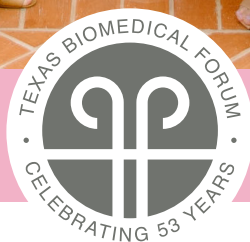


Forum in Focus



ENTHUSIASTICALLY PROMOTING THE
TEXAS BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE



THROUGH COMMUNITY RELATIONS,
VOLUNTEER SERVICE, AND FUNDRAISING

President's Letter



Dear Friends of The Forum,

It is truly an honor to be addressing you as our organization's 53rd President! The women who have come before me bear an incredible legacy and I am humbled to follow in their footsteps.

Most recently, in those of Immediate Past President, **Amelita Mauzé**, who did

an incredible job leading The Forum board in raising an incredible gift of almost \$500,000 to the Texas Biomedical Research Institute.

We kicked off our annual membership campaign under VP Membership **Rebecca Nathan** and her assistant, **Avril Byrne**. Members are the bedrock of our organization and Rebecca and her team have already done an incredible job in membership. We have over 280 members and have raised \$61,153.28 in membership dollars to date.

If you have not already, please consider joining us as a member for our 2022 – 2023 year. With the help of **Katie Fravell**, membership records, the Membership team is putting together a printed directory that will be in members' mailboxes soon!

It is a wonderful time to be a member as you are not going to want to miss all of the events that we have scheduled for the year. **Kristin Tips**, VP Lecture Luncheon, and her assistant **Allegra Hawkins**, planned and executed a beautiful, informative and fun Fall Lecture Luncheon and Gala Reveal on November 2nd and they are already thinking about our Spring Lecture Luncheon and Science Education Awards scheduled for Wednesday, March 1st. **Adrianna Grossman** and **Carolina Lewis**, Special Events Chairs, organized a very informative, festive and fun member holiday party on Wednesday, November 30th and are already planning a Valentine's Onze Tournament, which will be happening on Wednesday, February 1st. **Lauren Biegler** and **Ashley Quintanilla**, Skeet Shoot Chairs, are busily planning the Second Annual Forum and Founder's Council Clay Shoot Classic for Thursday, March 30th. And of course, planning for our much-anticipated Forum Gala on May 6th is well underway in the capable and creative hands of Chairs **Gloria Dilley** and **Triana Grossman**, Gala Assistant **Jayne**

Russell, Gala Treasurer **Christina Ketabchi**, and Table Sales Chair **Elaine Vornsand**. We are all counting down the days for Forum Gala 2023: Birds of a Feather Flock Together. There are only a few tables left, so be sure to reserve yours before it is too late!

Audra Kerr and **Joannah Pickett**, are actively soliciting grants and exploring matching opportunities for our fundraising goals. As a reminder, a gift to grants is 100% tax deductible and directly funds pilot studies for the amazing scientists at Texas Biomed. Please reach out to Joannah if there is a donor or foundation that would like to be involved in our efforts. Additionally, the Science Education Awards, in association with V.H. McNutt Memorial Foundation, is redirecting funds from awarding high school teacher's classroom initiatives to now offering scholarships to seniors planning to pursue a college degree in science for the second year. For questions on this exciting scholarship opportunity, please reach out to **Kate Rogers**.

Some of The Forum's most important jobs are the least visible. I would like to thank Recording Secretary **Emily Sytsma**, Treasurer **Bonnie Muecke**, Parliamentarian **Muffin Moorman**, Social Correspondent **Scotty MacDaniel**, Historian **Callie Price** and the entire communications team chaired by Corresponding Secretary **Sarah Hager**, **Claire McNab**, **Eva Holliday**, **Lauren Hawa**, **Margaret Yancy** and **Nicola McLaughlin** for all their work behind the scenes. Your efforts are not only critical to our organization's success, but so appreciated by me! As we look forward expectantly to the year ahead, we remember those who have come before us. We are grateful for the support and guidance from our past Presidents. **Ana Leah Montemayor**, Past President Liaison, is making a concerted effort to engage and inform the past presidents of the business of The Forum. We honored many of the past presidents at the Past Presidents Luncheon on October 6th. Additionally, I am honored to have **Jerilyn Blanchard**, **Melissa Morgan**, **Lisa Sechler** and **Karen Lee Zachry** as my advisors. Thank you for all of your support and guidance this year.

Lastly, I would like to thank Texas Biomed's VP of Development **Akudo Anyanwu** and **Susanna Young** for their guidance and support of our board as we enthusiastically promote the Texas Biomedical Research Institute through community relations, volunteer service, and fundraising.

