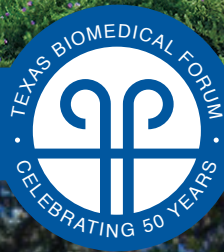


Forum in Focus

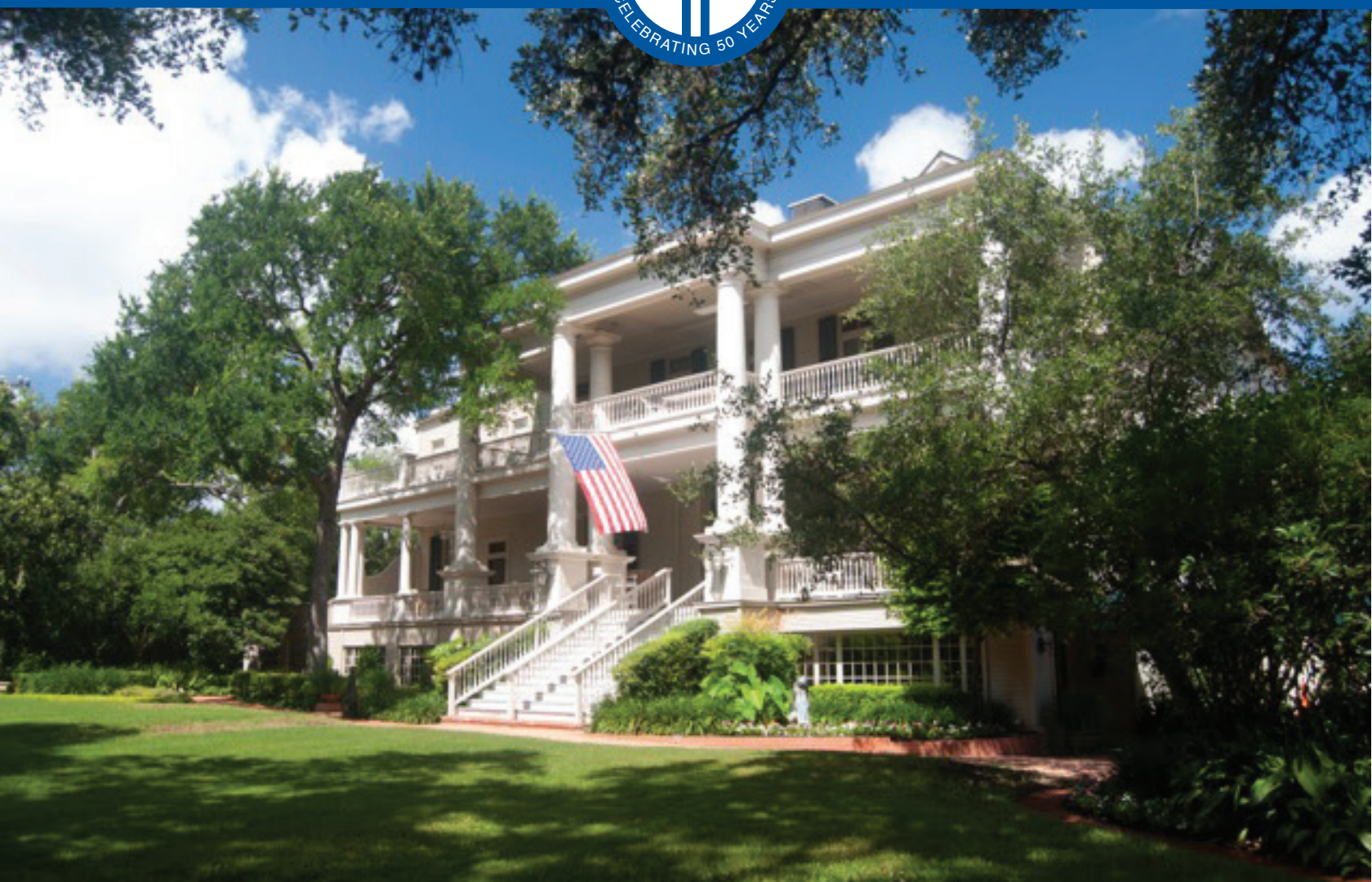


TEXAS
BIOMEDICAL
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE

Together, The Argyle and Texas Biomed form a common bond



to enrich and advance new discoveries.



PERSEVERING DURING A PANDEMIC

I hope this newsletter finds you and yours safe and well. We as a board are truly aware, now more than ever, of the importance of our service to The Forum on behalf of Texas Biomed. Who would have imagined we would find ourselves serving during a global pandemic? In these times of uncertainty, I am proud to be leading an extraordinary and dedicated group of women. The question I find myself asking our board is... "What is our Purpose?"

