomes of Syrian youth refugees; novel treatment pathways of psoriasis and other autoimmune conditions with TLR7 mechanisms
- American Sign Language (fair)

Career Interests: Internal Medicine-Pediatrics

Hobbies: Outdoor activities, hiking, paddling, cycling, acro-yoga, listening to podcasts, cooking and swapping new recipes

Chelsea Burroughs, M.D.



- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine, M.D.
- Baylor University, B.A. in Medical Humanities, Biology minor (Magna Cum Laude)
- Vice President and Member, AOA
- Best Community / Service Poster Award, AMSA 2018 National Convention
- Texas Tech Apprenticeship Program Recognition in Neonatology
- Treasurer and Fundraising Event Coordinator, AMSA
- Secretary/Public Health Fair Coordinator/Annual Cultural Banquet Coordinator, local SNMA chapter
- Research: Improving health self-efficacy at community health outreach events; neonatal birthweight outcomes in Native American populations
- Spanish (fair)

Career Interests: Neonatology, Pulmonology

Hobbies: World travel, hiking, reading, community service, community development

Elena Chen, M.D.



- Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine, M.D.
- Cornell University, B.A. in Computational Biology
- Texas A&M Dallas Campus Representative, Global Health Outreach
- Volunteer and Advocate, Sexual Assault Resource Center, College Station
- Crisis counselor, Samaritans suicide hotline and Crisis Text Line
- Best Innovator Project, Texas A&M Engineering Project Showcase
- Research: Pathophysiology of Legg-Calve-Perthes disease (with Dr. Harry Kim at TSRH); delivery room management of meconium stained newborns
- Chinese (good) / French (basic)

Career Interests: Neonatology, Research, Emergency Medicine, Critical Care

Hobbies: Baking, reading, soccer, backpacking, kayaking, camping, hiking, snowshoeing, ice climbing, playing violin, spending time with my two dogs

Kylie Cullinan, M.D.



- University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, M.D.
- Rice University, B.A. in Biochemistry and Cell Biology and English
- AOA
- Insurance/Advertising Coordinator, Pediatrics Immunization Fair
- Preventative Health Booth Coordinator, United to Serve
- President, Med-Peds Interest Group
- Senior Medical Staff, Camp Sweeney
- 7th Grade English Teacher, YES Prep Brays Oaks Public School
- Assistant Coach, Girls on the Run
- Volunteer, Beacon Homeless Shelter
- Research: Role of NT-proBNP in late-onset anthracycline-induced cardiotoxicity screening in adult survivors of pediatric cancer

Career Interests: Internal Medicine-Pediatrics

Hobbies: Running, basketball (playing and coaching), reading, outdoor activities

Katie Dolak, M.D.



- University of Texas Southwestern, M.D.
- Southern Methodist University, B.S. in Biological Sciences (Honors)
- AOA
- Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Phi Beta Kappa
- SMU President's Scholarship
- Student Leader, UTSW Christian Fellowship, with emphasis in youth ministry and mission work
- NICU Volunteer, Parkland Helping Augment Neonatal Development (HANDS) program
- Head Start Volunteer, SMU Mustang Heroes
- Spanish (good)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Crafting, knitting, playing the flute, viewing Oscar-nominated films and award-winning television programs

Alyna Garza, M.D.



- University of Texas Medical Branch School of Medicine, M.D.
- University of Texas-Pan American, B.S. in Biology
- Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Sigma Xi Scientific Research Honor Society
- Best Overall Poster, UTMB Medical Student Summer Research Program
- Community Events Organizer and Volunteer, Leadership Mission
- Volunteer, American Red Cross Hurricane Harvey relief
- Research: Acute effects of insulin on whole-body fuel metabolism and skeletal muscle bioenergetics in severely burned children
- Spanish (good)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Music (trained pianist), bay fishing / fishing tournaments, cycling

Rachel George, M.D.



