Foster School of Medicine



Hunt School of Nursing



Francis Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences



Hunt School of Dental Medicine



2025 – 2026

Leadership Development Academy (LDA) IV

Directory of Program Participants

Celebrating each participant

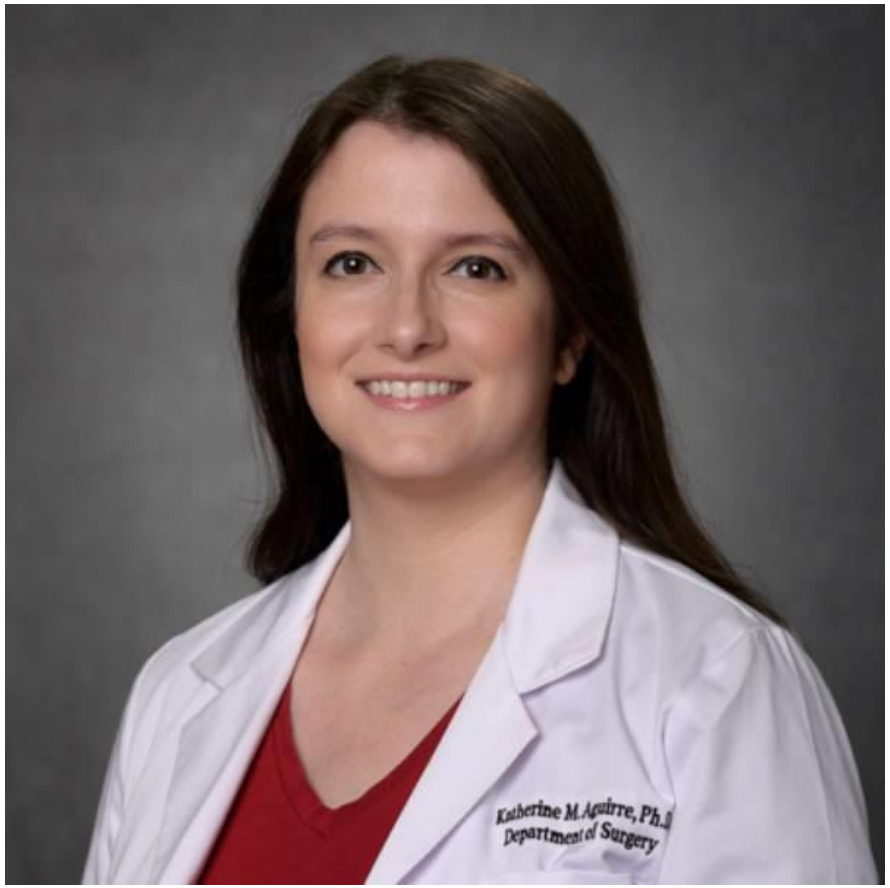


Adam H. Adler, M.D., FAAOS

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation

Dr. Adler is an associate professor in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Rehabilitation. He joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in August 2016. Dr. Adler holds several leadership positions in his department, including Vice Chair, director of orthopedic trauma, associate program director, and associate site residency program director. He also serves as chair of the credentialing committee at the Foster School of Medicine.

Celebrating each participant



Katherine M. Aguirre, Ph.D.

Department of Surgery

Dr. Aguirre is an assistant professor in the Department of Surgery. She joined Texas Tech Health El Paso in August 2018 as the director of surgical education and became a faculty member in August 2024. Dr. Aguirre serves as the academic council chair for the Department of Surgery and as an American College of Surgeons Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) Educator. The only ATLS educator in a 300-mile radius.

Celebrating each participant



Atasi Chatterjee, Ph.D.

Hunt School of Dental Medicine

Dr. Chatterjee is an associate professor of physiology at the Hunt School of Dental Medicine. She joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in December 2023. One of her professional interests is integrating 3D digital simulation–based anatomy education into the curriculum to enhance learning and engagement. Dr. Chatterjee serves as course director for Dental Scientific Principles of Medicine II and as Chair-Elect of the American Dental Education Association's Physiology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics section.

Celebrating each participant



Tamer E. Fandy, Ph.D., BCGP, FCP

Department of Medical Education

Dr. Fandy is a professor of pharmacology in the Department of Medical Education and joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in June 2024. He completed his postdoctoral research fellowship in the Division of Oncology and Hematology at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Fandy serves as College Mentor and Course Co-Director in the Department of Medical Education.

Celebrating each participant



Mehri Fayazi, Ph.D.

Hunt School of Dental Medicine

Dr. Fayazi is an assistant professor of anatomy at the Hunt School of Dental Medicine. She joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in June 2025. She has a strong passion for anatomy and enjoys teaching it, along with embryology, to students. Dr. Fayazi serves as director of the Distinction in Dental Human Anatomy and the Anatomy Program at the Hunt School of Dental Medicine.

