PEDIATRICIAN-SCIENTIST PROGRAM
“Our goal is to deconvolute your pathway to becoming an independent and successful pediatrician-scientist.”
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To provide excellent pediatric clinical training in the context of a pathway to scientific independence through intensive mentoring, guidance, and educational programming and a roadmap to preparedness. The program strives to train future academic pediatricians to provide superb care to children, engage in meaningful innovation through basic or clinical research, and mentor and train the next generation of pediatrician-scientists.
Baylor College of Medicine is proud to offer a new research track for qualified candidates that have been approved by the American Board of Pediatrics. The Pediatrician-Scientist Program (PSP) is an ideal career choice for MD or MD/MD-PhD graduates who are considering a career as a principal investigator or a pediatrician-scientist. As the largest children’s hospital and department of pediatrics in the United States, there is a strong commitment and priority to providing expert clinical training and educational opportunities in the context of formal research progression towards becoming an independent investigator.

**OVERVIEW**

PSP residents will commit to the ABP-Integrated Research Pathway (ABP-IRP), which is a 3-year, residency-training program that will link to the categorical residency program to fulfill the ABP requirements. The program is designed to create a clear pipeline from residency to a junior faculty appointment by offering a myriad of educational experiences, research opportunities, and career development guidance. PSP residents will participate in the following components to promote their development as clinician-scientists: Academic Scholarship, Academic Enrichment Activities, and Mentoring. These components will be specific to each year in the program.

**STRUCTURE**
The ABP-IRP track allows pediatric residents the opportunity to complete 11 months of research starting in the PL-2 year and involving most of the PL-3 year while also completing 22 months of core clinical pediatric residency. All PSP residents will fulfill all pediatric categorical residency program requirements.

Upon acceptance into the program, candidates are required to commit to this pathway within their intern year.

The Residency Program Director and PSP leadership will closely monitor fulfillment of both the pediatric categorical and PSP requirements. The Resident’s Individualized Advisory Committee (RIAC) will also meet regularly to assess the resident’s progress through the ABP-IRP pathway. The RIAC will consist of the Residency Educational Mentor, Primary Research Mentor, Clinical Case Mentor, Residency Program Director, PSP Associate Program Director, and other relevant faculty.
**OBJECTIVES**

**ENGAGE**

talented MD or MD/PhD graduates committed to careers in academic medicine and the field of pediatrics

**PROVIDE**

extensive road mapping and customized experiences to PSP residents to allow for an unprecedented dual training in clinical and research efforts

**CREATE**

a multifaceted, long-term mentoring structure to support trainees during their transition from residency to fellowship and, ultimately, junior faculty
“The amount of support that we get as pediatrician-scientists in training was clear to me from the beginning, with every level of the program and administration invested in supporting our research and clinical education.”

– Xavier Rios Villanueva, MD, PHD

I. COMPREHENSIVE MENTORING PROGRAM

Mentorship in PSP entails the assignment of a Residency Educational Mentor, Primary Research Mentor, and a Resident Individualized Advisory Committee throughout the duration of the residency training.

RESIDENCY EDUCATIONAL MENTOR. The Residency Educational Mentor (REM) is a faculty member committed to a substantive and long-lived relationship with the resident, who will serve as a role model for navigating and balancing a career as both a scientist and a pediatrician. To this end, the relationship between the PSP resident and the residency educational mentor includes formal monthly meetings, bi-annual meetings after completion of the PSP and can assist with career advising and tracking of graduate activities. This is a long-lived mentorship that continues throughout fellowship and into junior faculty years to foster long-standing collaborations and professional collegiality.
**PRIMARY RESEARCH MENTOR.** Selected by the PSP resident, research during the protected research blocks will be conducted in the laboratory of the Primary Research Mentor (PRM). PRMs are to be chosen from the targeted area of clinical and research interest that most closely aligns with that of the PSP resident. The PRM can hold a PhD, MD, or MD/PhD degree. As the PSP resident transitions to fellowship and a career as a pediatrician-scientist, the PRM can serve as a long-standing mentor and collaborator in the field.

**CLINICAL CASE MENTOR.** To provide guidance, mentorship, and expert advice in the area of clinical interest for completing the clinical case report. Each PSP resident will be assigned a Clinical Case Mentor (CCM).

**Resident Individualized Advisory Committee Meetings**
RIAC meetings will serve as a forum to formally discuss the progress of each PSP resident. Members of the RIAC include the REM, PRM, CCM, and PSP leadership plus any relevant research collaborators. The purpose of the RIAC meeting is to provide a supportive and constructive environment to discuss individual progress in meeting both categorical and PSP program milestones and goals. They will be held biannually throughout the entire PSP program.

**II. PARALLEL EDUCATION PROGRAM**
The parallel education program is focused upon providing the necessary knowledge and perspective to flow through the academic pipeline, develop an investigative program, and achieve success in a K-series career development NIH application. Key components of the PSP parallel educational program will include the following:

- **Full participation** in the categorical residency educational program to fulfill ABP-IRP requirements.
- **Alternative Didactic Noon Conference.** These sessions focus on academic and professional development.
- **Pediatrician-Scientist Forum.** This forum is required for all residents and will be held monthly to feature the career narrative and science of a pediatrician-scientist.
- **Orientation retreat.** Held annually, this specific retreat is for all PSP residents and reviews program structure and encourages peer collegiality and interaction.
III. PILOT GRANTS PROGRAM

The Pilot Grants Program helps to promote continual planning and development of allocated research time and effort along with providing strongly mentored exercises in grant writing.