- University of Alabama School of Medicine, M.D.
- Emory University, B.S. in Biology
- Community Engagement Award, University of Alabama
- Dobbs Society Member, Emory University
- Content Leader/8th Grade Science Teacher, Teach For America
- Peer Mentor, University of Alabama
- Clinical Skills TA, University of Alabama
- Biology TA, Emory University
- Volunteer, Children's of Alabama Pulmonary Unit
- Director of Operations, College Admissions Made Possible
- Research: Outcomes when using ultrasound guidance in treatment of skin infections

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Certified Zumba instructor, Barre, movies, music, dogs

Elisa Geraldino, M.D.



- Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE) School of Medicine, Santo Domingo, M.D. (Magna Cum Laude)
- Student Volunteer, Dengue virus education and prevention project in conjunction with Dominican Department of Public Health
- Visiting physician, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital, Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics
- Visiting physician, UT Southwestern and Children's, Department of Neurology
- Clinical Volunteer, Operation Walk Boston Brigham and Woman's Hospital
- Research: Incidence of Diabetes Mellitus type II in children and adolescents evaluated at Dominican National Diabetes Institute
- Spanish (native/functionally native)

Career Interests: Child Neurology

Hobbies: Ultimate frisbee, running, interior design

Bradley Graves, M.D.



- University of Kansas School of Medicine – Wichita, M.D.
- Southern Methodist University, B.S. Economics and Biological Sciences (Cum Laude)
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Treasurer, KU Medical Center International Outreach Program
- Research Assistant, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Globalization and Monetary Policy Institute
- Tutor, Economics, Calculus & Chemistry
- Trumpet Squad Leader, SMU Marching Band
- Research: Radiation therapy access among rural populations in Kansas
- Spanish (fair)

Career Interests: Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Critical Care

Hobbies: Rock climbing, kayaking, racquetball, ballroom dancing, yoga, karaoke, traveling, video games, a cappella singing

Carine Halaby, M.D.



- American University of Beirut, M.D.
- American University of Beirut, B.S. Biology
- Postdoctoral Associate, Pediatric Genetics, Duke Children's
- Penrose Award and Physics Award recipient, AUB
- Member, Standing Committee on Human Rights and Peace, Lebanese Medical Student's International Committee
- Registered Trainer, 2013 Health and Hygiene Project for Syrian Refugees
- Medical Assistant, Migrant Community Centre
- Organizer, Pompe Disease Conference, Duke Children's Medical Genetics
- Research: Liver disease progression and glucose monitoring in pediatric glycogen storage disease
- Arabic (native) / French (native) / Chinese (basic)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Music (advanced violin player and choir member), swimming, tennis, architecture and art enthusiast, travel, reading

Matthew Hibbs, M.D.



- Albany Medical College, M.D.
- University of Miami, B.S. in Neuroscience
- PFC William J. Walker Endowed Scholarship, Albany Medical College
- Vice President's Award for Service and Leadership, University of Miami
- Co-Chair, Albany ArtSpace
- Volunteer, Cooks for a Cause
- Co-Chair/Publicity/Site Leader, University of Miami Alternative Breaks
- Construction/Publicity, University of Miami Tunnel of Oppression social justice display
- Co-President, Albany Medical College Water Polo
- Research: Impact of expressive arts on professional development and physician burnout
- Spanish (basic)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Illustrator and graphic designer, game enthusiast, cooking and baking

Michael (Mike) Hook, M.D.



- University of Tennessee Health Science Center College of Medicine, M.D.
- Pennsylvania State University, B.S. in Biology, Theater and Psychology minor
- Outstanding Poster Award, Le Bonheur Pediatric Research Day
- NIH Medical Student Research Fellowship program studying genetic mapping and aging
- Step 1/Lecture Tutor, UTHSC
- Print Editor/Contributor, JANUS Journal of Narrative Medicine at UTHSC
- Research: Role of genetic variations in BTNL3 in vesicoureteral reflux; Tac2 and Coq7 in hippocampal networks; GABA-A receptor genetics

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Cooking, distance running, college football, playing drums

Elliott Huang, M.D., M.P.H.



- Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, M.D., M.P.H.
- Columbia University, B.A. in Neuroscience and Behavior
- Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation MD-MPH Scholarship
- Dean's Award for Outstanding Contribution
- Richard and Brook K. Rapaport Summer Music Performance Fellowship
- Co-Founder, CUMC Symphony Orchestra
- Residential Advisor, Columbia Office of Residential Programs
- Research: Community-based workshops to reducing violence; biases in visual perception
- Mandarin (advanced) / Spanish (fair)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Classical violinist, avid sports fan, follower of competition television shows

Hannah Justice, M.D.



- University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, M.D.
- Cedarville University, B.S in Chemistry
- Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Global Health Elective Rotator, Kijabe Hospital, Kenya
- Education Officer, Dallas Child's Advocacy Group
- Peer Mentor, UTSW Colleges
- Co-President, Healthy Living
- Domestic Violence Awareness Committee Chair, AMWA Student Chapter
- TA, Chemistry
- Research: *Pseudomonas* virulence mechanisms; medication impacts on obesity
- Spanish (fair)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Dancing (swing, country, salsa, Bollywood), baking, tent camping, running local trails with friends

Swetha Kotamraju, M.D.



- University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, M.D. with distinction in Quality Improvement and Patient Safety
- Rice University, B.S. in Biochemistry & Cell Biology, B.A. in History
- Global Health Travel Award, UTSW Office of Global Health
- President, Babymetrix Inc. (developing low-cost anthropomorphic measurement devices)
- Co-Founder/Events Organizer, UTSW Dallas Children's Advocacy Group
- UTSW Officer, Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- Officer, UTSW Global Health Interest Group
- Liaison, UTSW Medical Humanities Club
- Research: Improving nutritional counseling and knowledge of caregivers in Hyderabad, India
- Hindi (basic) / Telugu (fair)

Career Interests: Quality Improvement, Global Health, Gastroenterology

Hobbies: Indian classical dance, musical theater choreography, traveling

Kelly Lawson, M.D.

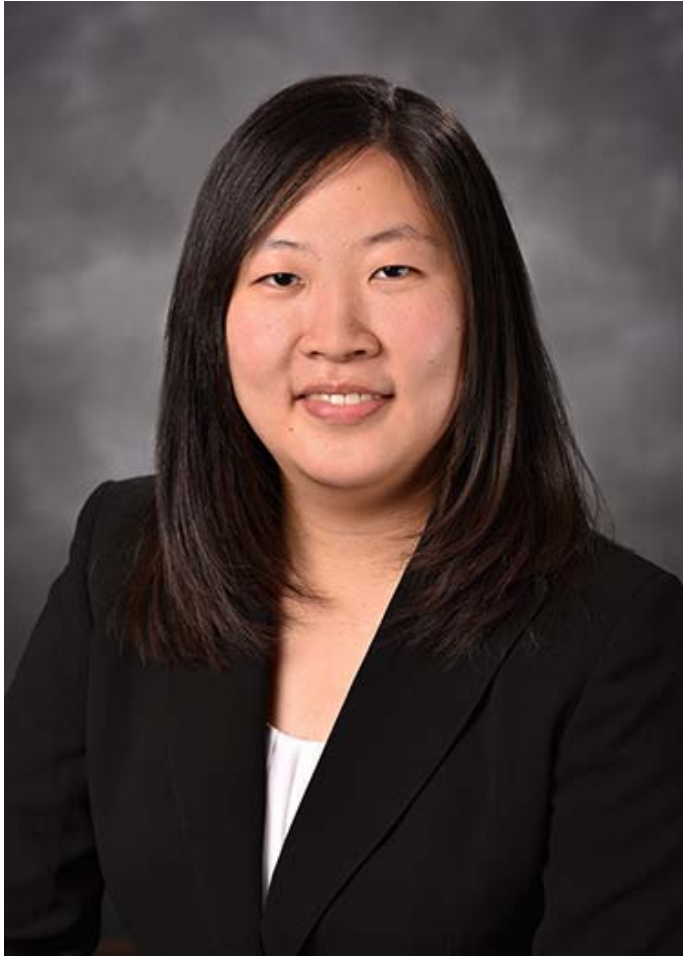


- University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, M.D. with distinction in Research
- University of Texas at Austin, B.S. in Human Biology
- AOA
- Gold Humanism Honor Society
- TA/Tutor, Systems Physiology
- MCAT Biology Instructor, Princeton Review
- Volunteer Companion, No One Dies Alone, Parkland Hospital
- Volunteer, Center of Hope shelter
- Research: Role of NPHS Gene in Mammalian Myogenesis and Rhabdomyosarcoma; expression and effects of Programmed Death Ligand-1 gene on childhood tumors
- Spanish (basic)

