



# TLAF CLASS 2019-2020

TEXAS COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS  
LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

# Rebecca Briggs, MD



Dr. Briggs is currently a third year Emergency Medicine chief resident at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. While she does not hail from Texas, she got here as quickly as she could! She is originally from Las Vegas, completed her undergraduate degree at Stanford University, and attended medical school at the University of Washington in Seattle. Her academic interests include resident education, coding/billing, and health policy. When not at work, Dr. Briggs enjoys traveling with her partner Chris, spending time outdoors, exploring new coffee shops, and reading.

# Darrell Calderon, MD



Dr. Darrell Calderon is a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Medicine. Afterwards, he completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at the University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston.

Dr. Calderon has been practicing at numerous departments throughout Houston since 2001. He even served his country as part of Operation Enduring Freedom while serving as Division Surgeon of the 75th Brigade Combat Support Division as part of the Army Reserves. During his service, he participated in relief efforts for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. He was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for his service during the disasters. He completed his Army career as a Lieutenant Colonel and was awarded the Army Meritorious Service Medal for his cumulative service to his country.

Dr. Calderon is currently serving as the director of the Emergency Department and Chief Medical Officer at First Texas Hospital-Cy Fair in Houston. Along with caring for the sick and injured, his practice interests have focused on curbing opioid usage and helping implement the ALTO program throughout the hospital and affiliated First Choice Emergency Departments. Another current interest is Observation Medicine and he was instrumental in expanding these services throughout the First-Choice system. Dr. Calderon currently serves on several ACEP committees including the Telehealth Section-Disaster Medicine Task Force and Observation Medicine among others.

# Nora Demchur, MD



Nora Demchur is a 2nd year Emergency Medicine Resident at the UT Austin Dell Medical School. She made it all the way to Texas from Philadelphia by way of South Carolina where she completed her undergraduate and medical degrees at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. While she may be originally from the Northeast, she has become quickly immersed in the Texas culture and has acquired an interest in leadership and patient advocacy. She participated in both TMA's Legislative Day at the Capitol and TCEP Connect as an intern which sparked her interest in the Texas Leadership and Advocacy Fellowship. Nora looks forward to learning more about policy and leadership to enhance her ability to advocate for her patients throughout her career. Outside of the hospital Nora enjoys riding horses, hiking with her dog Zoey, and exploring the culinary and music scene in Austin.

## Brian Eby, MD



Dr. Brian Eby is a rising third year resident at UTSW in Dallas. Originally from Wisconsin, he did undergraduate at the University of Minnesota and returned home for medical school at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. His first experiences with advocacy and organized medicine were through the AMA Medical Student Section and the Wisconsin Medical Society while in medical school. He has continued his engagement in organized medicine in residency through EMRA. Outside of medicine, Brian enjoys running, traveling, and coparenting a golden retriever with his fiancée.

# Whitney Faulconer, DO



Faulconer is a board-certified emergency physician working for University of Texas Medical Branch hospitals in Houston/Galveston. She attended Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences for her medical degree while simultaneously obtaining a masters in bioethics. Faulconer completed a 4 year residency at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, MS. Her interests include medical education, physician wellness, and global health. Whitney is a native Wyomingite who enjoys world travel and spending time outdoors with her 2 dogs.

# Mohamed Hagahmed, MD



Prior to coming to the US, I lived in three countries after my family left our home in the politically unstable Sudan and settled in the city of Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. I completed an undergraduate degree in Health Sciences from the University of Aachen in Germany while playing professional football for NFL Europa.

After immigrating to the US and finishing my undergraduate degree at the University of Pittsburgh, I lived in Philadelphia where I completed my medical degree at Drexel University College of Medicine. As a medical student, I worked with the Healing Hurt People Group, which is a community-focused, hospital-based program designed to reduce reinjury and retaliation among youth ages 8-30. The program is affiliated with the Emergency Department at Hahnemann University Hospital, the Drexel University College of Medicine and St. Christopher's Hospital for Children. I assisted in gathering clients' geographic data, which were then entered in the ArcGIS mapping system in order to create an interactive city map. The map was utilized to analyze relevant clients' information like poverty levels, unemployment rates, nearby police stations etc. It serves the purpose of improving the services provided by the Center to its clients. The biggest reward for me was the ability to provide mentorship and guidance to the young men who were exposed to gang violence and trauma. Many of the mentees completed high school and went on to college or secured employment.