Excitedly,
Emilie Herrmann Petty

HISTORIAN UPDATE

Callie Price

Over the past fifty-two years of The Forum, leather bound scrapbooks have been meticulously created which include letters, newspaper clippings, photos, invitations, and even small memorabilia from Forum events of the past. As Historian, I have the pleasure of providing the Trustees with a glimpse of our past through anecdotes found in these scrapbooks at each monthly meeting. From descriptions of fashions found at past Fashion Show Luncheons, to timely lecture luncheon topics and creative Gala themes, we all leave inspired to continue the legacy that has been built for us.

A particular focus and interest for me this year as Historian is providing our Trustees more information about the research projects and pilot studies that our Forum donations have funded in our fifty-two-year history. In its first year, The Forum raised \$3,800 (which is nearly \$30,000 with today's buying power of a dollar) and year after year has increased the donation amount, which has provided Texas Biomed with crucial funds necessary to further their life changing research. In 1977, only seven years after the founding of the Forum, President Mrs. James Cavender, Jr. presented a check in the amount of \$25,000 to augment the research of a breast cancer project. In the 1995 – 1996 year, \$71,400 was raised by The Forum and was used to underwrite six different pilot



research projects at Texas Biomed, including four within the Department of Genetics. The research projects and pilot studies that have been funded since 1970 from Forum donations have changed science and changed lives and will continue to do so for generations to come.

Check Presentation

As part of the first meeting of the year, current board members had the opportunity to visit and tour Texas Biomed where they proudly presented Dr. Larry S. Schlesinger, current CEO, with a check for \$493,917.37 from The Forum.

Past President's Letter



Dear Friends of The Forum,

It was said at the Past Presidents Luncheon on October 6th that the only thing better than serving as President of our amazing organization is to join the ranks of Past Presidents. As the group's 52nd member, I couldn't agree more! What an honor to join this illustrious coterie of women.

It was my pleasure to announce in August that our 2021 – 2022 Forum gift to the Texas Biomedical Research Institute was \$493,917.37. This accomplishment is the combined result of the fundraising events held last year, membership revenue, and grant gifts. Thank you to each member, Trustee, and donor who supported The Forum and made this gift possible.

And speaking of gifts, I'm grateful for the "swan song" year I have ahead of me with a group of women I love dearly. **Emilie Petty** is doing a superb job as President and we have an exciting line up of events on the calendar. I also look forward to the task of slating our 2023 – 2024 Executive Committee and the next class of Trustees as Nominating Chair.

The future for The Forum is brighter than ever!

Gratefully,
Amelita Mauzé





In The News

TEXAS BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE JOINS THE NATION'S PREMIERE INITIATIVE TO MAP THE BRAIN AT THE SINGLE CELL LEVEL

Texas Biomed will help map the developing brain with unprecedented detail for the National Institutes of Health's BRAIN Initiative Cell Atlas Network (BICAN). NIH recently awarded a total of \$500 million to 11 teams that will work together to build a 3D brain atlas at single cell resolution over the next five years.

Texas Biomed and its Southwest National Primate Research Center are part of a team led by the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), and also includes Yale University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Wisconsin—Madison, and University of California, Los Angeles.

"This is an example of what you could call 'Big science' with a capital B," says UCSF Professor Arnold Kriegstein, MD, PhD, who is overseeing the team's \$36.4 million portion of the initiative. "It's much larger than any individual lab, or even a single institute, could hope to accomplish. It can only be done with a large collaborative group of investigators working together."

The team's contribution to the overall effort is mapping the developing brain – identifying cell types, activities and locations as they differentiate during development and change throughout childhood and into adolescence. They will also be the only team to draw direct comparisons between humans and nonhuman primate relatives.

"We are truly excited to be a part of this collaboration and see this 3D single cell brain map come to life," says Texas Biomed Associate Professor Marcel Daadi, PhD, one of the

co-principal investigators of the NIH grant. "This project will help us better understand what makes our brains different and uniquely vulnerable to certain neurodegenerative diseases compared to our closest relatives."

By mapping female and male developing brains at key phases before birth, after birth, during childhood and teen years, the group aims to learn more about normal, healthy brain development. This will also provide a baseline to better understand how diseases like autism, schizophrenia and Parkinson's emerge.

"Usually, by the time we see symptoms of Parkinson's, about 80% of dopamine nerve terminals are already gone," Dr. Daadi says.

"Changes in the brain that happen early in life might contribute to faulty brain connections and neurodegeneration in later years. This project could help us learn what those critical changes are and find new treatment targets."

This builds on the BRAIN Initiative's first phase, called the Cell Census Network, which catalogued brain cell types, with an emphasis on mice. Now, in this phase, the teams will complete a comprehensive list of human brain cell types, and clarify how all those cells work together, showing what cell types are present in different structures of the brain.

"There are 80 billion cells in the brain and we don't really understand the composition, how those cells are distributed, or how that changes during development," Dr. Kriegstein says.

"But we have technology now that allows us to look at these questions at extremely high resolution."

