I am happy to share with you some highlights of our initiatives and achievements in our main missions. Selecting these highlights has been difficult because we simply have too many great happenings in our 14 sections (and their training programs), seven vice chair research groups and four affiliated hospitals involving more than 690 faculty and 400 trainees. In general, we have met or exceeded our self-imposed objective benchmarks in clinical productivity and research ranking, and implemented several initiatives to improve communications and increase faculty and staff well-being. However, this is a journey, not a destination (cliché as it may be), which requires commitment and innovation on behalf of all of our staff and faculty.

Hashem B. El-Serag, M.D., M.P.H.
QUALITY ACADEMY PROJECTS SHOW GREAT PROMISE

The Quality Improvement and Innovations (QII) Vice Chair Group, led by Dr. Aanand Naik, was established in 2017 to foster a culture of improvement and innovation through education, teambuilding, and innovation. In the summer of 2018, the group held its second DoM Quality Academy, with two classes of graduates.

One graduate of the 2018 QI Academy is Dr. Kathryn Agarwal, whose project was "Framework for Improving Nurse Assessments of Fall Risk and Delirium." In a joint project with Houston Methodist Hospital, Dr. Agarwal sought to address the critical issues of falls and delirium in older acute-care patients. Using strict tool definitions, chart interpretation and nursing training, Dr. Agarwal worked with a geriatrics fellow, Dr. Christine Johnson, who performed fall risk and delirium screening assessments on 50 patients on two hospital units each, documented fall prevention measures and patient perception of interventions and then compared their assessments to those of nurses on shift concurrently. She focused on areas in which nurses underscored the assessments, as they present missed opportunities to avoid patient harm.

As Dr. Agarwal says, "both tools present opportunities for targeted improvement by building upon the current compliance with usage." The project has revealed multiple opportunities for improvement. Dr. Agarwal adds, "This framework for comparison of assessments followed by targeted interventions will be the focus of future PDSA (plan-do-study-act) cycles to improve the capture of delirium and fall risk."

OTHER 2018 QUALITY ACADEMY GRADUATES AND PROJECTS:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neeaj Agarwal</td>
<td>General Internal Medicine/Hospitalist</td>
<td>Improving communication/transition between hospitalists and primary care physicians at BILMC</td>
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<td>Muhammad Alsafadi</td>
<td>Infectious Diseases Fellow</td>
<td>Implementing weekly TPA for hemodialysis catheters to reduce CLABSI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satyaya Anumudu</td>
<td>Nephrology</td>
<td>Predicting kidney failure rate at Smith Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natasha Dave</td>
<td>Nephrology</td>
<td>Implementing a telehealth program to increase access to specialty care for rural veterans with chronic kidney disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Fadem</td>
<td>Nephrology</td>
<td>Reducing infections in VA dialysis patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Gyu</td>
<td>Internal Medicine/Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine</td>
<td>Eliminating hospital-acquired infections in ICU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryan Jiang</td>
<td>Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism</td>
<td>Creating a joint ortho-geriatric clinic and follow-up protocol for fragility fracture patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aparna Jotwani</td>
<td>Internal Medicine/Hematology/Oncology</td>
<td>Creating an oncology clinic note template to improve efficiency and productivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Lu</td>
<td>General Internal Medicine</td>
<td>Conducting an RCA, interventions to increase number of hypertension patients reaching goal blood pressure in Smith Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yvonne Sada</td>
<td>Hematology/Oncology</td>
<td>Creating call image protocols in the VA hematology/oncology clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Sealock</td>
<td>Gastroenterology and Hepatology</td>
<td>Reducing colonoscopy wait times in Harris Health System's direct colonoscopy program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rajesh Shah</td>
<td>Gastroenterology and Hepatology</td>
<td>Increasing dysplasia screening via surveillance for VA colorectal cancer patients with inflammatory bowel disease</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

COLLABORATION

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE CENTER BRINGS TOGETHER MULTIPLE DISCIPLINES

The Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) Center in the Section of Gastroenterology and Hepatology offers the full spectrum of services needed to effectively manage IBD, from diagnosis to treatment. The group seeks to improve the lives of its patients through the highest-quality care, an outstanding team of specialists, and the latest technologies, therapies and research.