After completing Emergency Medicine Residency from the University of Pittsburgh, I decided to move to San Antonio where I will be working as an assistant professor at UT Health and also serve as an assistant director for the medical student clerkship.

# Laura Haselden, MD



Laura Haselden is a 2nd year emergency medicine resident at UT Austin. She was born and raised in South Carolina, collecting undergraduate degrees in biology and philosophy from Clemson University and her medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Her interests include political and grassroots social activism and expanding healthcare equality and equity for all. Outside of medicine, she enjoys running, painting, and being close to the ocean.

# Jason Lesnick, MD



Jason Lesnick is a third year and chief resident at the McGovern Medical School Emergency Medicine program (formerly known as the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston). Dr. Lesnick moved to Houston for residency after having spent most of his life in Florida. He attended the University of Florida for undergraduate studies where he majored in Biology and Psychology, then graduated from the Florida State University College of Medicine. He served as the EMRA Program Representative as an intern where he submitted and passed two resolutions at the EMRA council. Dr. Lesnick currently is a member of the ACEP PA/NP Utilization Task Force as the EMRA Representative. His interests in Emergency Medicine include patient safety, health policy, administration, resident education, wellness, and the relationship between these areas.

## Anisha Malhotra, MD



Dr. Malhotra is a 3rd year resident at UTSW. Originally from New Delhi, she lived in Singapore before moving to America. After spending 4 years in Chicago going to Second City comedy shows (and completing medical school), she is now involved in resident wellness, patient safety, and medical illustration. She is passionate about healthcare legislation and physician advocacy and looks forward to learning more and incorporating these into her career via TLAf.

# Jon Rogg, MD



Dr. Rogg MD MBA is an assistant professor and the associate director of ED operations in the department of emergency medicine at McGovern Medical School in Houston, TX. He is an expert on hospital operations and lectures frequently on personal finance for physicians.

He received two undergraduate degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in biology and in management from the Sloan School of Management. He earned an MD with research honors from Tufts University School of Medicine in Boston and trained in emergency medicine at the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital. He completed a fellowship in emergency department administration at Massachusetts General Hospital and also holds an MBA from Harvard Business School.

# Michael Rozum, MD



Dr. Mike Rozum is a first year Emergency Medicine Resident at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. He was born and raised in a family of six in the suburbs of Chicago. He went on to complete Medical School at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, where he published demographic studies assessing heroin use and patient access to Narcan. During his 4th year of medical school he completed his emergency medicine rotation at Dell Seton Hospital in Austin, Texas. Through this experience he discovered his appreciation for the hard working nature of Texans as well as the need for patient centered political advocacy to ensure a more effective and efficient care environment. During his free time, Mike enjoys playing Basketball, International travel, improv comedy, and long walks on the beach.

# Chance Sims, DO



Dr. Chance Sims completed his undergraduate at Texas A&M university and then went on to University of North Texas-Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. He did his residency at Ohio Valley Medical Center in West Virginia which is where he got interested in EM advocacy. Dr. Sims currently works at CHI St. Joseph in Bryan-College Station. In his free time he enjoys being with his wife and new daughter and punching holes in the sky in whatever plane he can get ahold of.

# Chaethana Yalamanchili, MD



Dr. Chaethana Yalamanchili has been practicing as a community ER physician for the past decade in her hometown of Houston, TX. She graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in Biomedical Engineering and earned her medical degree from Texas Tech Health Sciences Center in Lubbock, TX. She completed her residency in Emergency Medicine at Metrohealth/Case Western in Cleveland, OH. She returned home to Houston after residency and worked at St. Lukes/CHI in the medical center for six years and is currently working in the community at North Cypress Medical Center. She became a TLAF fellow to learn more about advocating for her patients and her profession on legislative level.