All PSP residents are strongly encouraged to apply for and obtain a pilot grant through the PGP, which will be used in support of their research. Applications for the PGP are evaluated in a mock study section held within the PSP, which will also provide an additional experience of value in understanding what is important in constructing a grant application and gaining insight into the review process. Finally, the ability to receive an award and manage a research budget is an integral part of succeeding in research and is something that PSP program leadership will oversee and provide mentoring.
IV. SCHOLARLY PUBLICATION GOALS

Building the academic CV in preparation for competitiveness for K-series funding is a necessary priority of the PSP. This will include a rational publication stream targeted at justifying the candidate as a developing academic. The scholarly expectations are aligned to promote engagement in the proposed area of research, but also for true engagement in the pediatrician-scientist portion of training and are specific to each year of the program.

YEAR 1

PSP residents are supported in publishing a case report in a clinical area connected to their targeted research area in order to align their development as a pediatrician-scientist in a specialized clinical topic. This represents valuable exposure to clinical science and clinical publishing and the insight derived from that experience will enhance the residents ability to truly academically integrate clinical medicine and investigation.

YEAR 2

PSP residents are supported in generating and submitting a scholarly review and a grant through the internal PSP pilot grants program in the area of research related to the proposed topic of research that begins in block 6 of PL-2.

YEAR 3

PSP residents are supported in the publication of an abstract, a primary research article of original resident research, for presentation at a national meeting and broader scientific publication as appropriate. PSP residents are also encouraged to submit the candidate section of a K-award, which supports the building of the K-award application.
V. PROGRAM TIMELINE

PL-1 – PL-3

In PGY-1 and PGY-2 years, PSP residents experience a truncated clinic rotation schedule, which will allow for a full year of research to be conducted—in part during PGY-2, but predominantly in PGY-3. Careful road mapping occurs before the beginning of PGY-1 and throughout the program to allow for optimized scheduling and to ensure that all applicable training is completed before each trainee enters into a subspecialty fellowship program.

Subspecialty

As PSP residents advance to fellowship, fellows may potentially be eligible for full or partial salary support through NIH-sponsored T-32 grant opportunities within Baylor College of Medicine and Texas Children’s Hospital. During fellowship, independent research projects that have been established during residency can be strengthened and expanded to support continued grant submissions and research career development. There are a number of departmental and institutional grant award opportunities that PSP fellows will be quite competitive for after completing research and educational program milestones built into the program.

The Department of Pediatrics Fellowship Program is engaged in the PSP and is collaborating in creating PSP pathways to independence.
# PROGRAM TIMELINE

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<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>PRE-PL-1</th>
<th>PL-1</th>
<th>RESIDENCY</th>
<th>PL-2</th>
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<td>Residency Education Mentor (REM) Pairing</td>
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<td>PSP Peer Mentor Program Pairing (PMP)</td>
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<td>Pediatric-Scientist Forum Seminar (Monthly)</td>
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<td>Formalizing RIAC Committee Members with PSP Leadership</td>
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<td>Bi-annual RIAC Progress Meetings</td>
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| Research | | | | | Clinical/Basic Investigative Research | Sep-Oct.**
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| **SCHOLARSHIP** | | | | | | |
| Grants | | | | | | |
| PGP: Internal Grant: Submission of Pilot Grant Program (PGP) Applications | | | | | Jan. | |
| | | | | | | |
| PGP: Mock Study Section-Pilot Grant Review | | | | | Jan. | |
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| PGP: Study Section Decision Announcement | | | | | Jan. | |
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| K Award: Submission of Candidate Section of NIH K Award in a Mock Study Section | | | | | Mar. | |
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| K Award: Review and Feedback of NIH K Candidate Section | | | | | Mar. | |
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| K Award: NIH K Award Grant Submission | | | | | Spr.-Sum. | |
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| Publication Goals | | | | | | |
| Clinical Case Report | | | | | May | |
| Scholarly Review Article | | | | Jun. | |
| Primary Research Article | | | | May | |
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| Scientific Conference Program (SCP) | | | | | | |
| Specialty Society or Pediatric National Meeting Identification | | | | | Jul. | |
| National Meeting Abstract | | | | Dec. | |
| National Meeting Attendance | | | | | Spr.-Sum. | |

**FOOTNOTES**

* Assignments will be communicated before start of rotation pairing a PSP resident with a research-oriented BCM medical student
** Laboratory research will occur during Block 6 of PL-2 and for 10 continuous blocks in PL-3 year.
GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024

AUDRA INESS, MD, PHD

Research Interests: My PhD degree is in Clinical and Translational Research but my dissertation work focused on cancer genetics. Given my interests in Pediatric Emergency Medicine or Critical Care Medicine, I plan to integrate elements of my prior broad experiences, including clinical trial design and reductionist approaches, with machine learning to address clinical problems within the emergency department or critical care settings. I look forward to learning more ways of asking and answering questions.