The IBD group uses state-of-the-art endoscopy equipment for improved diagnosis and treatment and more accurate detection of early cancer, including video capsule endoscopy and enteroscopy. Clinical evaluation services include a multidisciplinary pediatric-to-adult transitions clinic, a multidisciplinary IBD surgery clinic, gastrointestinal wellness and nutrition, and the help of behavioral health services.

Patients benefit from a dedicated collaboration among healthcare providers throughout Baylor College of Medicine, including gastroenterologists, pathologists, nutritionists, radiologists, psychologists and surgeons.

Dr. Manreet Kaur, medical director, says that its success lies in the dedication across all services to provide a comprehensive approach to each patient, enabling them to reach all needs that can affect the patient’s care and successful treatment. “It’s really heartening to see how enthusiastic these providers are to work together to solve the riddles of a patient’s issues and to come up with a solution that addresses all aspects. It’s what we all want: a satisfied, healthy patient.”

The IBD Center group is currently involved in 15 multidisciplinary clinical trials to further its knowledge of the broad range of symptoms and treatments, including microbiome-focused molecular investigations in primary sclerosing cholangitis. The group also offers a one-year specialized fellowship training, now in its second year.
Dealing with a chronic medical illness can be difficult enough. Simply attending to the daily needs of chronic pain or discomfort is hard, but lifelong illnesses increase a patient’s vulnerability to anxiety and depression.

Addressing the often-overwhelming acknowledgment of a chronic disease can bring additional stress and sorrow. Dr. Bradford, a licensed psychologist in the Department of Medicine, helps patients deal with acceptance, develop a mindful plan of attack to improve their health and address ancillary issues such as excess weight or depression.

As Dr. Bradford tells it, “The brain and gut are intimately connected. It’s a bidirectional relationship, and anything we can do to help our patients address the brain side will improve their prognosis.” Her treatment plans may involve stress management, hypnosis and other forms of behavioral therapy.

Behavioral therapy addresses how patients think about their illness. Patients may assume the worst and avoid situations they anticipate being embarrassing or difficult, even if those outcomes are not likely; Dr. Bradford will help them redirect their thought processes away from stigma or anxiety and focus more on what makes life worth living.

For example, one of Dr. Bradford’s patients benefited from gut-directed hypnosis to manage stress-related flares of heartburn that were not well controlled with medication alone. Another patient with irritable bowel syndrome who experienced worse symptoms in social situations and had begun avoiding outings responded well to cognitive behavioral therapy focused on stopping the vicious cycle of gut symptoms, anxiety and avoidance.

Dr. Bradford is excited about the success of the program, which is actively recruiting a second psychologist to provide additional services focused on obesity and weight management. “I’d like to see our behavioral medicine services across all sections of the Department of Medicine,” she says.

“Dr. Bradford will help them redirect their thought processes away from stigma or anxiety and focus more on what makes life worth living.”
SELECT FACULTY AWARDS

Dr. Madhuri Vasudevan Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Award for Teaching and Evaluation
Dr. Erica Lescinskas Norton Rose Fulbright Faculty Excellence Award for Educational Leadership