Career Interests: Primary Care

Hobbies: Acrobatic yoga, hiking, biking, traveling and collecting postcards, watercolor painting, pencil drawing, foosball, being outdoors, and spending time with friends and family

Gina Lee, M.D.



- University of Colorado School of Medicine, M.D.
- Colorado School of Mines, B.S. in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering
- Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society
- Programming Co-Developer, Discover Health bilingual health exhibit
- Summer Programming Assistant and Intern Supervisor, Area Health Education Center
- Student Volunteer, Warren Village clinic
- English Ministry Leader/Youth Group Teacher/Deaconess, Disciple Mission Church of Denver
- Regional Conference Committee Member, Society for Women Engineers
- Research: Efficacy of traveling health exhibits in libraries
- Korean (native)

Career Interests: Advocacy

Hobbies: Running, hiking, camping, origami, crafts, playing clarinet, watching movies and Korean TV shows

Nick Lee, M.D.



- Yale School of Medicine, M.D.
- University of Virginia, Biochemistry with High Distinction
- Young Oncologist Award, American Radium Society
- Creator/Leader, By-Stander Intervention Training, Title IX
- Executive Board Communications Officer, Medical Student Council
- Professional Student Member, Graduate School Title IX Advisory Board
- Co-Leader, Radiation Oncology & Cancer Student Interest Groups
- Co-Leader, Palliative Care Scholars
- Chair, Student Donations Committee, Hunger & Homelessness Auction
- Research: HPV positive oropharyngeal carcinoma pathology, recurrence and treatment

Career Interests: Internal Medicine-Pediatrics

Hobbies: Coffee home roasting and pour-over techniques, trying new recipes, reviewing restaurants on Yelp!, journaling, hiking, playing Settlers of Catan

Tewodros (Teddy) Mamo, M.D., Ph.D.



- Mayo Clinic School of Medicine, M.D., Ph.D.
- University of Waterloo, B.S. in Nanotechnology Engineering
- Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (F31, NIH/NCI)
- Trainee, NIH Musculoskeletal T-32 Training Grant
- Co-Chair of Fundraising Committee, American Physician Scientists Association
- President/Co-Founder, American Physician Scientist Association Local Chapter at Mayo Clinic
- MD/PhD Representative, Graduate Student Association
- Co-President, Global Health Journal Club
- Research: Radiosensitization of osteosarcoma and chondrosarcoma cells
- Amharic (Native)

Career Interests: Hematology-Oncology, Research, Global Health

Hobbies: Playing and watching soccer, swimming, kayaking

Claire Mauvais, M.D.



- University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, M.D.
- Rice University, B.A. in Cognitive Science and Linguistics
- AOA
- Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Event Director, UTSW United to Serve Community Health Fair
- Student Clinic Manager, Union Gospel Mission free clinics
- Board Member, UTSW Student-Run Free Clinic Committee
- MS4 Peer Mentor, UTSW Colleges
- Step 1/Pre-clinical Course Tutor
- Admission Tours Leader, UTSW
- Research: Role of Las1 protein complex in rRNA processing and ribosome assembly in both mammalian cells and budding yeast
- French (basic) / Spanish (good)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Hiking, cycling, camping, yoga, traveling, watching football and soccer

Mariya Mohammed, M.D.



