

# Vice Chair of Research in Obstetrics and Gynecology

## Baylor College of Medicine

### Vacancy Announcement

Baylor  
College of  
Medicine

#### Position Summary

The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) is seeking to hire a Vice Chair for Research (VC-R) who is a dynamic and visionary academic scientist or physician scientist with proven experience in women's health-related research, strong leadership abilities, and exceptional communication skills. In partnership with leaders from Baylor College of Medicine and the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Texas Children's Hospital, Harris Health and the Texas Medical Center, the Vice Chair of Research, who has demonstrated success with their own externally-funded impactful research in one or more areas of women's health, is a visionary leader who is enthusiastic about growing our existing strong and well-supported research program and expanding it with novel new clinical, translational, and basic research initiatives. The VC-R is an exceptional communicator who aims to broadly engage and support departmental faculty, trainees, and research staff in their research goals and ambitions, and who recruits, supports, mentors, and retains new research talent. The VC-R fosters an environment that supports high-quality research conducted according to the highest standards of research rigor and compliance, which results in impactful publications and external funding. As an integral member of the vibrant, innovative research community within the Texas Medical Center that is well supported by numerous academic specialty research centers, top-quality and well-equipped core facilities, and a strong clinical research environment and infrastructure, the VC-R integrates and promotes our departmental research program institutionally, nationally, and internationally.

#### Responsibilities of the Vice Chair for Research

The Vice Chair for Research in Obstetrics and Gynecology will provide high-level strategic and operational oversight of research activities across the Department. The VC-R will have broad latitude to shape research activities according to their own vision while also aligning with the Department's research priorities. They will serve as a point of contact for both internal and external opportunities for research collaboration and evaluate potential new collaborations for mutual benefit and goodness of fit. The VC-R will represent the Department at the highest level on Councils and Executive Committees and ensure that the unique aspects of research in vulnerable populations (e.g., pregnant women and adolescents) are considered. They will have general oversight and executive managerial responsibility for the conduct and support of all the Department's research programs (clinical, translational, benchtop, public health, innovation, etc.) including strategic planning for infrastructure as well as ensuring compliance and scientific integrity.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Develop and implement strategic and operational plans in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology related to the research mission.
- Foster a culture of professionalism, teamwork, research, reporting, and safety for all faculty, staff, and trainees within the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.
- Ensure the financial health of the research mission by evaluating revenue and expenses and identifying opportunities for improvement.
- Monitor metrics and productivity related to Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology faculty grant submissions, funding success rates, extramural dollars, indirect cost recovery, and publication numbers and impact factors.
- Report directly to – and meet regularly with – the Department Chairman to review overall departmental research events, contributions, and anticipated or planned initiatives/goals for the upcoming strategic planning interval.
- Communicate with other Vice Chairs and Division leaders on a regular basis about research priorities, needs, and strategies and how to integrate these with other departmental missions.
- Communicate regularly with BCM and Texas Children's Hospital leadership about research infrastructure needs for clinical, translational, and basic research and be the chief Departmental advocate for investment and improvement in existing research programs.
- Communicate strategic planning goals Department-wide to enable the collective and individual success of research among faculty, learners, and staff.
- Ensure the quality of all research programs and their compliance with regulatory requirements.
- Identify and design innovative activities that will enhance the research experience of the members of the Department aligned with the strategic plan and vision.
- Advise the Chair on research priorities, funding needs, recruitment, and infrastructure support for both department-wide and individual investigator programs.
- Work with the Department Administrator and the Chair on developing and maintaining annual operating budgets for all Departmental research programs.
- Liaise with the Medical School and other Departmental and institutional leaders, in support of research programs and initiatives.
- Identify new opportunities and initiatives and develop offerings as needed to enable investigators and learners to achieve independence.
- Provide (or identify others who can provide) support and mentorship to enable independent research contributions of individual faculty members and learners.
- Ensure faculty members and learners are aware of institutional and national opportunities for the development of research leadership and expertise.
- Encourage interested faculty members to engage in research and to seek federal funding for research.
- Participate on the Departmental Executive Committee, Research Leadership Council, applicable educational and mentorship committees, as well as IRB, IACUC, or other ad hoc committee meetings.