To create the atlas, researchers will not just identify individual cells, but also where they are located in the brain, which can shift, especially during development. They will use a combination of advanced single cell sequencing techniques as well as advanced imaging techniques to ultimately merge the data into an interactive map. A key feature of the BRAIN Initiative is making sure all teams are using standardized methods and technologies so all the data can be compiled together into a final product.

"When complete, the single-cell brain atlas will provide a resource that will inform future research into a wide range of health conditions for decades to come," says Joanne Turner, PhD, Texas Biomed's Executive Vice President of Research. "We are proud to contribute our expertise in animal models and can't wait to see what new mechanisms are revealed."

The collaboration will also greatly benefit up-and-coming researchers, and is poised to inspire the next generation of scientists and leaders, much like the Human Genome Project did in the 1990s and early 2000s.

"I really think we've put together some of the best experts in the field, anywhere in the world, for this initiative. I'm really excited for our early-career scientists to work alongside them and with each other on such a significant collaboration."

—Dr. Kriegstein



FORUM PILOT STUDY GRANTS

Audra Kerr & Joannah Pickett

Each year, The Forum presents Texas Biomed with a sizable check from our combined fundraising efforts. These funds are then distributed to select scientists as Pilot Study Grants to support their research needs. A pilot study, pilot project, or pilot experience is a small-scale preliminary study conducted to evaluate the feasibility, time, cost, adverse events, and effort to predict an appropriate sample size and improve the study design before embarking on a full-scale research project. Each pilot study costs as much as \$50,000 and lasts about one year. With the results from these studies, Texas Biomed scientists can take the data and apply for additional research dollars from organizations such as the National Institute of Health (NIH).

We began distributing these grants 20 years ago and have awarded in excess of \$4 million to the scientists at Texas Biomed. This funding allowed researchers to apply for additional grant monies that have resulted in more than \$80 million in subsequent awards—a 20-fold return on investment! These grants are sometimes known as "seed grants" because they are relatively small, but the ideas they power can grow to become huge in impact.

We hope you will join us as a member and participate throughout the year at our many social and educational offerings and our primary fundraising event, The Forum Gala.

You may also contribute directly to Forum Grant Pilot Studies:

- Make a fully tax-deductible contribution towards our Forum Grant Fund, 100% of which goes directly to scientists' pilot students.
- Recommend individuals, foundations, and corporations that may be interested in contributing. We will gladly reach out to them. Email recommendations to: Joannah Pickett, Grants Committee at jpicket2@trinity.edu





NICOLA BATHIE / DILLARD'S EVENT

On November 8th, **Gloria Dilley, Triana Grossman, Marie Mays, Claire McNab, Hallie Swope** and **Kristin Tips** cheerfully hosted friends of The Forum at the Argyle for current Trustee, **Nicola Bathie McLaughlin's**, 2022 Holiday Capsule Collection Fashion Show and Launch Party.

For the love of all things ethereal and feminine, this collection is adorned with elegant chinoiserie inspired by classical ballet and the delicate movements of a ballerina. Nicola wanted to bring to life an array of romantic silhouettes, flouncing hemlines and rich velvets.

The Forum was proud to be the featured beneficiary from a portion of the proceeds of this whimsical event that transformed the Argyle into a rose garden paradise.

Along with individual match donations, there were several grant donations from attendees which added up to almost **\$10,000 fundraised** that evening! We are beyond thankful for the continued support from our members and the San Antonio community.

Past Events

PAST PRESIDENTS' LUNCHEON

Ana Leah Montemayor

On October 6th, it was my honor and privilege to host The Past Presidents' Luncheon. We had a wonderful group of Past Presidents attend the luncheon making it a huge success. Since its founding in 1970, The Forum has been focused on supporting Texas Biomed through community relations, volunteer services and fundraising. It was such a lovely day honoring a truly amazing group of ladies. Thank you, Past Presidents, for all of your hard work and dedication to The Forum. We are truly grateful.



Membership



The Forum welcomes the new incoming trustees!

From left to right: Eva Reza-Holliday, Joannah Pickett, Ana Leah Montemayor, Claire McNab, Ashley Quintanilla, Allegra Hawkins, Elaine Vornsand, Nicola Bathie McLaughlin, Lauren Biegler, Lauren Hawa, Margaret Yancy & Jayme Russell.

MEMBERSHIP

Forum members are a crucial part of our organization as the annual membership dues paid by members make up a significant portion of the gift presented to Texas Biomed.

Our membership year runs from August 1 to July 31 and is open to all women, 21 years and older. Dues are 100 percent tax deductible. Forum Memberships make incredibly meaningful gifts for the special women in your life! Consider gifting a membership for birthdays and holidays. Additionally, our Lifetime Membership may be purchased for yourself and/or for others—perhaps for a daughter, niece or granddaughter. The legacy gift will become active on the recipient's 21st birthday.