How does the PSP support your career development? As a pediatrician scientist trainee pursuing a non-traditional clinical path, I am grateful for the leadership who are invested in me achieving my goals. BCM is the place where “Texas-sized” dreams are welcomed and the outstanding personalized mentoring provided here is the key to success.

Undergraduate Institution: Smittcamp Family Honors College at California State University, Fresno, Fresno, CA
Graduate Institution: Virginia Commonwealth University Center for Clinical and Translational Research, Richmond, VA
Medical School Institution: Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine, Richmond, VA
Current Year In PSTDP: PL-1
E-mail: audrainess@bcm.edu
Hometown: Fresno, CA
Fellowship Interest: Pediatric Emergency Medicine, Critical Care Medicine

JIMMY CHANG, MD, PHD

Research Interests: Applying metabolic analysis to dissect disease mechanism.

How does the PSP support your career development? I got paired up with excellent mentor, who helped connect me to faculties working on different aspects of my future interests. Additionally, he is also instrumental in talking with me through my career plans and give great suggestions on how to strategize each step.

Undergraduate Institution: Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis MO
Graduate Institution: Northwestern University, Chicago, IL
Medical School Institution: Northwestern University, Chicago, IL
Current Year In PSP: PL-1
E-mail: jimmy.h.chang@bcm.edu
Hometown: Taipei City, Taiwan
Fellowship Interest: Genetics
MARIMAR DE LA CRUZ BONILLA, MD, PHD

Research Interest: I plan to specialize in hematology-oncology and am interested in oncology research. As of now I have not identified what I’ll end up working on long term however I plan to start working with CAR T-cell therapies for my PSP project.

How does the PSP support your career development? Having protected time to think and work on what will eventually become our PSP project is truly one of the best parts of my training. Additionally having access to mentors that guided me in finding a lab to join was pivotal in my development as a pediatrician scientist.

Undergraduate Institution: University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
Graduate Institution: UT MD anderson UT Health Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Houston, Texas
Medical School Institution: University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine, San Juan, Puerto Rico
Current Year In PSTDP: PL-2
E-mail: marimar.delacruzbonilla@bcm.edu
Hometown: Arecibo, PR
Fellowship Interest: Hematology/Oncology

IAN FRANCIS, MD, PHD

Research Interest: I am fascinated by the interplay of the human immune system and bacterial infections, particularly those which cause invasive critical illnesses. I am currently exploring the molecular determinants of increased virulence in a specific sequence type of Group B Streptococcus. I hope that through a better understanding of these pathogens and their interaction with our defences, more effective rational therapies can be developed to reduce morbidity and mortality in our pediatric ICUs.

How does the PSP support your career development? PSP is a tight community of pediatrician-scientists that provides invaluable guidance and support as I work to mature as both a clinician and researcher. Through both formal and informal avenues, PSP has helped me make the necessary connections to develop my scientific project during residency and create relationships that will aid in my future career.

Undergraduate Institution: University of Denver, Denver, Colorado
Graduate Institution: Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts
Medical School Institution: Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts
Current Year In PSTDP: PL-2
E-mail: Ian.Francis@bcm.edu
Hometown: Denver, CO
Fellowship Interest: Pediatric Critical Care Medicine
NATALIE GUERRERO, MD, PHD

Research Interests: I am interested in research focused on health disparities that impact vulnerable populations, including economically-disadvantaged, racial/ethnic minority, and immigrant populations and poverty research with implications for reducing disparities.

How does the PSP support your career development? Connecting with my residency education mentor prior to starting residency, and now meeting with him monthly, has encouraged me to work on identifying a primary research mentor very early on in residency. With the structure of the program, I am also taking steps to develop a case report and will have dedicated time later this year to prepare it for publication. I look forward to participating in the pilot grants program and to having dedicated research time during PL-3 year.

Undergraduate Institution: Pomona College
Graduate Institution: University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Medical School Institution: University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health
Current Year in PSTDP: PL-3
E-mail: Natalie.Guerrero@bcm.edu
Hometown: Chicago, IL
Fellowship Interest: Adolescent Medicine, Academic General Pediatrics
YIKE JIANG, MD, PHD

Research Interests: I’m interested in the interaction of pathogen and host, especially how it changes immunological factors that contribute to inflammatory diseases.

How does the PSP support your career development? The Pediatrician-Scientist Program provides a unique opportunity to continue in-depth post-doctoral level research during residency. It provides protected blocks dedicated to writing case reports and grants and performing basic lab research. It also affords financial support and proactive mentorship, promoting experiential training in navigating the competitive landscape of starting a research career as a pediatric-scientist.

Undergraduate Institution: University of Maryland, College Park
Graduate Institution: Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Medical School Institution: Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Current Year In PSP: PL-3
E-mail: Yikej@bcm.edu
Hometown: Beijing, China; Nepean, Ontario, Canada; Acton, MA
Fellowship Interest: Rheumatology, Allergy/Immunology

PRASANNA RAMACHANDRAN, MD, PHD

Research Interest: The recent explosion of genomic information has uncovered a vast world of previously unknown genetic mutations in patients with complex, undiagnosed diseases. The Model Organisms Screening Center (MOSC) of The Undiagnosed Diseases Network, headquartered at Baylor College of Medicine, marries the clinical genetic expertise of Texas Children’s Hospital with outstanding basic research at BCM. Tapping into my prior research experience using Drosophila and C. elegans, I seek to work with the MOSC to investigate whether rare variants identified in the genomes of UDN participants may contribute to disease pathogenesis. This bench-to-bedside enterprise ideally complements my dual training and aspirations in clinical medicine and basic research.