- Wake Forest School of Medicine, M.D.
- Wofford College, B.A. in Spanish, B.S. in Biology (Summa Cum Laude)
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Vice President/Secretary, LMSA
- Co-Leader, Medical Spanish Curriculum Design Team
- Phlebotomy Training Organizer/Lab Co-Manager, Delivering Equal Access to Care
- Volunteer, Students United for Immigrant & Transitional Services clinic
- Student Interpreter Coordinator/ Volunteer, Shalom Project Clinic
- Member, Service Learning Scholars
- Executive Board Member, Share the Health Fair
- TA/Tutor, Biology
- Gujarati (good) / Spanish (good)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Reading, travel, yoga

Amisha Patel, M.D.



- Saint Louis University School of Medicine, M.D.
- Saint Louis University, B.S. in Biology
- First place in Investigator Initiated Research, Primary Care Research Symposium
- Co-Founder/Co-Lead, Primary Care Progress, SLU chapter
- Educator, SLU HIV/AIDS Task Force
- Co-Lead, HIV in Medicine elective
- Student Co-Lead, Pediatrics Interest Group
- Adolescent Coach, PEERS program for children with autism spectrum disorder
- Research: Evaluation of text messaging as an educational method to improve healthcare utilization
- Gujarati (fair)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Piano, baking, calligraphy/lettering

Vatsal (Vat) Patel, M.D.



- University of Virginia School of Medicine, M.D.
- University of Virginia, B.A. in Neuroscience
- UVA Jefferson Public Citizen Award
- UVA Center for Global Health Scholar Award
- EMR Developer, Centro Medico Cabarete
- STEMIsend Project Manager, University of Virginia Health System
- Student Representative, UVA Medical Education Committee
- Co-Leader, Pediatric Interest Group
- Admissions Committee Member, UVA
- Counselor/Co-Director, Camp Kesem
- Research: Understanding of discharge instructions for Spanish speaking communities; uses of artificial intelligence in pediatric GI diagnostic studies
- Gujarati (advanced) / Spanish (advanced)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Rock climbing, travel hacking, trekking, photography, golf

Jet Patterson, M.D.



- University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine, M.D.
- University of Arkansas, B.A. Psychology and Biology (Magna Cum Laude)
- Senior Class Representative, UAMS Honor Council
- Certified Instructor, “Stop the Bleed” Initiative, American College of Surgeons
- Vice President, Med-Peds Interest Group
- Director, Camp Neuro Little Rock
- Spanish Interpreter/Volunteer, 12th Street Health & Wellness Center
- Mentor, UAMS “Big Sis” Program
- Professional Photographer, Gareth Patterson Photography
- Research: Stress and coping mechanisms of first-year medical students during cadaveric dissection course; lateral masking reveals effects of invading activity of short term visual plasticity
- Spanish (fair)

Career Interests: Internal Medicine-Pediatrics

Hobbies: Travel, scuba, piano, photography, gardening, cooking/baking

Mariagrazia (Maria) Petrozzi, M.D.



- Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine, M.D.
- University of Houston, B.S. in Biology
- Baylor University, B.A. in Studio Art
- Volunteer, Agape Women's Free Clinic
- Service Chair, AMA, Texas A&M Chapter
- Co-Author, Prevention of Newborn Falls in Hospitals policy for AMA Medical Student Section
- Mentor, SNMA
- Art Teacher, Amaanah Refugee Services
- Chief Scribe/Training Coordinator, Cook Children's ED PhysAssist Scribes
- Research: Incidence of cardiac sarcoidosis in surgically advanced heart failure patients; endomyocardial biopsy data collection for rejection grade in heart transplant recipients
- Spanish (native)

Career Interests: Critical Care

Hobbies: Oil painting, figure drawing, trail running, yoga, rock climbing, learning about different cultures, volunteering with underserved populations

Aaron Pope, M.D.



- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine, M.D.
- University of Texas at Arlington, B.S. in Biology
- Graduate Assistant/Shelf Exam Tutor, TTUHSC
- Neurodiagnostic Lab Supervisor, Cook Children's Medical Center
- Registered Electroencephalographic Techologist
- Volunteer, Texas Two-Step CPR
- Research: Laser interstitial thermal therapy following failed resective epilepsy surgery; testing of supporting pillars used for venous protection in brain swelling during decompressive craniectomy

Career Interests: Child Neurology

Hobbies: Traveling, camping, brewing beer

Cristina Saez, M.D.



