



Mays Cancer Center

UT Health MDAnderson  
San Antonio Cancer Center

# FUTURE FOCUS

SHARING CANCER CENTER NEWS AS WE CHAMPION HEALTH TOGETHER.

NEWSLETTER 1.30.20

## DR. PATRICIA DAHIA

RECEIVES UT SYSTEM AWARD TO EXPAND HER RESEARCH ON RARE ENDOCRINE TUMORS



*Patricia Dahia, M.D., Ph.D., professor of medicine, has been awarded a \$1 million UT System Faculty STARS award to support her cancer genetics research.*

Dr. Dahia said the funding will be used to develop the infrastructure of a center for endocrine and hereditary tumors studies.

This center will provide training opportunities for the next generation of clinical and translational investigators and expand collaborations across UT institutions and beyond.

“Receiving the STARS award is an honor and recognition by the UT System of

the value of cancer genetics research as a cornerstone of precision medicine,” said Dr. Dahia, who is the Robert Tucker Hayes Distinguished Chair in Oncology.

**“These funds will support the development of a unique center in Texas for the study, diagnosis and treatment planning of patients with endocrine tumors.”**

“Rare endocrine tumors often lag behind in therapeutic progress compared to more common cancers but they can be paradigm shifters in the way doctors understand and treat diseases,” Dr. Dahia said.

“This award will bolster our research efforts in defining molecular properties of tumors to help predict their behavior and more precisely plan the patients’ treatment and follow-up,” she said. “These tumors are often hereditary, so family members will also benefit from this progress. Importantly, the advances made in understanding molecular defects in these tumors may be applicable to other, more common human cancers and may impact them at the diagnosis and treatment level.”

Dr. Dahia’s career has been dedicated to research on the genetics of cancer, with an emphasis on inherited endocrine tumors and the discovery of cancer susceptibility genes.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT WILL BE CONDUCTING A



**DOMESTIC WATER OUTAGE**

at the Mays Cancer Center on Saturday, Feb. 15, from 8 a.m. to 5p.m.

During this time there will be no water to fountains, sinks, restrooms or break rooms. Utility personnel will be onsite to monitor the building systems during this time.

If you have any questions, please contact:  
Joe Lara 210-450-8486 or  
Edgar Martinez 210-450-3779

She led an international team to discover a genetic mutation that explains why adults with severe congenital heart defects, who live with low oxygen in their blood, are at dramatically high risk for adrenal gland cancer.

In addition to her research, Dr. Dahia has mentored dozens of trainees at various levels, many of whom have entered independent careers in academia and the health care industry. Dr. Dahia came to UT Health San Antonio in 2005 from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute at Harvard Medical School in Boston.

**THE UT SYSTEM BOARD OF REGENTS AUTHORIZED THE STARS PROGRAM IN 2004. MULTIPLE TYPES OF STARS AWARDS SUPPORT ENHANCEMENT OF UT INSTITUTIONS ACROSS THE STATE.**

# 2020



# CONGRATS

## TO THE 2020 PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS RECIPIENTS



### DISTINGUISHED SENIOR RESEARCH SCHOLAR

**Charles P. France, Ph.D.**, Robert A. Welch Distinguished University Chair in Chemistry; Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Department of Psychiatry, Long School of Medicine



### CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

**Ramin Poursani, M.D.**, Professor/Clinical, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Long School of Medicine

**Shafqat Shah, M.D.**, Associate Professor/Clinical, Division of Hematology-Oncology, Department of Pediatrics, Long School of Medicine

**Edward F. Wright, D.D.S., M.S.**, Professor, Department of Comprehensive Dentistry, School of Dentistry



### TEACHING EXCELLENCE – SUSTAINED

**Michael Geelhoed, D.P.T., PT**, Associate Professor and Director of Clinical Education, Department of Physical Therapy, School of Health Professions

**Omid B. Rahimi, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, UT Distinguished Teaching Professor, Director of Human Anatomy Program, Department of Cell Systems and Anatomy, Long School of Medicine

**Temple A. Ratcliffe, M.D., FACP**, Associate Professor/Clinical, Division of Hospital and General Medicine, Long School of Medicine

**P. Renee Yew, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Department of Molecular Medicine, Long School of Medicine

*[..continue to read](#)*

*UT Health San Antonio President William L. Henrich, M.D., MACP, announced the 2020 Presidential Awards recipients.*

*Many deserving faculty and staff were nominated to be honored with a Presidential Award for demonstrating outstanding service in their respective fields.*

*The recipients will be honored with a plaque and cash award at a special dinner on March 5.*