Undergraduate Institution: Fairleigh Dickinson University
Graduate Institution: Washington University in St. Louis, Baylor College of Medicine
Medical School Institution: Baylor College of Medicine
Current Year In PSTDP: PL-3
E-mail: pvramach@bcm.edu
Hometown: Chennai, India
Fellowship Interest: Endocrinology, Gastroenterology
“The PSP has been a great community of support and inspiration. Not only do we have the opportunity to meet and interact with other resident physician scientists in our program, but they also promote interactions with senior pediatrician scientists among Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children’s Hospital and the Texas Medical Center.”

– Arianexys Aquino López, MD, PhD

Arianexys Aquino López, MD, PHD
Javier Cabrera-Perez, MD, PHD
ARIANEXYS AQUINO LÓPEZ, MD, PHD

Research Interests: Aligned with my fellowship interest, I would like to continue my research in the field of solid tumor immunotherapy. Interests include investigating approaches to potentiate anti-tumor effects of immune therapies, including cell therapies and antibody therapies, against oncologic malignancies. I am also interested in studying the impact of tumor microenvironment in immune suppression in order to develop approaches to overcome cancer immune evasion.

How does the PSP support your career development?
The PSP has been a great community of support and inspiration for me. Not only we get to meet and interact with other resident physician scientists in our program, but they also promote interactions with senior pediatrician scientists among Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Children's Hospital and the Texas Medical Center. This serves as a wonderful platform for us to network with other professionals that have chosen a similar career path.

Undergraduate Institution: University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus
Graduate Institution: The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center UTHealth Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
Medical School Institution: MD/PhD - University of Puerto Rico School of Medicine
E-mail: Arianexl@bcm.edu
Hometown: Lares, Puerto Rico
Fellowship Interest: Hematology- Oncology

JAVIER CABRERA-PEREZ, MD, PHD

Research Interest: Immune Dysregulation syndromes, Sepsis, Monogenic causes of inflammatory diseases in children.

How does the PSP support your career development?
The program provides a two-week block for writing a case report, while simultaneously providing lectures regarding clinical case reporting. In addition, afternoon/evening events provide a great occasion to meet pediatrician-scientists in the community, as well as fellowship directors and attending physicians in subspecialties of interest.

Undergraduate Institution: Columbia University
Graduate Institution: University of Minnesota
Medical School Institution: University of Minnesota
E-mail: cabrerap@bcm.edu
Hometown: Ciego de Ávila, Cuba; Minneapolis, Minnesota
Fellowship Interest: Allergy and Immunology
“The program provides excellent mentors, guidance, and support at every phase of residency, so you can spend your energy actually working on your ideas and advancing your research interests.”

– Stella Hartono MD, PhD
PATRICK CONNELL, MD, PHD

**Research Interests:** I am interested in heart failure, specifically how genetic factors or accumulated damage affect the function of heart cells in vitro and in vivo and using this knowledge to develop techniques (devices, drugs, gene therapies) to help improve the function of failing hearts and cardiac cells.

**How does the PSP support your career development?**
The PSP provides me the resources and structure necessary to maximize my potential as a pediatrician-scientist. The PSP provides mentorship in the form of peers, junior faculty, and senior faculty both inside and outside of my field of interest and establishes a structure with associated protected that starts with a case report, advances to include a review paper, an internal grant submission complete with a mock study section to refine and improve my research aims, and protected research time with financial support all working towards a strong NIH K application as I continue my path towards fellowship. I cannot envision a program that provides more support for its trainees’ success.

**Undergraduate Institution:** Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

**Medical School Institution:** Baylor College of Medicine, Rice University (combined program) MD, PhD

**E-mail:** psconnel@bcm.edu

**Hometown:** Somers, CT

**Fellowship Interest:** Cardiology

**Academic Role:** Pediatric Cardiology, Texas Children’s Hospital

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STELLA HARTONO, MD, PHD

**Research Interests:** Primary immunodeficiency: a) genetic defects that contribute to development of autoimmunity in CVID patients, b) gene therapy for primary immunodeficiency

**What has your experience been thus far?** So far, I have thoroughly enjoyed being an intern in this program. You get to see very diverse disease presentations, from the most common diseases to the rare syndrome you only read in textbooks. The faculty love to teach and are very encouraging!

**Undergraduate Institution:** California State Polytechnic Institute, Pomona, CA

**Medical School Institution:** Mayo Clinic School of Medicine

**E-mail:** stella.hartono@bcm.edu

**Hometown:** Walnut, CA

**Fellowship Interest:** Allergy and Immunology

**Academic Role:** Clinical Fellow, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
NAOMI TJADEN, MD, PHD

**Research Interests:** I am interested in genetic, iatrogenic and environmental etiologies responsible for motility disorders with a special interest in understanding the development of the enteric nervous system in the greater context of the gut-brain axis.