We have come together in efforts to collaborate and find creative ways to further the mission of The Forum and engage our membership safely and in meaningful ways. All the while, our focus continues to remain, true to our mission, supporting the Texas Biomedical Research Institute through community relations, volunteer service and fundraising.

Our 50th year was filled with plans for celebrations and we found ourselves making the unprecedented decision to cancel all in-person events including our annual Gala. Out of this change of events came the most incredible show of support from our community and donors. The Forum ended their year with a historical contribution to Texas Biomed in the amount of **\$800,000**. It was clear that our mission was never more important and together we were fulfilling our organization's long-standing purpose. We have, without doubt, played a role in ensuring that Texas Biomedical Research Institute will continue to be a pioneer in cutting edge research for infectious diseases.

As the new year began, it was clear our Forum duties and regular business was in need of a pivot. Board meetings via Zoom became our *new norm*. Our first order of business was to launch our annual Membership Drive. Vice President of Membership, **Emilie Petty**, and her assistant, **Bonnie Muecke**, kicked off a successful campaign offering an *Exclusive 2020 Lifetime Membership*. The response has been amazing and has well exceeded our goal! **Christina Ketabchi**, our Parliamentarian, began the detailed bylaw review process. Our Treasurer, **Audra Kerr**, and Assistant Treasurer, **Mary Labatt**, have been busy updating our accounts and annual filings as well as reviewing our financial best practices and preparing the annual budgets, no small feat during this, the most unusual of times.

With the increased importance of digital communications, our Communications Chair, **Meredith Howard** and her assistant, **Scotty MacDaniel**, provided updates to the website and to all of our social media platforms. Directory updates were facilitated by Directory/Database Chair, **Emily Sytsma**, and her assistant, **Ashley Friedman**. Articles of the on-going work of The Forum were thoughtfully compiled by our Newsletter Chairs, **Angie Light** and **Katie Fravell**.

In preparation of the fall grant letters, Grants Chair, **Callie Price**, and assistant, **Gloria Dilley**, began securing a 100 percent participation from the board. Together they have secured the first two matching grants for our 2020-2021 year! Historically, the Gala Team would be well underway with the Gala plans. However, we find ourselves taking a pause to be thoughtful of our new climate and proceed with utmost concern for our supporters' safety and in accordance with local regulations on how to plan for our annual fundraiser. Stay tuned...our Gala Chair, **Kristin Tipps**, Co-Chair, **Katie Rogers**, Assistant, **Corinna Richter**, and Tables Sales Chair, **Jessica Worth**, are a dynamic and talented team, ready to pivot on a variety of options to celebrate The Forum during this unprecedented year!

Established 1970
Texas Biomedical Forum
P.O. Box 6648
San Antonio, Texas 78209

www.txbiomed.org/forum
Forum.President@TxBioMed.org

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Vice-President and Lecture Luncheon Chair, **Amelita Mauze**, and her assistant, **Trianna Grossman**, have planned the *Fall Virtual Lecture Luncheon on November 4, 2020 from Noon to 1p.m.* With events moving online, Special Events Chairs, **Angela Rabke** and **Stacey Schlagel**, are working on creative ideas to continue to engage our members. Look forward to an invite and additional details soon!

Our secretaries, **Rebecca Nathan** and **Whitney Schones**, have both been a huge support to the board. I am grateful for their help in emailing reminders, gathering files, sending out letters and flowers on the board's behalf. Our Historian, **Lauren Pepping**, is already diligently capturing the year in review so that future boards will have something to look back on when discussing this historic year filled with both change and great promise.

Although schools have not fully reopened and many students are not back on campus due to COVID-19, our Science Education Award Chairs, **Lindsay Bolner** and **Kate Rogers**, are working hard to follow up with last year's award recipients and provide updates on the upcoming year's process. As always, we are truly thankful to **Valerie Guenther** and the *McNutt Foundation* for partnering with us to help fund our local high school science teachers. Student Tour Chairs, **Muffin Moorman** and **Sarah Hager**, are working with Texas Biomed to assist in providing online tours in lieu of on-campus visits this year.

"I am proud to be leading an extraordinary and dedicated group of women. The question I find myself asking our board is..."What is our Purpose?"