Celebrating each participant

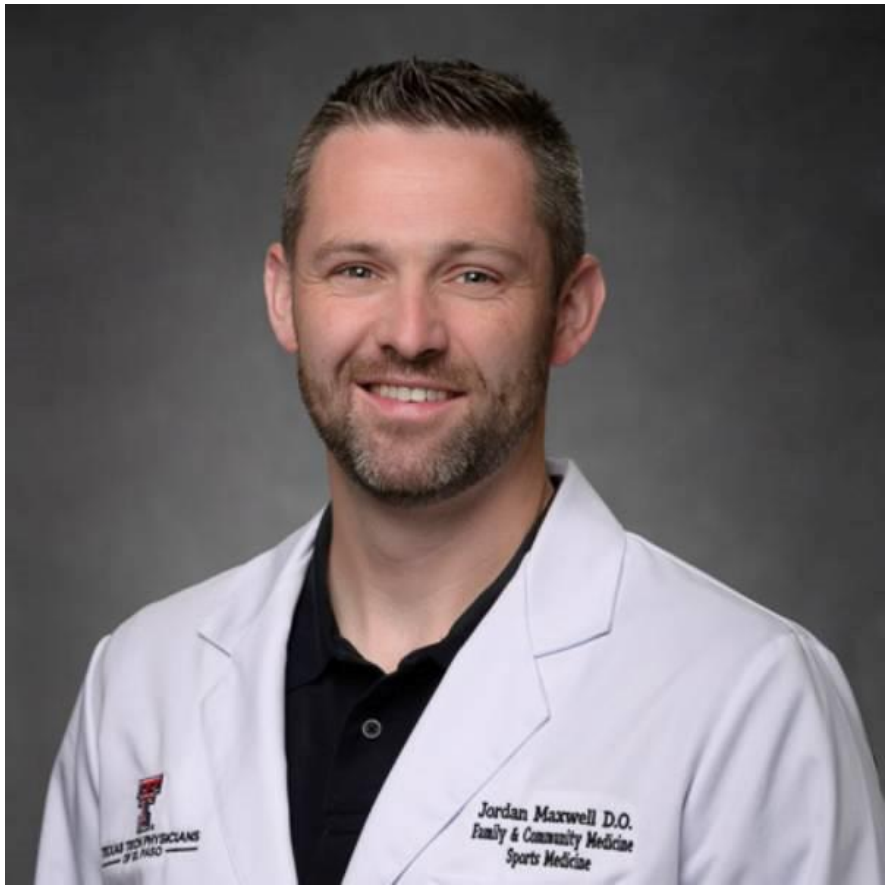


Gilberto Garcia, Ph.D., M.Ed., M.A., M.B.A.

Hunt School of Dental Medicine

Dr. Garcia is an assistant professor at the Hunt School of Dental Medicine. He joined the Texas Tech University System in 2016 and assumed his current position in 2021. His interests include medical and dental Spanish education, language access in healthcare, curriculum development, and advancing culturally and linguistically competent healthcare. Dr. Garcia serves as the director of the Spanish Language Program for both the Foster School of Medicine and the Hunt School of Dental Medicine.

Celebrating each participant



Jordan Maxwell, D.O.

Department of Family and Community Medicine

Dr. Maxwell is an assistant professor in the Department of Family and Community Medicine. He joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in 2024. He holds several leadership roles within his department, including associate director of the sports medicine fellowship and director of osteopathic medicine for the Family Medicine Residency Program.

Celebrating each participant



Darly Carmelle Ghislaine Mayer, Ph.D.

Department of Medical Education

Dr. Mayer is an associate professor of microbiology in the Department of Medical Education. She joined Texas Tech Health El Paso in June 2024. Her professional interests include clinical microbiology, infectious disease research, and student success. Dr. Mayer serves as co-director in the Department of Medical Education. Prior to joining Texas Tech Health El Paso, she was chair of the Department of Biology at Manhattan College.

Celebrating each participant



Stormy Monks, Ph.D., M.P.H., CHES

Department of Emergency Medicine

Dr. Monks is an associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine. She joined Texas Tech Health El Paso in 2014 and has served the institution in multiple capacities. Dr. Monks holds several leadership roles, including director of research in her department and director of research for the Training and Educational Center in Healthcare Simulation. She also serves as the Institutional Review Board chair and as director of the Region 6 Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit, a program funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Celebrating each participant



Nils Patrick Nickel, M.D.

Department of Internal Medicine

Dr. Nickel is an assistant professor in the division of pulmonary and critical care medicine within the Department of Internal Medicine. He joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in 2020. His professional interests include pulmonary vascular diseases. Dr. Nickel serves as the fellowship program director in the Department of Internal Medicine.

