Vision 2025
To be globally recognized for the transformative patient-centered care, innovative research, and development of next generation leaders in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation by 2025.

CHAIR’S MESSAGE

Congratulations to our graduating class of 2023! We wish you the best.

We also welcome the new class of residents to the Department. As we complete another academic year, we say goodbyes to our colleagues and residents and welcome the new faculty and residents.

We had a busy quarter with many educational activities in the Department. We had an inaugural Levin and Nosek Research Day, a very successful Annual Review Course, and an Annual Cadaver/Ultrasound MSK course.

Congratulations to Departmental Faculty, Staff, and Residents who were recognized for excellence at the Graduation and Awards Ceremony on June 16th. We had a record number of people in attendance to congratulate the graduating residents and fellows and to acknowledge those honored.

We appreciate your continued support and excellence.

RECOGNITIONS AND KUDOS

Mary Jane Concepcion, FNP-BC joined our department as an Instructor on April 17, 2023.

Elizabeth Forrest, MD was promoted to Associate Professor effective April 1, 2023.

Susan Garber, MA, OTR, FAOTA, FACRM received the Doctor of Health Sciences from Texas Women’s University. The honorary doctorate was presented for a lifetime of life-changing research and practice in the fields of occupational therapy and physical medicine and rehabilitation. Dr. Garber was also the commencement speaker at this ceremony which was held in Denton, Texas on May 13, 2023.

Tulsi Pandat, MD has resigned her faculty position and will begin the Brain Injury Fellowship at TIRR-UT in July 2023.

Aloysia Schwabe, MD was promoted to Professor effective June 1, 2023.

Walter Wade, MD retired on May 31, 2023, after 30 years of service working at the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center with 24+ years as Baylor faculty. We thank Dr. Wade for his many years of service and wish him the best in his retirement!

Lisa Wenzel, MD has been elected as the Faculty Senate representative for TIRR for the 2023-2026 term.

Edward Wright, MD is the recipient of the 2023 Star Faculty Award for Excellence in Patient Care.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 30-November 2, 2023 ACRM—Atlanta, Georgia
November 15-19, 2023 AAPMR—New Orleans, Louisiana
February 20-25, 2024 AAP—Orlando, Florida
June 1-6, 2024 ISPRM—Sydney, Australia

PM&R FACULTY MEETING
5:00 PM
September 14, 2023
1ST ANNUAL RESEARCH DAY—APRIL 19, 2023

The H. Ben Taub Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation 1st Annual Harvey Levin & Margaret Nosek Research Day was held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. Presentations were made by Associate Professor Felicia Skelton-Dudley, MD—Mixed Methods and Implementation Science in Rehabilitation Research and Assistant Professor Jared Howell, MPD—Power to the Plantar Flexors: Early Research on the Restoration of “Push-Off” in Individuals with Transtibial Amputation or Plantar Flexor Weakness. Resident posters were on display, with 1st place awarded to Nnaemeka Nweke, MD on Bilateral Stellate Ganglion Block in Long Covid Patients Dealing with Anosmia/Ageusia Demonstrates Successful Long-Term Results: A Case Report. 2nd place was awarded to Aaron Charnay, MD on Electrodiagnostic Findings in Persistent Facial Nerve Dysfunction with Isolated Unilateral Platymsa Paralysis due to Neuroborreliosis: A Case Report. Congratulations to both!

NOTABLE ARTICLE—HOUSTON CHRONICLE

One of our very own faculty, Emanuel Narcis Husu, MD, was co-author with Dr. Cannon Clifton and Dr. Augusto Sepulveda on an article that was featured in the Houston Chronicle on March 1, 2023. The article, “Texas Physicians Explore alternatives to Opioids for Pain Management” provides information for alternative treatments, anti-inflammatory therapy and enhanced surgical recovery. Please click on the link to read the article.


INTERNATIONAL BRAIN INJURY ASSOCIATION-DUBLIN, IRELAND

Dr. Angelle Sander presented a lecture titled, “Health Literacy in Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury: Characterization and Relationship in Outcomes in a Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems Sample” at the meeting of the International Brain Injury Association in Dublin, Ireland, March 30-April 1, 2023.
The BCM-Ottobock Care Grand Opening was held on March 21, 2023. BCM-Ottobock Care is home to an elite team, passionate about providing the highest quality care to individuals with amputation and mobility challenges. BCM-Ottobock Care offers innovative products in the areas of orthotics and prosthetics for patients who suffer from amputations, injuries, or neurological diseases.