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Mayar Al Mohajer Fellow, Infectious Disease Society of America Distinguished Physicians and Scientists
Dr. Mayar Al Mohajer President, Houston Infectious Disease Society
Dr. Mayar Al Mohajer Member, Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America Education Committee
Dr. Mahboob Alam Member, National Cardiovascular Data Registry PINNACLE Registry Research & Publications Subcommittee
Dr. Samaya Anumudu Member, American Society of Nephrology Policy and Advocacy Internship Program
Dr. Christie Ballantyne Member, Board of Directors for American Society for Preventive Cardiology
Dr. Christie Ballantyne Featured, Clarivate Analytics “World’s Highly Cited Researchers”
Dr. Gilad Birnbaum Member, American College of Cardiology ACC.org Pulse Check Panel
Dr. Biykem Bozkurt President-Elect, Heart Failure Society of America
Dr. Biykem Bozkurt Member, American Board of internal Medicine Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation Question Writing Committee
Dr. Andrea Bradford Society of Health Psychology Exceptional Service Award for Clinical Health Psychology
Dr. Sarah Candler Member, Board of Directors, Texas Chapter of American College of Physicians
Dr. Ellie Chen American College of Cardiology conference Presidential Poster Award and Outstanding Poster Presenter Award
Dr. Anita Deswal Member, Heart Failure Systems of Care Advisory Group
Dr. Hashem El-Serag Member, Advisory Committee to the Texas Cancer Registry
Dr. Hashem El-Serag Featured, Clarivate Analytics “World’s Highly Cited Researchers”
Dr. Mary Estes Member, Board of Governors, American Academy of Microbiology
Dr. Savitri Fedson Member, American Board of Internal Medicine Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation Question Writing Committee
Dr. Alan Garber Consultant, FDA Endocrinologic & Metabolic Drugs Advisory Committee
Dr. Stephen Greenberg President, American Clinical and Climatological Association
Dr. Nicola Hanania Distinguished CHEST Educator 2018
Dr. Nicola Hanania Member, ACCP Education Committee
Dr. Ruben Hernaez Member, American Gastroenterological Association Future Leaders Program
Dr. Xiaoming Jia Member, American College of Cardiology educational website editorial board
Kimberly Johnson American Academy of Nurse Practitioners 2019 Nurse Practitioner State Award for Excellence in Texas

APPOINTMENTS/PROMOTIONS/AWARDS

Dr. Salma Kaochar Prostate Cancer Foundation 2018 Young Investigator Award
Dr. Avi Ketwaroo Member, American Gastroenterological Association Future Leaders Program
Dr. Mirza Umair Khalid Member, National Cardiovascular Data Registry PINNACLE Registry Research & Publications Subcommittee
Dr. Hyunseok Kim American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases 2018-2019 Resident/Fellow Ambassador Award
Dr. Nasser Lakkus Member, American College of Cardiology Research Fellowship Awards Committee
Dr. Jing Liu Member, American College of Cardiology ACC.org Pulse Check Panel
Dr. Babith Mankidy American College of Chest Physicians Alfred Soffer Research Award
Dr. Tony McClafferty American College of Chest Physicians Best Oral Presentation Award
Dr. Sunina Nathoo Texas Gulf Coast Gastroenterological Society Annual Fellows Presentation Competition Award
Dr. Sankar Navaneethan Member, National Kidney Foundation Scientific Advisory Board
Dr. Sayna Norouzi Internship, American Society of Nephrology Workforce and Training Committee
Dr. Mohamed Othman Special section editor, Focal Points Section of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
Dr. Frederick Peng American College of Cardiology conference Presidential Poster Award and Outstanding Poster Presenter Award
Dr. Laura Petersen Under Secretary Award for Outstanding Achievement in Health Services Research
Ciona Regev University of Houston Most Distinguished Social Work Alumni Practitioner of the Year
Dr. Susan Samson Member, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism Milestones Working Group
Dr. Tina Shah Fellow American Society of Echocardiography
Dr. Richa Shukla Participant, American Gastroenterological Association Women’s Leadership Conference
Dr. Hardeep Singh Member, Veterans Affairs Workgroup on Improving Diagnostic Safety and Quality in Health Care
Dr. Brandon Smaglo Member, Board of Directors for Texas Society of Clinical Oncology
Dr. Margaret Spitz Member, NCI Scientific Advisory Group for the Sherlock Lung Study
Dr. Salim Virani Member, Board of Directors for American Society of Preventive Cardiology
Dr. Salim Virani Physician Assistant Education Association Article of the Year Award
Dr. Salim Virani Co-Chair, American College of Cardiology Global Educational Efforts team
Dr. Salim Virani Member, Management Board, American College of Cardiology National Cardiovascular Disease Registry
Dr. Cheryl Walker National Cancer Institute Outstanding Investigator Award
Dr. Cheryl Walker Endocrine Society Roy O. Greep Award for Outstanding Research
Dr. Cheryl Walker American College of Toxicology Distinguished Scientist Award in Toxicology