- Baylor College of Medicine, M.D., Medical Ethics Track
- Rice University, B.A. in Kinesiology (Cum Laude)
- Grant Winner, Rheumatology Research Foundation Medical & Graduate Student Preceptorship
- Project Team Member, Texas Children's Pediatric Rheumatology BRIDGE project
- Event Coordinator, Houston Sickle Cell Organization for Unified Transitioners (HSCOUT)
- Student Representative, Baylor Pediatric Student Association
- President, Baylor Catholic Medical Student Association
- Ethics Track Capstone: Creating framework for assent in medical decision-making among adolescents with chronic illnesses
- Spanish (advanced)

Career Interests: Medical Ethics, Rheumatology

Hobbies: Baking, baton twirling

Lydia Sandy, M.D.



- University of South Alabama College of Medicine, M.D.
- Wake Forest University, B.A. in Anthropology (Magna Cum Laude)
- NIH T32 Short Term Trainee Research Program Grant, University of South Alabama Center for Lung Biology
- Co-Chair, Liaison Committee on Medical Education Independent Student Analysis group
- Co-President, Pediatric Interest Group
- Executive Board Member, Arch Society at Wake Forest University
- Student Researcher, Wake Forest University Summer Program in Nepal
- Research: Lung repair mediated by nanoparticle delivery of oligonucleotides; Decision-making and uncertainty in Nepali mother's perception of their child's healthcare
- French (basic)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Cooking, baking, running, swimming, hiking, camping

Gunjan Singh, M.D.



- University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, M.D.
- University of Texas at Austin, B.S. in Biomedical Engineering (with honors)
- Global Health Research on Heart Disease, Medanta Hospital, New Delhi, India
- Chair, United to Serve Community Health Fair
- President, Infectious Disease Interest Group
- Council Member, UTSW Curriculum Feedback Committee
- Show Chair, UTSW Student Multicultural Show
- Volunteer, Dallas Child Advocacy Center
- Research: Syndesome therapeutics for enhancing diabetic wound healing; immune rejection in heart transplants
- Hindi (good) / Spanish (basic)

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Painting, charcoal portraits, long-distance running, bhangra dancing

Zachary (Zach) Stone, M.D.



- Baylor College of Medicine, M.D.
- Texas A&M University, B.S. in Biomedical Engineering (Summa Cum Laude)
- Coordinator, Baylor College of Medicine Charity Ball
- Founder/Director, Philip Woodson Memorial Tournament
- Teacher, Anatomy Buddies
- Resource Team Leader, Breakaway Ministries fundraiser for human trafficking charities
- First Place, Texas A&M Engineering Design Competition
- Research: Differences between operative and non-operative pediatric patients with adhesive small bowel obstruction

Career Interests: Critical Care, Cardiology

Hobbies: Soccer, weightlifting, archery

Isabella Strozzi, M.D.



- Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR) Faculdade de Medicina, M.D.
- Best Thesis Award, UFPR
- Primary Care Physician, Curitiba, Brazil
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Neuroanatomy and Medical Anatomy, UFPR
- Rotations: Massachusetts General (Child Neurology) and Johns Hopkins (Transverse Myelitis laboratory)
- Research: Retrospective review of cryptococcal meningitis; early versus late antiepileptic drug withdrawal for patients with epilepsy in remission (Cochrane Review)
- Book chapter: “Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders”
- Portuguese (native) / Spanish (basic) / French (basic)

Career Interests: Child Neurology

Hobbies: Pilates, yoga, functional training, jigsaw and crossword puzzles

Rachel Tonnis, M.D.



- University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, M.D., M.S. in Physiology
- University of Notre Dame, B.S. in Science Pre-Professional Studies, with minor in Anthropology
- Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Child and Adolescent Health Medical Student Scholar, UCCOM
- Medical Assistant Head Counselor, Camp Sweeney
- Co-Developer/Secretary, UCCOM Service-Learning Advisory Board
- Admissions Committee Member, UCCOM
- Service Chair, UCCOM Medical Student Association
- Learning Community Facilitator, M.S. in Physiology Program
- Research: Impact of institutional breastfeeding support for mothers of very low birth weight infants

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Yoga, dance, cooking

Marie Varnet, M.D.