**Why did you choose the BCM PSP?** I wanted to be part of a large residency program that had a strong track record of training approachable, capable, and successful pediatrician-scientists in both the clinical and research realms, particularly in the field of gastroenterology and motility. I also knew I wanted to be in a program that had a specific pediatrician-scientist track that offered protected research experiences and guaranteed laboratory time.

**Undergraduate Institution:** Boston University, Boston, MA  
**Medical School Institution:** MD/PhD - University of Kansas Medical Center. (PhD - KUMC, Stowers Institute for Medical Research)  
**E-mail:** Tjaden@bcm.edu  
**Hometown:** Mansfield, TX  
**Fellowship Interest:** Gastroenterology  
**Academic Role:** Gastroenterology Fellow, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
“Because Houston is such a diverse city with a large population, we have the opportunity to learn from and treat patients with rare diseases. As a pediatrician-scientist, taking care of patients with rare diseases presents a unique opportunity for translation of basic science and clinical medicine.”

– Emily Heikamp, MD, MSc, PHD

Program Alumni

Class of 2019

Alona Birjiniuk, MD, PhD
Undergraduate Institution: MIT, Cambridge, MA
Medical School Institution: Harvard/MIT MD-PhD program
MD: Harvard Medical School, PhD – MIT
Hometown: Boston, MA
Fellowship Program: Pediatric Cardiology, Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago

Danielle Callaway, MD, PhD
Undergraduate Institution: The University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, TX
Medical School Institution: MD/PhD: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Hometown: San Antonio, TX
Fellowship Program: Pediatric Neonatology, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

Roman Deniskin, MSC, MSc, MD, PHD
Undergraduate Institution: University of California - Los Angeles (UCLA) Los Angeles, CA; M.S. – University of California - Los Angeles
Medical School Institution: MD/PhD – Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Hometown: Los Angeles, CA
Fellowship Program: Pediatric Allergy & Immunology, Texas Children’s Hospital
Academic Role: Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Kentucky Children’s Hospital
CLASS OF 2018

JOSEPH ALGE, MD, MS, PHD
Undergraduate Institution: Wofford College
Graduate Institution: Medical University of South Carolina
Medical School Institution: Medical University of South Carolina
Hometown: Charleston, SC
Fellowship Program: Pediatric Nephrology, Texas Children’s Hospital
Academic Role: Assistant Professor, Nephrology Division, Baylor College of Medicine

EMILY HEIKAMP, MD, MSC, PHD
Undergraduate Institution: Duke University, Durham NC
Graduate Institutions: MSc - University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom
PHD - Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Medical School Institution: Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore MD
Hometown: New Orleans, LA
Fellowship Program: Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Boston Children’s Hospital
Academic Role: Instructor, Hematology-Oncology and Stem Cell Transplantation, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

NICOLE RAMSEY, MD, PHD
Undergraduate Institution: Howard University
Graduate Institution: Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences
Medical School Institution: Weill Cornell Medical College
Hometown: Brooklyn, NY
Fellowship Program: Pediatric Allergy/Immunology, The Mount Sinai Hospital
Academic Role: Instructor, Allergy & Immunology Division, Ichan School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

XAVIER VILLANUEVA RIOS, MD, PHD
Undergraduate Institution: University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
Medical School Institution: Harvard University
Graduate Institution: Harvard Medical School
Hometown: San Sebastian, Puerto Rico
Fellowship Program: Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Texas Children’s Hospital
Academic Role: Instructor, Hematology-Oncology Division, Baylor College of Medicine
"The leadership believes in the potential of each one of us and will do everything they can to support our careers."

– Nicole Ramsey, MD, PHD

What Can the PSP Offer You?

Tailored IRP
Institutional Commitment
Protected Research Time
Unprecedented Opportunity
STRUCTURED

Integrated Research Pathway

Layered mentorship
Extensive professional development
We want you to join

THE RICH LEGACY OF PEDIATRICIAN-SCIENTISTS

at Baylor College of Medicine
PROTECTED

Research Time

Guaranteed for ALL PSP residents
Flexible call schedule during research months
Supplemental research stipend
UNPRECEDENTED Clinical Training

Texas Children’s Hospital
Largest department of pediatrics in the world
Support of research and career development from Mentorship in all areas of Pediatrics
ACADEMIC GENERAL
PEDIATRICS CHILD HEALTH
POLICY & ADVOCACY

JEAN LECLERC RAPHAEL, MD, MPH
Founding Director, Center for Child Health Policy and Advocacy
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Chairman
Department of Molecular and Human Genetics
Robert and Janice McNair Endowed Chair
Professor
Program in Integrative Molecular and Biomedical Sciences,
Developmental Biology, Translational Biology & Molecular Medicine
Director, Center for Skeletal Medicine and Biology
Director, Medical Students Research Track
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Chief, Section of Global and Immigrant Health
Director, Global Tuberculosis Program
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Baylor College of Medicine and
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HUDA Y. ZOGHBI, MD
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Texas Children’s Hospital
Ralph D. Feigin, M.D., Endowed Chair
Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute
Member, Institute of Medicine and National Academy of Sciences
Professor
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Program in Integrative Molecular and Biomedical Sciences, Program in
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GENETICS
GLOBAL & IMMIGRANT HEALTH
HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY

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Associate Professor
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Texas Children’s Hospital
McNair Scholar
McNair Medical Institute at The Robert and Janice McNair Foundation
Associate Program Director, Basic Neuroscience Pathway
Department of Pediatrics
Child Neurology Residency Training Program
Awardee: National Institutes of Health Director’s Early Independence Award from the High-Risk, High-Reward Research program
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Health Policy Scholar
Baylor College of Medicine
Texas Children’s Hospital Endowed Chair of Tropical Pediatrics
Co-Director, Texas Children’s Hospital Center for Vaccine Development
University Professor
Department of Biology, Baylor University

Faculty Fellow, Hagler Institute for Advanced Study
Senior Fellow, Scowcroft Institute of International Affairs
Texas A&M University

Baker Institute Fellow in Disease & Poverty and Adjunct Professor of Bioengineering, Rice University
Adjunct Professor, The University of Texas, School of Public Health

Founding Editor-in-Chief, PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases
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Pediatrician-Scientist Program

Donald Williams Parsons, MD, PHD

Audrea Burns, PHD
DONALD WILLIAM PARSONS, MD, PHD
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AUDREA BURNS, PHD
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Co-Director, Faculty College Health Professions Education Certificate Program
Scholar, Center for Research, Innovation, and Scholarship in Medical Education
Texas Children’s Hospital

Associate Professor of Pediatrics
Ambassador, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Inaugural Faculty, Department of Education, Innovation, and Technology
Baylor College of Medicine
audreab@bcm.edu
Our IRP: THE EXPERIENCE
PL-1 rotations can occur in any order during the PL-1 year, with the exception of the PSTPD/Harris Health outpt block, which is in block 5 for all PSP residents.

In the second year, the PL-2 research block will always be in block 6. All clinical rotations can occur in any order within the PL-2 year.

In the third year, research will occur in ten continuous blocks. Residents will be paired to experience pediatric hospital medicine which will occur in block 1 or block 12 and the capstone rotation will always occur in block 13.

“The PSP provides specific objectives for trainees to accomplish during each year of the program, which serves as a blueprint for progression through the critical stages of development from resident, to fellow, to K-awardee.”

– Joseph Alge, MD, MS, PHD
### Inpatient Rotation
- Outpatient Rotation
- Subspecialty Rotation (includes inpatient and outpatient experience)
- ICU
- EC
- NICU
- Other required

---

#### PL-1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*PHM - i</td>
<td>*PHM - i</td>
<td>*PHM - i</td>
<td>*Hematology/Oncology - i</td>
<td>*PSP/HH outpt or TCH EC</td>
<td>**TCH EC +/- HH Outpt</td>
<td>*BT NICU/ICN - i</td>
<td>Newborn</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>PCU</td>
<td>Harris Health Outpt - i</td>
<td>Subspecialty - i</td>
<td>Pedi Skills</td>
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#### PL-2

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*PICU</td>
<td>*TCH PFW</td>
<td>S*Subspecialty - u</td>
<td>*Liver/GI or Core</td>
<td>Cardiology</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Adolescent</td>
<td>Development</td>
<td>S*Harris Health Outpt - u</td>
<td>*V Community Pediatrics</td>
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#### PL-3

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</tbody>
</table>

---

#### LEGEND
- * = Call or night shift rotation
- i = Designates an intern rotation
- S = Supervisory rotation
- u = Upper level rotations
- V = Rotation in which vacation is given
- # = Some residents will pair PSP with Harris Health outpt and some will pair with TCH EC
- ## = those pairing PSP and TCH EC in block 5 will split the TCH EC block with HH outpt; the others will have a full block of TCH EC

**BBT ICN/NICU** = Ben Taub neo ICU and intermediate care nursery (Level 2 nursery)

**Community Pediatrics** = mixed experience, including school health, ride with EMS system, mobile clinic

**Core Subspecialty** = rotation in which team covers multiple services (renal, rheumatology, genetics, and allergy-immunology)

**EC** = Emergency Center (TCH – Texas Children's Hospital; BT – Ben Taub)

**Harris Health Outpt (HH outpt)** = County pediatric clinic (general peds and some subspecialty care); located in Pasadena

**PSP** = 2 weeks dedicated to PSP training

**Pedi Skills** = rotation in which basic pediatric procedures (e.g., venipuncture, lumbar puncture, bladder catheterization) are taught

**PHM** = Pediatric Hospital Medicine (general pediatric service)

**Subspecialty** = neurology, endocrinology, pulmonary, or infectious diseases (Inpt and Outpt)
### PRE-PL-1 GOALS

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<tr>
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<td>*Hematology/Oncology - i</td>
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<td>Oct 5</td>
<td>*PSP/HH Outpt or TCH EC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 6</td>
<td>**TCH EC +/- HH Outpt</td>
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<td>Jan 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 9</td>
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<td>Mar 10</td>
<td>PCU</td>
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<td>Harris Health Outpt I&lt;sup&gt;V&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Subspecialty - i</td>
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<td>Jun 13</td>
<td>Pedi Skills&lt;sup&gt;V/AR&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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### PL-1 GOALS

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<td>Jun 13</td>
<td>Pedi Skills Y(x2)</td>
<td>1st Resident Individualized Advisory Committee Progress Meeting (RIAC)</td>
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| | | 2nd Resident Individualized Advisory Committee Progress Meeting (RIAC) |