—Cynthia Kerby

I would like to express my sincere thanks to our Past President **Amy Swaney**. She has been available to help out wherever needed. Her best advice to me was to utilize my Executive Committee and I intend to do just that in navigating this unprecedented year! We are grateful for her continued support as she takes on her new role as Nominating Chair. She and her committee will be working hard to present a slate for next year's board as well as oversee new trustee nominations.

I am especially grateful to my advisors: **Corbett Christie, Terry Gouger, Jody Lutz** and **Laura Moorman**. They each have been an email or phone call away and I will continue to utilize their experience and knowledge regarding all Forum matters. They continue to inspire me to become a better leader and leave my job better than when I found it. I would also like to recognize **Tena Gorman, Leslie Hamilton** and **Judy Schlesinger** for their ongoing and loyal support.

Serving with Passion and Purpose,

Cynthia

Cynthia Kerby
2020 – 2021
Forum President



Honoring Our Forum Founders



Forum Founder Tena Gorman and Amy Swaney

HONORING TENA GORMAN

Past President Amy Swaney and Corbett Christie had the honor to present the 50th anniversary plaque to one of the Forum founders, Tena Gorman. This plaque will hang in the lobby of The Argyle.

Fifty years ago, Dottie Block, Tena Gorman and Ruth Eileen Sullivan founded Southwest Foundation Forum, now known as Texas Biomedical Forum. These three ladies envisioned what a women's group could achieve by giving their time and energy to support the research and scientists of Texas Biomedical Research Institute. Their foresight and commitment laid the foundation for an organization, that to date, has raised nearly **\$3.2 million** in grants. This funding has allowed researchers to apply for additional grant monies exceeding 75 million dollars in subsequent awards which breaks down to a \$23 return for every \$1 raised through The Forum.

In commemorating our 50th anniversary this year, we received three \$100,000 grant matches. We are incredibly grateful to the Gorman Family Foundation (in honor of Tena Gorman), Mays Foundation (in honor of Peggy Mays), and Sullivan Family Foundation (in memory of Ruth Eileen Sullivan). The generosity of these three donor matches has now allowed The Forum to give a little more than \$425,000 to the scientist pilot studies this year alone.

HONORING CORBETT CHRISTIE



On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank Corbett Christie for his dedicated and loyal support to the Forum. Corbett has been our long-time advisor and biggest cheerleader. He has been instrumental in providing us with the knowledge of all things

Texas Biomed. His

expertise and personal rapport with the entire community was a tremendous asset to our organization. His skill in connecting our fundraising efforts to community donors was paramount. We are truly grateful for his contribution and he will be thought of with the highest regard. We are fortunate to call him advisor and friend.

Enjoy Retirement!

Cynthia Kerby
2020-2021 President

Take a Virtual Tour of Texas Biomed!

Or invite a scientist for a virtual talk with your students!

Established in 1941, Texas Biomedical Research Institute (Texas Biomed) has a long-standing legacy in San Antonio.

Each year, the Forum sends an invitation and application to **principals and teachers of high school science classes in San Antonio and the surrounding areas** to tour the internationally renowned facilities of Texas Biomed. However, **due to COVID-19, we are unable to host on-site tours. The 2020-2021 tours have moved online.**

Texas Biomed and the Forum are offering some unique online resources and opportunities to host Zoom discussions with Texas Biomed scientists.

Take a **VIRTUAL TOUR** of the Institute or invite a scientist to the classroom. Virtual talks will be granted on a first come, first served basis by filling out this **APPLICATION**. Talks are limited to:

- > 2 virtual visits in the Fall 2020
- > 4 virtual visits in the Spring 2021

The tour of San Antonio's biomedical research jewel exposes these bright young students to the exciting possibilities of a career in the sciences in STEM.

Resource Links for Parents and Teachers

- > Texas Biomed Virtual Tour
- > K-12 Activities
- > More Educational Resources
- > Texas Biomed YouTube Channel

For more information visit FORUM.TXBIOMED.ORG



Continue to be a part of our Historical Year

GET INVOLVED WITH THE TEXAS BIOMEDICAL FORUM

While the reality of living during a pandemic is challenging, the vital role that Texas Biomedical Research Institute (Texas Biomed) plays has never been so important. Since 1970, the women of Texas Biomedical Forum (The Forum) have worked together to educate the South Texas community about the groundbreaking work that is ongoing at Texas Biomed. *Your support is vital now more than ever.*

Membership

Membership gives The Forum the ability to increase our visibility in the community and provide financial support to Texas Biomed. As always, your membership in The Forum is 100 percent tax deductible and as we begin a new membership year, we humbly ask for your support. Your membership allows us to accomplish the mission of our organization.