The 57th annual comprehensive review course was held 100% virtually this year on March 25-31, 2023. We had 50 local, national and international attendees for this course that is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME). We want to thank the review course committee as well as the many faculty who gave of their time to teach these courses. Please contact Kristen Wilkey at kristen.wilkey@bcm.edu for more information.

The Cadaver Musculoskeletal Anatomy EMG/MSKUS Guided Injections Dystonia and Spasticity course was held on March 30—April 1, 2023, directed by Dr. Faye Tan. Dr. Jeffrey Strakowski was the invited distinguished speaker and provided his expertise on ultrasound evaluation of peripheral nerves and focal neuropathies. This course provided learners the opportunity of combined virtual lectures and in-person cadaver lab. Cadaver prosectional anatomy was reviewed and injection skills check on cadavers were carried out with learners. This course addressed both the educational gap for PM&R residents and fellows to learn more about recognition and treatment of cervical dystonia and upper and lower limb spasticity with chemodenervation.

FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS 2023

Clinical Excellence Award—Dr. Janet Del Rosario. Recognition of national excellence in clinical achievement.

Education Excellence Award—Dr. Unoma Akamagwuna and Dr. Angela Cortez. Recognition of national excellence in educational achievement.

Research Excellence Award—Dr. Angelle Sander. Recognition of outstanding achievement in research.

Distinguished Service to Humanity Award—Dr. Rochelle Dy. Recognition of selfless service and volunteerism in a mission in service of humanity.

Outstanding Faculty Teacher of the Year Award—Dr. Janet Del Rosario. Recognition of the attending physician who contributed the most to the education of the resident body, academically and professionally.

Administrative Leadership Award—Amanda Sowell. Recognition of outstanding achievement in administrative leadership.

Outstanding Staff Member Award—Joni Hamilton. Recognition of individual staff member who has given outstanding service to the college and department.
DEPARTMENT WELLNESS ACTIVITY—ASTROS BASEBALL

On April 28th, a group of faculty, staff, and their families attended the Houston Astros baseball game at Minute Maid Park. The Astros played the Philadelphia Phillies with a final score of 3-1. The Phillies won the game but everyone enjoyed their time at the ballgame. Go Astros!

SEOWL KOREA—MAY 2023

In May 2023, Dr. Michael Lee gave a lecture on “Baylor College of Medicine PM&R, and current/future trends in PM&R in the USA” at the Asan Medical Center in Seoul Korea. Since 1989, Asan Medical Center has achieved its status as a world-class, patient-centered medical institution through general investigation in clinical treatment and research and development. Asan Medical Center is the largest medical institution in Korea with a total of 2,732 beds, occupying a total floor area of 3 million square feet, rating 29th in World’s Best Hospitals and 1st in Korea for 5 consecutive years.

ISPRM—JUNE 4-8, 2023

Dr. Allan Lara and Dr. Rochelle Dy attended the International Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine (ISPRM) in June and presented the poster titled, “Spasticity Management in L1 Syndrome: A case of two brothers.”

FACULTY SERVING ABPMR—APRIL 26-29, 2023

Dr. Gabby Nguyen, Dr. Unoma Akamagwuna and Dr. Ed Wright served as official Oral Board Examiners for the American Board of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation during the week of April 26-29, 2023. We appreciate your serving in this capacity.

DEPARTMENT WELLNESS ACTIVITY—ASTROS BASEBALL
GRADUATION 2023—JUNE 16, 2023

The PM&R graduation was held Friday, June 16, 2023, at the Westin Houston Medical Center, with keynote speaker Donna Bloodworth, MD. Congratulations and best wishes to the 2023 PM&R graduates!

Oliver R. Smith, MD Outstanding Resident Award—Dr. Bradley Chi. Recognition of the resident who has demonstrated excellent skills in the administrative, research, academic and clinical areas of PM&R during his/her residency.

Martin Grabois, MD Esteemed Resident Award—Dr. Aaron Charnay. Recognition of the resident who has best promoted solidarity and has displayed excellence in leadership.