### Residency Education Mentor (REM) Monthly Meetings

### Didactic Noon Conference (DNC) Monthly Seminar

### Pediatric-Scientist Forum Monthly Seminar

### Medical Student Thoughtful Pairings

### Case Report
<table>
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- PL-2 GOALS
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**Residency Education Mentor (REM) Monthly Meetings**

**Didactic Noon Conference (DNC) Monthly Seminar**

**Pediatrician-Scientist Forum Monthly Seminar**

**Medical Student Thoughtful Pairings**

**PL-3 GOALS**

- Submission and Feedback of Candidate Section of NIH K08 Award to Mock Study Section
- Primary Research Publication
<table>
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<th>Block #</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jun 13</td>
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</table>
Come join an established legacy of training pediatrician-scientists at Baylor College of Medicine.

- Highest ranked medical school in Texas by U.S. News & World Report
- In Texas since 2006 for funding from the National Institutes of Health
- Nationally in Pediatrics from U.S. News & World Report
Texas Children’s Hospital is the primary pediatric training site for Baylor’s students. The largest pediatric hospital in the nation, Texas Children’s is ranked in all 10 subspecialties in U.S. News & World Report’s list of America’s Best Children’s Hospitals. Overall, Texas Children’s Hospital tied for third in the country, and is one of only 10 children’s hospitals to achieve Honor Roll designation. Texas Children’s Hospital provides care in more than 40 pediatric specialties and has multiple locations across Houston. Additionally, the Texas Children’s Women’s Pavilion is a state-of-the-art center for obstetrics and gynecology.

Harris Health System (HHS) is a fully integrated healthcare system that cares for all residents of Harris County, Texas. HHS was the first accredited healthcare institution in Harris County to be designated as a Medical Home and is one of the largest in the country. Ben Taub Hospital, the central clinical care facility of HHS, is contiguous with the Baylor campus and serves as a teaching hospital for Baylor students for all specialties and their subspecialties.
U.S. News & World Report ranks Texas Children’s Hospital #3 among 200 pediatric hospitals in the nation. The institution has been recognized on the U.S. News and World Report Honor Roll for 13 consecutive years.
Ranked as one of the nation’s top children’s hospitals
by U.S. News & World Report

10 sub specialties ranked by U.S. News & World Report

1.9 million patient encounters annually

31,223 annual admissions

26,802 surgeries per year

1 academic partner Baylor College of Medicine

2,152 faculty, residents and fellows

10,500 employees

Opened in 1954

491 beds

116,961 emergency visits per year to our Level I Trauma Center

1,650 annual critical Kangaroo Crew transports

40 pediatric sub specialties treated

Texas Children’s mission is to create a healthier future for children and women throughout our global community by leading in patient care, education and research.
## THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER
The world’s largest medical complex

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient Visits Per Year</th>
<th>10 Million</th>
<th>Number of Employees</th>
<th>106,000+</th>
<th>Number of Patient Beds</th>
<th>9,200</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>More than the populations of Los Angeles, Houston, and San Francisco—combined.</td>
<td>More people than Exxon, Apple, or Google.</td>
<td>If they were all stacked, they would measure approximately 1.65 miles—the equivalent of 7 Empire State Buildings.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</table>

### The largest medical complex

![Image of the Texas Medical Center skyline](image-url)

- **21** Hospitals
- **61** Institutions
- **8** Academic & Research Institutions
- **4** Medical Schools
- **8** Nursing Schools
- **2** Universities
- **2** Pharmacy Schools
- **1** Community College
- **1** High School focused on life sciences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>160,000</th>
<th>7.2 Million</th>
<th>18,000+</th>
<th>10 Million</th>
<th>180,000</th>
<th>13,600</th>
<th>50 Millon</th>
<th>$3 Billion</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitors Daily</td>
<td>Visitors Annually</td>
<td>International Patients Annually</td>
<td>Patient Encounters Annually</td>
<td>Surgeries</td>
<td>Heart Surgeries</td>
<td>Developed Sq. Ft.</td>
<td>New Construction</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **17,500** Faculty
- **15,000** Nurses
- **10,000** Volunteers
- **5,700** Researchers
- **50,000** Students
- **5,000** Physicians
Number of Babies Delivered 26,280
TMC delivers about 1 baby every 20 minutes.

Number of people in the health science field 1 in 5
Living in the 77030 zip code makes TMC the highest concentration of life science professionals in the country.

Size of the medical center 1,345 Acres
TMC is the eighth-largest business district in the country—right after Philadelphia and Seattle.

center in the world

Where possibilities are endless.
From the first word heard from the moon, to the first artificial heart transplant, Houston remains at the forefront of science and technology.

The City is nationally recognized for its eclectic culture and nightlife, arts and entertainment, recreational amenities, professional sports, fine dining, and more.

The City of Houston, the fourth most populous U.S. city, had a population of 2,304,580 as of July 2021.

Source: The Greater Houston Partnership
Number of **49** Fortune 1000 Companies
Ranked second in the nation behind only New York.

Cost of Living **3.8%**
Below the national average. Housing costs are 26.3% below the average of the nation’s 20 most populous metropolitan areas.

Park & Recreation Acreage **66,641**
Houston ranks 16th in the nation in park land as a percent of adjusted city area with 580 parks plus 300 miles of hike and bike trails.