During this COVID-19 pandemic, we are offering a special lifetime membership. This will be offered exclusively during this 2020 year in hopes to help Texas Biomed's endeavors for COVID-19. By securing your lifetime membership for \$2,020, you will have the opportunity to become a lifetime member of The Forum and provide the necessary and essential support of our wonderful cause.

In addition to our new special lifetime membership, The Forum offers a Benefactor Level (\$300 annually), a Supporter Level (\$150 annually), and a Contributor Level (\$75 annually). Please consider joining or renewing your membership today at txbiomed.org/forum. November 1st is the print deadline for our annual membership directory.

Calendar events will be offered to our members and scheduled thoughtfully as we receive guidance from local health and government leaders. In the meantime, The Forum will focus on creative ways to engage our members and community. The Board of Trustees will continue to plan safely as we navigate through our "new normal". We are grateful for your support of Texas Biomed's fight against COVID-19.

FORUM GRANTS DONATION PROGRAM

Grants

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has never been a more important time to support the Texas Biomedical Research Institute (Texas Biomed). We are so fortunate to have Texas Biomed in San Antonio, along with a group of incredibly talented scientists whose ground breaking research with COVID-19 and numerous other infectious diseases will have lasting global impact for generations to come.

The Texas Biomedical Forum (The Forum) Grants program supports Texas Biomed by raising money to enable the scientists to launch high risk and high reward pilot studies. Over the years, The Forum has awarded more than **\$3.2 million** to the scientists for these "seed grants" which has resulted in major research awards of over \$75 million from other funders such as the NIH. In one such example of the success of these pilot studies, a 2017 Forum grant made to Assistant Professor Smita Kulkarni, Ph.D., and Staff Scientist Eusondia Arnett, Ph.D., who worked in a close collaboration with Professor Larry Schlesinger, M.D., yielded a \$536,250,

two-year NIH grant to study how HIV alters the formation of lesions in the lungs that make patients more susceptible to TB infection. The generous donors of The Forum Grant Donation program made this impactful research possible.

This year, we are thrilled to announce two special sponsors who have provided The Forum and its donors a wonderful incentive to give through the pledge of challenge match of up to \$10,000 each. The Steves Family Foundation and the Nelson Puett Foundation have generously agreed to match all Forum Grants gifts, dollar for dollar, which offers us the opportunity to greatly increase our impact on Texas Biomed. We are immensely grateful to these foundations for demonstrating their leadership and generosity through this matching challenge.

We encourage you to support The Forum Grant Donation program in any way you can. Please visit our website at <https://forum.txbiomed.org/forum-grants/> or contact Callie Price at callieprice@gmail.com or Gloria Steves Dilley at gdilley@stevesdoors.com for additional information on how your donation can be most impactful.

Forum in Focus / Fall 2020



NIH GRANT TO PRIMATE CENTERS TO EXPAND MARMOSSET COLONIES FOR NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH

By Jacqueline Naomi Rubin, WNPRC editorial intern

The Southwest National Primate Research Center (SNPRC) and the Wisconsin National Primate Research Center (WNPRC) have received a grant from the National Institutes of Health to double their yield of common marmosets (*Callithrix jacchus*) for biomedical researchers needing these primates for neuroscience research. While addressing the high demand for these animals in NIH-sponsored research studies, the funding supports the characterization of their genomes to facilitate their development as animal models of human diseases. Additionally, the plan provides assurances for improved and expanded animal care as scientists use the animals more frequently in this area of research. The grant is for five years, totaling \$4.9 million.

The principle investigators on this five-year U24 grant titled *Collaborative Expansion of Marmoset Colonies for Neuroscience Research*, are WNPRC Director Jon Levine, Ph.D, professor of neuroscience at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, Corinna Ross, Ph.D, associate professor of population health at the SNPRC, and Jeffrey Rogers, Ph.D, associate professor of a molecular and human genetics at Baylor College of Medicine. A U24 is classified as a resource-related research project, or also, a cooperative agreement. The awarding NIH agencies include the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS).

The common marmoset species has emerged as a promising model to help researchers fully comprehend the primate brain, founded on the basis that many marmoset behaviors share similarities with analogous human behaviors. In the past five years, there has been a surge in requests for *Callithrix jacchus* for biomedical research purposes, even though labs have been studying brain–behavior links with this primate for more than 40 years. According to *Nature Methods*, marmosets are capable of communicating through a range of postures, facial expressions and vocalizations. Marmosets are known for their cooperative social behavior: they have the ability to communicate by calling to one another in a back-and-forth, conversation-like manner. In addition, they are small in size, provide rapid reproductive maturation, have high fertility rates, consist of social behaviors and communication patterns that mimic those of humans.