HOSPITAL RECOGNITIONS

Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center has been recognized as a 2018 Top Teaching Hospital by the Leapfrog Group.
The Ben Taub Hospital Medical Intensive Care Unit was awarded the Silver Beacon Award for Excellence from the American Association of Critical Care Nurses.
DEPARTMENT AND COLLEGE LEADERSHIP

AWARDS AND APPOINTMENTS

Dr. Robert Atmar  Institutional Biosafety Committee
Dr. Uma Ayyala  Associate Chief of Staff for Education at Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center
Dr. Galant Chan  Director of Medical Education at Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center
Dr. Jizhong Cheng  Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
Dr. Cara Foldes  Course Director for CABS: Evidence-Based Medicine course
Dr. Richard Hamill  Institutional Biosafety Committee
Dr. Allison Heinen  Assistant Director of Medical Education at Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center
Dr. James Kelaher  Institutional Biosafety Committee
Dr. Avi Ketwaroo  Vice Chair Group for Quality Improvement and Innovations
Dr. Anita Kusnoor  Assistant Chief of Medicine for Education, Ben Taub Hospital
Dr. Rolando Rumbaut  Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
Dr. Vinod Vijayan  Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
Dr. LeChauncy Woodard  IQbEST Educational Core Chief
Dr. Liping Zhang  Institutional Biosafety Committee

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE PROMOTIONS

Dr. Basant Arya  Associate professor (non-tenured)
Dr. Elizabeth Chiao  Professor (tenured)
Dr. Miguel Cruz  Professor (non-tenured)
Dr. Yohannes Ghebre  Associate professor (tenured)
Dr. Sean Hartig  Assistant professor (tenure track)
Dr. Amit Parulekar  Associate professor (tenured)
Dr. Kalpesh Patel  Associate professor (non-tenured)
Dr. Stacey Pereira  Assistant professor (non-tenured)
Dr. Hardeep Singh  Professor (tenured)

RESIDENCY PROGRAM

The Internal Medicine (IM) Residency Program continues to be among the best in the country. Our residents participated in more than 60 conferences outside Baylor in 2017-2018 and matched in some of the best fellowship training programs. The program prioritizes giving its residents opportunities to present at national subspecialty meetings, winning state and national championships and awards and earning crucial roles in high-ranking journals.

The interview season has grown, as the number of applicants increases. The IM Residency Program’s medicine track—including categorical, preliminary, research track, IM/The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, IM/primary, and IM/genetics—received 3,644 applications and interviewed 544 of those applicants. Of these, 70 interns matched. Concurrently, the IM/pediatrics program received 278 applications and interviewed 73 applications, matching eight interns.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

In the Internal Medicine Residency Program, we strive to:

- Provide high-quality, patient-centered care to a diverse community of patients
- Prepare residents for a lifetime of independent practice and learning
- Foster the development of physician leaders for a wide variety of careers

MATCHES FOR FELLOWS

Oregon Health & Sciences Univ.  Baylor College of Medicine  Univ. Florida COM-Shands
Baylor Univ. Med Center-Dallas  UCLA  UT MD Anderson Cancer Center
Univ. Texas Houston  Stanford  Ochsner Clinic Foundation
Univ. Colorado  Loma Linda Univ.  UC San Diego
Univ. Virginia  New York Univ.  UC San Francisco
Hospitals of Univ. Pennsylvania  Texas Heart Institute
Jackson Memorial Hospital  Ohio State Univ.
Massachusetts Gen. Hospital  Northwestern Univ.
In the 2018 Blue Ridge ranking, the Baylor Department of Medicine achieved its highest status in recent memory. The Blue Ridge ranking uses active National Institutes of Health funding to rank 115 nationwide departments of medicine. The Baylor Department of Medicine rose from #40 in 2017 to #27, fueled by a $12 million increase in NIH direct funding over the last year. “While a milestone worth celebrating,” says Dr. Hashem El-Serag, chair of the Department of Medicine, “the rank is but one aspect of success. We’re proud that our faculty and trainees also continue to be quite successful in publishing, education and clinical care.” The department’s faculty have made important contributions to research in 2018.