Major Performing Arts Companies **4**
One of the few U.S. cities with all four major performing arts resident companies—drama, ballet, opera and orchestra.

Number of Restaurants **10,000+**
You can eat at a different restaurant every day for 27 years and not visit the same restaurant twice. There are more than 70 national food categories served within the City.

Languages Spoken **145**
Houston ranks third in languages spoken in a U.S. city, behind New York and LA. More than 1/3 of Houstonians older than five speak a language other than English at home.

Professional Sports **5**
Houston has professional teams in football, baseball, basketball, soccer, not to mention served as host to two of the nation’s biggest events—the SuperBowl and the NBA Finals.

At **665 square miles**, the City of Houston could contain the cities of New York, Washington, Boston, San Francisco, Seattle, Minneapolis and Miami.
WHY HOUSTON?

Source: The Greater Houston Partnership

- Houston Theater District
- Hermann Park Conservancy
- McGovern Centennial Gardens
- Affordable housing
- Parks and green spaces total 39,501 acres

Source: The Greater Houston Partnership
Houston Parks and Recreation Department oversees 380 developed municipal parks and more than 167 green spaces, which together encompass approximately 39,501 acres. The department owns and operates 60 community centers across the city along with the Metropolitan Multi-Service Center. Amenities include:

- 235 playgr
- 201 tennis courts
- 173 basketball courts
- 165.3 miles of trails
- 161 baseball and softball fields
- 87 soccer fields
- 30 pools
- 29 water spray grounds
- 20 volleyball courts
- 16 football/rugby/cricket/lacrosse Fields
- 11 community garden sites
- 9 dog parks
- 8 golf courses
- 7 skate parks
- 5 fitness centers
- 4 nature centers

Greater Houston has 4.4 million sq. ft. of convention space and regularly hosts worldwide events. In 2018, Houston hosted 415 conventions and meetings that drew 737,335 attendees translating into an estimated economic impact of $591.7 million.

The Houston Museum District is one of the country’s most visited and diverse cultural centers with 19 museums. These museums provide rich experiences in art, history, culture, nature and science. The district is divided in four walkable zones, each of which includes a group of museums.

Resident companies in drama, ballet, opera and orchestra perform year-round in Houston. More than 500 institutions are devoted to the performing and visual arts, science and history in the Houston area.

Houston restaurants feature outstanding regional dishes as well as diverse international cuisine. In 2018, Houston was home to 11,292 food service and drinking establishments that employed more than 258,700.

Housing costs in Houston are 46.2 percent below the average for the nation’s 20 most populous metro areas and 3.1 percent below the average for all U.S. metros. Excluding the two most expensive housing markets, New York and San Francisco, which tend to skew the average, Houston’s housing costs are 35.3 percent below the major metro average.

The Houston Metropolitan Area covers 9,444 square miles, an area larger than five states: New Hampshire, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware and Rhode Island.

Average travel time to work: 29.9 minutes

Demographics (2020)
Populations: City of Houston - 2,304,580
Harris County - 4,731,145
Houston Metropolitan Area - 7,122,240

Ethnic diversity:
37.3% White; 36.5% Hispanic/Latino; 16.9% Black/African American; 7.5% Asian; 1.8% Other

Normal daily maximum temperatures in Houston: January 62.9°F, April 79.6°F; July 93.7°F; October 82°F. Houston had 56 inches of rain in 2018.

Source: The Greater Houston Partnership
1. How will I balance the PSP program goals along with the categorical clinical requirements?
   We have carefully created a customized clinical and block schedule that will allow for protected periods of time each year to work towards program goals. This schedule is unique to PSP residents, as we understand the demands specific to each rotation and the overall clinic load experienced within each year.

2. Will I receive a salary during the research blocks during the PL-2 and PL-3 year?
   Yes salary will be provided throughout the entire program and will be the same as for residents in the categorical program.

3. Is there a special application process for the program?
   Please apply to the Pediatrician-Scientist Program track in ERAS. Select applicants will be notified to provide additional information.

4. Are the tracks ranked separately for the match?
   Yes, the PSP program will accept three candidates, separately from those accepted for the categorical program. There will be a separate ranking process for both programs. You will have the opportunity to rank each track that you have applied to and interviewed for. For example, depending on your personal interests and experience after attending the various track interviews, you can rank the PSP first and the Categorical program second. There is a possibility that you can match for the Categorical program and not match for the PSP program since the PSP track has only three spots.

5. Why should I consider the PSP instead of a short track residency?
   The PSP is a pathway to independence program and unlike “short-tracking” there are no additional general pediatric clinical requirements to fulfill during fellowship.

6. Houston, Texas?
   The Texas Medical Center is the World's Largest medical center and Houston is the fourth largest city in America. Houston just bypassed New York City as the most diverse city in the U.S. and it is the fastest growing major city.

7. What is so unique about the PSP?
   The PSP has a protected residency pathway to reconnect you to research, establish your investigative network while focusing intensely on developing your scholarly and investigator skills. The entirety of the 1000+ faculty in the Department of Pediatrics is aligned behind the PSP and your success.
COMMUNITY
Our goal is to deconvolute your pathway to becoming an independent and successful pediatrician-scientist.

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