The graduating residents are:

Emmanuel Achilike, MD—Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Cypress
Aaron Charnay, MD—Texas Children’s Hospital
Bradley Chi, MD—Brain Injury Medicine Fellowship, Baylor College of Medicine
Laura Lachman, MD—Pediatric Rehabilitation Fellowship, Children’s Mercy Kansas City
Nicole Nguyen, DO—PM&R Locum Tenens
J. Sharif Palmer, MD—Kelsey-Seybold Clinic
Du Pham, MD—Spinal Cord Injury Medicine Fellowship, University of Washington
Joseph Roys, MD—Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center

The graduating fellows are:

Eboni Reed, MD—Northwestern and The Shirley Ryan AbilityLab
Zinat Taiwo, PhD—Baylor College of Medicine
INCOMING PGY2 PM&R RESIDENTS—CLASS OF 2026

Destiny Anamege  
Baylor College of Medicine Preliminary  
Internal Medicine Program

Ashlyn Brown  
SUNY Upstate Medical University  
Preliminary Internal Medicine Program

Jason Caffrey  
Santa Clara Valley Medical Center  
Transitional Year Program

Won Jeong  
Baylor College of Medicine Preliminary  
Internal Medicine Program

Ton La, Jr  
HCA Houston Healthcare Kingwood  
Transitional Year Program

Angela Nwankwo  
Baylor Scott & White All Saints Medical Center Transitional Year Program

Jason Parmar  
Trinity Health Mid-Atlantic Mercy  
Catholic Medical Center Transitional Year Program

Neha Singh  
Nassau University Medical Center  
Preliminary Surgery Program

MATCH DAY 2023—CLASS OF 2027

Emilia Alvarez  
St. George’s University

Josiel Garcia  
Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine at New Mexico State University

Anissa Haque  
University of Michigan Medical School

Yacob Khatab  
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Paul L. Foster School of Medicine

Zaur Komachkov  
University of Texas Medical Branch  
John Sealy School of Medicine

Sidney Okon  
USF Health Morsani College of Medicine

Jedidah Prum  
Drexel University College of Medicine

Ravinderjit Singh  
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

H. BEN TAUB DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION
BAYLOR COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

The Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R) seeks to fund pilot projects proposed by PM&R faculty (at least Assistant Professor level) that will advance knowledge in the field of rehabilitation medicine and be leveraged into additional extramural funding. Faculty with no history of federal funding should include a more senior faculty member, with a funding history, on the proposal. The maximum award is $25,000 per application. There is no application deadline. Proposals will be reviewed and applicants will be informed of decisions within two months of submission. There is a maximum of $25,000 per academic year available to award. If a funded proposal is for less than $25,000, then the remaining funds can be applied for by another investigator. The Research Committee will send updates to all faculty when an award is made, and will inform faculty of remaining funds that are available to be applied for. All awards are for 1 year, with a possible no-cost extension upon request.

Pilot project topics should be novel and clearly distinct from the PI’s funded research program, such that the results would facilitate application for federal funding that the investigator could not otherwise be competitive for. Faculty with substantial remaining startup or discretionary funds should particularly explain why these pilot funds are needed. Salary support for the PI is not allowed in the budget. Salary for a research assistant or coordinator is allowed. No subcontracts to other institutions will be allowed. Each proposal will be evaluated based on standard scientific review criteria, as well as on the likelihood that these funds will be leveraged into extramural funding. Efforts will be made to recruit reviewers from faculty members at BCM; however, external reviewers may be invited if the subject matter requires outside expertise. Applicants may submit a list of individuals that they wish to exclude as potential reviewers based on conflicts of interest. Proposals should be submitted using the attached application packet. If funded, an interim report will be due at 6 months from the start of funding, and a final report on the project and its outcomes must be submitted to the Research Committee Co-Chairs within 60 days of the end of the project. Please contact Angelle Sander for questions or if you need an application. (asander@bcm.edu)

THE LEE FAMILY/HAE AHM (SEA ROCK) FOUNDATION FACULTY INNOVATION AND SERVICE AWARD
H. Ben Taub Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation—Baylor College of Medicine

The Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Nomination and Awards Committee seeks to fund Innovation and Service projects proposed by PM&R faculty that will enhance the lives of persons we serve or members of the department (faculty, trainees, and/or staff). There is no application deadline. Proposals will be reviewed and applicants will be informed of decisions within two months of submission. The maximum amount of the award is $2,500. The projects should be novel and the award is not intended to support a research project. There is no need to include formal outcome measures, but inclusion of some way to evaluate the project outcomes (e.g., satisfaction scores) would increase the perceived value of the project. Salary support for the Awardee is not allowed in the budget. Please contact Angelle Sander (asander@bcm.edu) for questions and/or for an application.

ALUMNI

Calling all BCM PM&R alumni! Please click on this link or QR code and complete the alumni survey. https://forms.office.com/r/vU1VhFzybL

THE LEE FAMILY/HAE AHM (SEA ROCK) FOUNDATION FACULTY INNOVATION AND SERVICE AWARD
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PUBLICATIONS


PM&R News is a publication of the H. Ben Taub Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Baylor College of Medicine.

To submit content for the next newsletter, please e-mail:

joni.hamilton@bcm.edu