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#### Qualifications for the Vice Chair for Research

- MD, DO, DVM, and/or PhD degree or foreign equivalent.
- Demonstrated career experiences relevant to the position, including experience in strategic planning in research.
- Demonstrated operational understanding in the conduct and regulation of research.
- Be a faculty member in their department at the rank of Associate Professor or above.
- Demonstrated record of funding and excellence in one or more domains of research (for example, basic and clinical science, or educational and qualitative research, or biostatistics or bioinformatics).
- Demonstrated interest, commitment, and leadership in research with excellent communication skills.
- Willingness to function at a high managerial level in a complex health care organization.

#### About the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Baylor College of Medicine

The faculty of Baylor College of Medicine Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology are highly diverse in many forms including, but not limited to, different ideas based on our backgrounds, life experiences, and work experiences. We are committed to creating an inclusive environment that values the diversity and contributions of our employees and does not discriminate against any employee or candidate. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. You can learn more about the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology | BCM at [www.bcm.edu/obgyn](http://www.bcm.edu/obgyn).

#### About Baylor College of Medicine

Baylor College of Medicine fosters diversity among its students, trainees, faculty, and staff as a prerequisite to accomplishing our institutional mission and setting standards for excellence in training healthcare providers and biomedical scientists, promoting scientific innovation, and providing patient-centered care. Located in the heart of the world's largest medical center (Texas Medical Center), Baylor is affiliated with multiple educational, healthcare and research affiliates (Baylor Affiliates). You can learn more about Baylor College of Medicine at [www.bcm.edu](http://www.bcm.edu).

Baylor College of Medicine requires employees to be fully vaccinated - subject to approved exemptions - against vaccine-preventable diseases including, but not limited to, COVID-19 and influenza.

Baylor College of Medicine is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Equal Access Employer.

#### About Houston

Houston is one of the most diverse cities in the nation and the patients we care for mirror its demographic make-up. It is the nation's fourth largest city and an international destination. Houston boasts an affordable cost of living and a diverse, bustling economy including energy, healthcare, technology and aerospace. It is home to world-class restaurants, major league sporting teams, and a thriving performing and visual arts community. Ranked fourth in the nation for total land devoted to parks, the city has over 125 miles of hike and bike trails as well as hundreds of parks and green spaces including lakes and bayous.

#### About Texas Children's Pavilion for Women

Texas Children's Pavilion for Women is recognized as a level IV maternal care facility by the state of Texas, providing the highest level of comprehensive care for pregnant and postpartum patients, from low-risk cases to the most complex medical, surgical and obstetrical conditions that present a higher-risk of maternal morbidity or mortality. In 2019 the Pavilion opened one of the nation's first maternal intensive care units, staffed 24/7 by a team of Baylor faculty who specialize in pulmonary critical care, advanced cardiovascular life support, and maternal-fetal issues. The hospital is also home to a nationally recognized placenta accreta spectrum program and has earned accreditation as a Center of Excellence in Minimally Invasive Gynecology. In addition to a strong general obstetrics and gynecology practice at the Pavilion, Baylor OB/GYN provides virtually all of subspecialty care at the hospital including maternal-fetal medicine, fetal surgery, infertility, reproductive psychiatry, among others.

#### About Harris Health – Ben Taub Hospital

The largest hospital in the Harris Health public health system, Ben Taub Hospital is well-respected both locally and worldwide as an outstanding acute care facility and an elite Level I trauma center. Ben Taub is a Level IV (highest level) comprehensive maternal care facility and has a Level III Neonatal ICU designation by the state of Texas. Staffed by physician faculty and residents from Baylor College of Medicine, Ben Taub serves as a teaching facility for the College and U.S. military.

#### Consideration

Interested applicants should send a curriculum vitae and letter of interest, including a personal statement, to Meg Ferris, Department Administrator, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology [mferris@bcm.edu](mailto:mferris@bcm.edu). Candidates' interest will be held in confidence until the final stages of the search.