ATTACKING CANCER IN MINORITY POPULATIONS THROUGH RESEARCH

Prostate Cancer

Prostate cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in American men. It also is the area with the largest U.S. cancer health disparity, with African-American men having a 70-75% higher rate of prostate cancer diagnosis, younger age at diagnosis, increased risk for recurrence and a 2.5-fold-higher mortality than Caucasian-American men. Studies suggest that a combination of socioeconomic environmental and genetic factors result in the disparities.

Department of Medicine faculty provide clinical care at two major teaching hospitals that serve large minority populations: Ben Taub Hospital (91% of patients are minorities) and the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center (30% of patients are African American). This presents a unique opportunity to offer solutions for these disparities. Dr. Nicholas Mitsiades, associate director for the Center for the Biology of Health Disparities and co-leader of the Prostate Working Group in the Dan L Duncan Comprehensive Cancer Center (DLDCCC), has been leading clinical trials that offer innovative treatments to patients in the GenitoUrinary Medical Oncology clinic of Ben Taub Hospital.

Dr. Mitsiades is principal investigator of a clinical trial combining standard treatment with a novel investigational agent at Baylor and Ben Taub Hospital. Mr. Lamont Bell, who is participating in the trial, was diagnosed with Stage 4 prostate cancer. At the 5-year anniversary of his diagnosis (see photo below), Mr. Bell was informed that his prostate cancer remains in complete remission, an outcome that would have been unlikely with the standard therapy available at the time.

“Baylor faculty provide medical care to a large minority patient population in the Houston area,” explains Dr. Mitsiades. “It’s a top priority for our Cancer Center to extend our precision oncology initiatives to underserved minorities.”
An important research program in the field of precision oncology is the Minority Patient-Derived Xenograft (PDX) Development and Trial Center, a multi-disciplinary effort to characterize the biology of prostate and breast cancer and identify personalized treatments, with particular emphasis in cancers affecting minority populations. Dr. Mitsiades directs the Center, supported by a $6.4 million National Cancer Institute grant. Cancer cells are grown in mice as PDXs, and the mice are treated with various anticancer agents to identify the most appropriate therapy for each cancer. The ultimate goal of precision oncology is to identify the most effective drug for each cancer and each individual patient.

Dr. Salma Kaochar is spearheading Baylor’s efforts in prostate PDX generation and characterization. She was named a 2018 Prostate Cancer Foundation Young Investigator and is working on deciphering the epigenetic landscape of African-American prostate cancer and developing novel, safer and more effective therapies.

What’s next? Drs. Kaochar, Mims, Mitsiades and others are working to establish a Center of Excellence within the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