Invite a friend and help ensure the ongoing success of our organization and the impact it has, not only on our community but around the world.

Scan the code here
or encourage your friends to visit:
<https://forum.txbiomed.org/forum-membership/>.



Checks may be made out to:
Texas Biomedical Forum
and mailed to:
Forum Membership
P.O. Box 6648,
San Antonio, Texas 78209.

For inquiries regarding membership:
Email: TxBioMedForumMembership@gmail.com; or
Call Rebecca Nathan, VP Membership: 404.550.0113.

We thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you soon!

2022 – 2023 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Executive Committee

Emilie Petty, *President*
Kristin Tips, *VP Lecture Luncheon / President-Elect*
Gloria Dilley, *VP Gala Co-Chair*
Triana Grossman, *VP Gala Co-Chair*
Rebecca Nathan, *VP Membership*
Muffin Moorman, *Parliamentarian*
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Christina Ketabchi, *Assistant Treasurer*
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Joannah Pickett, *Grants Assistant*
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Kate Rogers, *Student Outreach*
& *Science Education Awards*
Jayme Russell, *Gala Assistant*
Elaine Vornsand, *Gala Table Sales*
Margaret Yancy, *Newsletter*

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Jeryllyn Blanchard, *Advisor*
Leslie Hamilton, *Southwest Research*
Melissa Morgan, *Advisor*
Judy Schlesinger, *Texas Biomed*
Lisa Sechler, *Advisor*
Karen Lee Zachry, *Advisor*





Forum Gala

2023 GALA REVEAL

Forum Gala 2023 Team:

Gloria Dilley, *Gala Co-Chair*
 Triana Grossman, *Gala Co-Chair*
 Jayme Russell, *Gala Assistant*
 Elaine Vornsand, *Table Sales*
 Bonnie Muecke, *Treasurer*
 Christina Ketabchi, *Gala Treasurer*



Triana Grossman, Gloria Dilley, Emilie Petty and honorary Gala Chair, **Kay Mandigo**.

“As we soar into a new season, it is with sentiment and great joy that we invite you to the 52nd Texas Biomedical Forum Gala, held on May 6th, 2023. We would like to dedicate the gala to the fleet of Forum women, past and present. Since its founding, we have seen the Forum fly to new heights. In honor of every inspirational member and leader, we proudly proclaim the gala theme to be named; **Birds of a Feather Flock Together!**”

Please plan to join us for what promises to be an evening full of fun and grandeur. The Gala team is proud to share that all private rooms have been sold out and tables are going quickly! Please email our Table Sales Chair, **Elaine Vornsand**, at efoster05@gmail.com to reserve your table.

If you are unable to attend Gala, we ask that you please consider underwriting a portion of the evening and/or making a donation to Gala Grants—both of these options are 100% tax deductible.

On October 6th, a beautiful autumn day, **Kristin Tips** and **Allegra Hawkins** hosted the first of two lecture luncheons at the Argyle. Forum members got to hear first-hand about recent developments in infectious disease research from top Texas Biomed researchers. The panel was moderated by Nicole Foy and formed by Dr. Ricardo Carrion, Dr. Eric Shattuck and Dr. Larry S. Schlesinger. They provided the audience with great insight into the lessons and leaps forward after facing the COVID pandemic.

Following the panel presentation, attendees were treated to a spectacular gala theme reveal presented by



2023 GALA PLANNING

As a way to celebrate the new year and start the momentum for gala planning, **Gloria Dilley, Triana Grossman** and **Emilie Petty** hosted a beautiful and fun Kick off Celebration on September 29th, at Triana’s lovely home. Attendees had the opportunity to get to know their fellow gala team members and receive their specific role assignments for the big event taking place in May. The host committee also announced the opportunity to participate in the raffle of a luxury handbag generously donated by a private donor and a framed silk panel donated by a Friend of The Forum.



Texas Biomedical Forum
Post Office Box 6648
San Antonio, TX 78209



UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2023

Galentine's Onze Tournament – February 1st

Spring Lecture Luncheon & Science Education Awards – March 1st

Forum & Founder's Council 2nd Annual Clay Shoot – March 30th

Forum Gala – May 6th



FORUM & FOUNDER'S COUNCIL

CLAY SHOOT CLASSIC



ABOUT TEXAS BIOMED

Texas Biomed is one of the world's leading independent biomedical research institutions dedicated to eradicating infection and advancing health worldwide through innovative biomedical research. Texas Biomed partners with researchers and institutions around the world to develop vaccines and therapeutics against viral pathogens causing AIDS, hepatitis, hemorrhagic fever, tuberculosis and parasitic diseases responsible for malaria and schistosomiasis disease.

The Institute has programs in host-pathogen interaction, disease intervention and prevention, and population health to understand the links between infectious diseases and other diseases such as aging, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity. For more information on Texas Biomed, go to www.TxBiomed.org.