## EDGE

## KEY ROLES ASSIGNED FOR PROTOTYPES IN LSOM

### Progress on service prototypes is happening in these areas:

- Key roles were assigned for the Long School of Medicine (LSOM) HR and Finance service prototypes. Monique Lopez will serve as Financial Product Lead. Ernest Vasquez and Heather Kobbe will support HR product lead responsibilities until strategic HR partners are hired and can assume those roles.
- In the School of Nursing (SON), School of Health Professions and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, each associate dean will support efforts unique to their schools and will capitalize on the experience and leadership provided by Oscar Prieto to roll out the Business Services Center (BSC) prototype for financial transactions.
  - o In the SON, there is an open financial transactions position that provides an opportunity to extend financial services more expeditiously within the BSC structure.
- IT partners are engaging LSOM departments to explore opportunities for partnership. This may include a comprehensive review by a shadow to evaluate existing IT resources and to have a clear understanding of the department's full IT needs before formally introducing an IT Service Partnership Agreement.
- The School of Dentistry prototype team reviewed a draft of the IT Service Partnership Agreement and the roles and responsibilities matrix. Colleagues in IT and the SOD are revising the agreement as needed to proceed with rolling out services timely.
- Human Resources reviewed HR forms and processes to be included in their new electronic service delivery environment.

*Watch for Weekly Updates on the [EDGE website](#) and send questions to [EDGE@uthscsa.edu](mailto:EDGE@uthscsa.edu).*



*Over the next few weeks, teams will socialize and finalize Service Catalogs and Service Partnership Agreements for IT, Human Resources (HR), Finance, and Marketing Communications & Media (MarComm). This will include developing supplemental communication tools and materials for the continual rollout of these prototypes in departments throughout the institution.*



## HSC ALERT IS EVOLVING; HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

HSC Alert, the text and email notification system for emergencies at UT Health San Antonio, is changing to meet the needs of the university. **A test of the system is scheduled for Feb. 14, and you should be ready.**

HSC Alerts are automatically sent to all [uthscsa.edu](http://uthscsa.edu) and [livemail.uthscsa.edu](mailto:livemail.uthscsa.edu) (student) email addresses. However, in order to receive text message alerts on your mobile phones and alternate/personal email addresses, you need to register. In order to receive these important text notifications, please sign into [www.uthscsa.edu/HSCAlert](http://www.uthscsa.edu/HSCAlert) to register or update your mobile phone and carrier. Login using your university username and password (standard login credentials).

Of special note, a new policy is now in place regarding weather-related delayed openings or closures of our university campuses. In the event of inclement weather, normal operating hours will be maintained throughout university enterprises, including clinical sites, research labs/institutes and all academic and administration endeavors. In general, there will be no closures or delayed openings at UT Health San Antonio—barring an extreme weather scenario or other highly dangerous, life or safety-threatening incident. Instead, faculty,

staff, students and others should use their own discretion regarding a safe commute to and from work, while staying in close communication with their supervisor, professor or proctor.

If you have changed your alternate/personal email address, please update that information as well at [www.uthscsa.edu/HSCAlert](http://www.uthscsa.edu/HSCAlert). It's important that you do so, especially in light of a recent FCC ruling on the liability that stems from auto-dialing or auto-texting someone who hasn't consented to receive such communications.

*“The value of the HSC Alert System has been evident on numerous occasions in the past, whether it be crime alerts or any number of situations that may arise,” said Michael J. Parks, chief of police at UT Health San Antonio. “Text messaging is a favored method of communication for a growing number of people, so it’s vitally important for you to register your phone number and carrier. Text messages and emails can help save lives or prevent injuries.”*

## PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF **New Agents** IN ONCOLOGY™

**The 2020 Practical Applications of New Agents in Oncology conference will be held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center (Room 007) on February 7-8, 2020.**

UT Health San Antonio MD Anderson Cancer Center invites you to join us for this interprofessional continuing education activity designed for Physicians, Hematologists/Oncologists, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Physicians Assistants, Pharmacists, Students and other health care professionals specializing in oncology. This is a continuing education activity and designed to update the educational needs for all attendees.

Leading healthcare professionals will educate attendees on key topics, such as *Best Practices for Opioid Harm Reduction in Oncology* presented by Lucas Hill, PharmD from The University of Texas at Austin. Safe and effective use of opioid analgesics in pain management is complex and increasingly controversial. Opioid stewardship programs must pair supply reduction and harm reduction strategies in order to minimize adverse events. Active participants in this session will learn to efficiently identify patients at risk for opioid-related harm and apply evidence-based harm reduction interventions.

**Do not forget to register as UT Health San Antonio faculty and staff to receive a special discount! Online registration ends January 31. Click [here](#) to register.**

### OUR EXPERT FACULTY INCLUDES:

Sukeshi Arora, MD  
Elizabeth Bowhay-Carnes, MD  
Andrew Brenner, MD, PhD  
Sherri Cervantez, MD  
Tyler Curiel, MD, MPH  
Adolfo Enrique Diaz Duque, MD  
Lucas Hill, PharmD  
Virginia Kaklamani, MD  
Steven Lin, MD, PhD  
Funda Meric-Bernstam, MD  
Denise Millstine, MD  
Michelle Rohlfis, RN, FNP-BC  
Fyza Shaikh, MD, PhD  
Arlene Siefker-Radtke, MD  
David Steensma, MD  
Josephine Taverna, MD  
Michael Wang, MD

For more information regarding this upcoming conference, please visit our [website](#).