Celebrating each participant



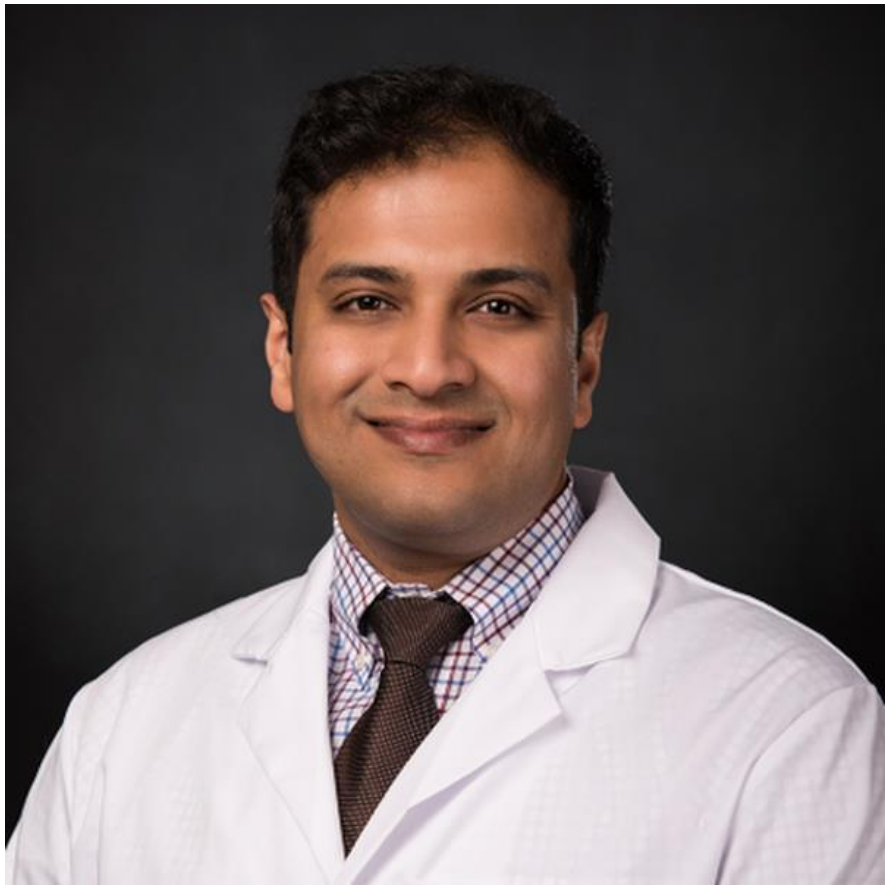
Osvaldo Padilla, M.D., M.P.H.

Department of Pathology

Dr. Padilla is an associate professor in the Department of Pathology. He joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in 2009. His interests include medical education and hematopathology research. Dr. Padilla holds several leadership roles in his department, including adjunct associate residency director for Academic Involvement and director of Hematopathology.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

Celebrating each participant



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

Sanjeet K. Panda, M.D., M.B.B.S., FAAP

Department of Pediatrics

Dr. Panda is an associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Texas Tech Health El Paso. He holds several leadership roles in his department, including serving as the medical director of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and the division chief of Newborn Services. Dr. Panda is interested in developing a Small Baby Unit within an existing NICU.

Celebrating each participant



Sheldon Rao, M.D.

Department of Internal Medicine

Dr. Rao is an assistant professor in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine within the Department of Internal Medicine. He joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in September 2023. Dr. Rao serves as the associate program director for the Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship in the Department of Internal Medicine and as the medical director of respiratory care at University Medical Center El Paso.

Celebrating each participant



Sunil Kumar Srinivas, M.D., D.M., FSCAI

Department of Internal Medicine

Dr. Srinivas is an assistant professor in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine within the Department of Internal Medicine. He joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in December 2023. His professional interests include interventional cardiology. Dr. Srinivas serves as the associate program director of the Cardiology Fellowship and the director of scheduling operations in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine.

Celebrating each participant



Muhammad Moiz Tahir, M.D.

Department of Internal Medicine

Dr. Tahir is an assistant professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine within the Department of Internal Medicine. He joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in September 2023. His professional interests include clinical education and quality improvement in graduate medical education. Outside his administrative roles, he volunteers at free clinics, caring for underserved patients while teaching and mentoring medical students. Dr. Tahir serves as the internal medicine clinic director and associate program director for the Internal Medicine Residency Program.

Celebrating each participant



Ellen Wicker, D.O.

Department of Surgery

Dr. Wicker is an assistant professor in the Department of Surgery. She joined the Texas Tech Health El Paso faculty in December 2023. Dr. Wicker holds several leadership roles, including surgery resident simulation director and site director for Transmountain Hospitals of Providence (Surgery, Transitional Year, and Family Medicine Resident Rotations). She also serves as the Cancer Liaison Physician and chairperson of the Multidisciplinary Tumor Board within the University Medical Center El Paso's Committee on Cancer, and is President-Elect of the Texas Association of Surgical Skills Laboratories.

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