- Southern Illinois University, M.D.
- Bradley University, B.S. in Psychology (with highest honors)
- Team Member, Student Hotspotting pilot program to aid high frequency Emergency Department patients
- Trauma Informed Care and Adverse Childhood Events formal training
- Special Friend/Mentor, Special Friends of the American Cancer Society
- Mentor, Medical Student Mentorship Program, SIU
- SCOPE Literary and Art Magazine of SIU, Art Editor
- Mental Health Associate, UnityPoint Methodist Hospital
- Coffeeshop manager prior to SIU

Career Interests: Neurodevelopmental Disabilities

Hobbies: Sketching, drawing, painting, hiking, reading, coffee, training dogs, playing with and caring for her son

Annette (Nette) Ville, M.D.



- University of Florida College of Medicine, M.D., Local and Global Health Equity Track
- University of Florida, B.S. in Biochemistry (Magna Cum Laude)
- Gold Humanism Honor Society
- International Medical Service Award, UFCOM
- Leader, UFCOM Medical Mission Trip to Dominican Republic
- NASPGHAN Mentored Medical Student Summer Research Program, UCSF
- Treasurer, Pediatric Interest Group
- Volunteer, Equal Access Clinic Network
- Research: Early antibiotic exposure and risk of childhood obesity in Latinos; effect of diary participation on well-being of PICU patients
- Spanish (advanced)

Career Interests: Gastroenterology, Primary Care

Hobbies: Yoga, biking, board games, cooking and baking, nutrition and integrative medicine

Justin Williams, M.D.



- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine, M.D.
- University of Texas at Austin, B.S. in Neurobiology
- Member, AMA
- Student Researcher, TTUHSC Summer Research Program
- Student Advocate, AMA Student Advocacy Week in Washington D.C.
- Mentor, Mentors for Medicine
- Anatomy Tutor, TTUHSC
- Treasurer, Anesthesiology Club
- Technician, Tanglewood Vision Center optometry clinic
- Research: Differential expression of microRNAs in skeletal muscles; reasons for vaccine hesitancy

Career Interests: NICU, PICU, Cardiology

Hobbies: Running, playing guitar, watching sports, cooking with his wife

Cicero Willis, M.D.



- Tecnológico de Monterrey Escuela de Medicina, M.D.
- Tecnológico de Monterrey - Escuela de Biotecnología y Salud, M.Sc. in Biotechnology, with honors
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, UT Southwestern McDermott Center
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Michigan Center for Arrhythmia Research
- American Heart Association Postdoctoral Fellowship Grant recipient
- Ad-Hoc Peer Reviewer, Journal of the American Heart Association
- Social Service Research Fellow, Tecnológico de Monterrey
- Public Health Officer/Clinician, Tecnológico de Monterrey Influenza H1N1 Disease Containment Team
- Research: Inherited cardiac rhythm disorders, genetics of familial pulmonary fibrosis
- Spanish (native)

Career Interests: Physician Scientist Track, Cardiology, Respiratory Medicine

Hobbies: Spending time with my wife and two young boys, playing soccer and golf, outdoor cooking, Michigan football, board games

Lori Xu, M.D.



- University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, M.D.
- Washington University in St. Louis, B.A. in Biology, with minor in Public Health
- Instructor, UTSW Families in Training for Health
- Cerebral Palsy Sports Rehabilitation Volunteer/Demo Days Coordinator, Synapse Neuroscience Club, WashU
- Emergency room scribe, ScribeAmerica
- Treasurer/Member, WashU Club Tennis
- Research: Response to treatment in pediatric ocular myasthenia gravis; neurocognitive impairments for patients with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
- Chinese (good)

Career Interests: Child Neurology

Hobbies: Tennis, running, hip-hop dance, violin, piano, rock climbing, weight-lifting, music blogging, traveling