**NEW NIH RESEARCH GRANTS 2018**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grant Type</th>
<th>Institute</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Christopher Amos</td>
<td>U19</td>
<td>National Cancer Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ashok Balasubramanyam</td>
<td>U54</td>
<td>National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Melissa Bondy</td>
<td>R01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Melissa Bondy</td>
<td>R21</td>
<td>National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drs. David Corry/Farrah Kheradmand</td>
<td>R01</td>
<td>National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drs. David Corry/Antony Rodriguez</td>
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<td>National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Bich Dang</td>
<td>R21</td>
<td>National Institute of Mental Health</td>
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<td>Drs. Mark Entman/Katarzyna Cieslik</td>
<td>R01</td>
<td>National Institute on Aging</td>
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<td>Dr. Richard Finnell</td>
<td>R01</td>
<td>Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health &amp; Human Development</td>
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<td>Drs. Suzanne Fuqua/Matthew Ellis</td>
<td>T32</td>
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<td>Dr. Traber Giardina</td>
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<td>Drs. Winifred Hamilton/Abiodun Oluyomi</td>
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<td>Dr. Sylvia Hysong</td>
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<td>Dr. Fasihah Kewal</td>
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<td>Dr. Farrah Kheradmand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Gabriel Lazaro-Muñoz/Amy Lynn McGuire</td>
<td>R01</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Amy Lynn McGuire</td>
<td>U01</td>
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<td>Dr. William Mitch</td>
<td>R01</td>
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<td>Dr. Nicholas Mitsiades</td>
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<td>National Cancer Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drs. Rolando Rumbaut/Miguel Cruz</td>
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<td>Dr. Cheryl Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Maya Balakrishnan</td>
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<td>Baylor College of Medicine Research Seed Grant</td>
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<td>Dr. Rebecca Bruhl</td>
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<td>Corporation for National &amp; Community Service Social Innovation Fund</td>
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<td>Dr. Tony Ellsa</td>
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<td>American Heart Association 2018 Transformational Project Award</td>
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<td>Dr. Winifred Hamilton</td>
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<td>U.S. Department of Housing &amp; Urban Development</td>
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<td>Dr. Salma Kaochar</td>
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<td>Prostate Cancer Foundation Young Investigator Award</td>
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<td>Dr. Wei-Chin Lin</td>
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<td>Department of Defense</td>
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<td>Dr. Ashley Meyer</td>
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<td>Veterans Affairs HSR&amp;D Career Development Award</td>
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<td>Dr. Laura Petersen</td>
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<td>Veterans Affairs renewal of iQueSt funding</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Antony Rodriguez</td>
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<td>Gillson Longenbaugh Foundation Grant</td>
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<td>Dr. Fasihah Kewal</td>
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The training program at the Department of Medicine hosted its annual Housestaff Research Symposium on April 5, 2018, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The event had 148 abstracts/posters and 47 judges. More than 250 attendees viewed the research during the full-day event. Significant Department of Medicine winners included: First Place, QI/Patient Safety (R. Jacobson, S. Tuthill, K. Sanber, B. Kaul, V. Hemmige, E. Guy, C. Shah, S. Greenberg); Second Place, Clinical Research (N. Kariuki; P. Kumar, R. Sekhar); Second Place, Clinical Medicine (R. Olmsted, Z. Sargsyan); and Third Place, Basic Research (C.-Y. Chang, R. You, N. Putluri, F. Kheradmand).

Dr. Joslyn Fisher leads the VCG for Faculty and Staff Development, which has implemented Sunshine Grants—an innovative idea to fund small projects to foster wellness activities across the Department of Medicine. The Sunshine Grants have funded eight projects (of 18 submissions). The grant recipients and their projects represent a broad range of sections and affiliates across the department:

- Gastroenterology and Hepatology (Gi): BCM Wellness from Within Podcast Relay, available across BCM and to the public
- Gi: Wellness Retreat, From My Family to Yours!
- General Internal Medicine: ESCAPE the Room team-building event
- General Internal Medicine: Culinary Medicine—Health Promotion Begins with Healthy & Happy Doctors
- Health Services Research: Wellness for All: A Comprehensive Yoga & Mindfulness Program
- Infectious Diseases: From Complaints to Commitments—A Grassroots Effort to Improve Faculty & Staff Well-Being
- Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine—Showcasing Houston: A Quarterly Event
- Transition Medicine: Practicing the “Art” in the “Art of Medicine”

Sunshine Grant awardees say the events had high participation rates; fostered interdisciplinary, cross-institutional collaboration; and demonstrated positive outcomes. Upon taking on the role of vice chair, Dr. Fisher notes that Dr. Thomas Giordano set a high bar as its first chair with his insight and vision. “I’m proud to continue to seek ways to make the Baylor Department of Medicine the best place to work, in a multitude of ways.” She continues, “I’m constantly inspired by so many faculty and staff who embrace the importance and benefits of focusing on the well-being of our members.”