“The common marmoset species has emerged as a promising model to help researchers fully comprehend the primate brain.”

Overall, these traits pose practical advantages for neuroscientific studies and are the main reasons behind the recent demand for marmosets, specifically in studies that utilize new embryonic genome editing techniques. Common marmosets have been genetically engineered throughout the years to make their brains easier to image and visualize, according to [Science Magazine](#).

“This grant demonstrates the willingness of multiple National Primate Centers to work closely with each other to maximize their potential and reach”, said SNPRC Director Deepak Kaushal, Ph.D.



NEW ANIMAL MODEL IDENTIFIED TO RESEARCH HEPATITIS B VIRUS

Hepatitis B is a liver disease affecting more than 300 million people worldwide, and researchers recently identified a new aid in the quest to create better therapeutics.

Squirrel monkeys have been identified as a new animal model to further study and improve therapies for hepatitis B infection caused by the hepatitis B virus (HBV). This discovery has been five years in the making at Texas Biomedical Research Institute (Texas Biomed). Chimpanzees were previously the preferred animal model to study hepatitis infections; however, in 2015 chimpanzees were no longer available for use in biomedical research. Texas Biomed focused its efforts on finding a suitable replacement model that can produce chronic infection, aiding in the development of new therapies. Christopher Chen, Ph.D., Assistant Director for Research at the Southwest National Primate Center, led the team of scientists who published their findings in *Hepatology Communications*.

“Texas Biomed previously discovered woolly monkeys were natural carriers of a HBV monkey virus that had a similar genetic sequence to the human virus, which was a significant finding that provided a clue that led us to where we are today,” Dr. Chen said. “With our approach in this study, we were able to directly infect the liver and prolong infection for up to 6 months. This is the longest infection period among any of the current HBV models and is critical for when we eventually test therapeutics to treat prolonged infection.”

Texas Biomed has a storied history in researching HBV. Professor Emeritus Dr. Robert Lanford was instrumental in early studies that led to the development of the pediatric HBV vaccine and Hepatitis C cure using chimps. He also discovered the *woolly monkey hepatitis virus* to further study human HBV, but woolly monkeys are endangered animals, like chimpanzees, and cannot be used in biomedical research. Dr. Chen was able to take this discovery several steps further using his expertise in gene therapy. He incorporated the HBV genome into an adeno-associated virus (AAV), a non-pathogenic virus that readily infects liver cells. Once the liver cells are infected, they produce infectious woolly monkey HBV, not AAV.

“AAV is like a Trojan horse and is good at getting into the liver. To improve delivery of the woolly monkey HBV genome, our strategy was to use this alternative viral gene delivery approach. It was a more efficient approach than just using the woolly monkey HBV to cause infection,” Dr. Chen said. “We’re also using this approach to develop models for liver cancer.”

Dr. Chen and his team observed a sustained infection that was detectable for six months. To prolong and increase the level of virus in the bloodstream (viremia), future work will focus on adding an immunosuppressive agent prior to and during early infection. Higher sustained viremia will increase the utility of the model in the development of new therapies.

While HBV impacts 300 million people, the greatest at risk are infants, who can become infected with the virus through mother-to-child transmission during delivery. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, infants who are not properly vaccinated during the first few months of birth are 90% likely to develop chronic HBV, leading to liver disease and cancer. Although there’s no cure, adults are also encouraged to receive the HBV vaccine if they’re at risk of exposure. Current therapies suppress the virus and need to be taken daily.

“HBV is really hard to cure. The goal with this new model is to use it to test new curative treatments,” Dr. Chen said. “To do that we will need to continue to improve the model, so it can support higher viremia over longer periods of time.”



TEXAS BIOMED ADDS INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL HEALTH EXPERT TO LEADERSHIP TEAM

As Texas Biomedical Research Institute continues its efforts to attract international attention and philanthropic support for its transformational, 10-year strategic plan, the leadership team at the Institute is excited to announce the addition of Akudo Anyanwu, M.D., M.P.H. to its administrative leadership team as Vice President of Development. Dr. Anyanwu was recruited after a national search that began in early 2020 following the announcement that current Vice President for Advancement and Public Relations Corbett Christie is retiring after serving the Institute for more than 20 years.

Currently the Associate Dean of Development at Johns Hopkins University, Dr. Anyanwu is a global health expert and social entrepreneur with 17 years of experience in the field of global health and international development, spanning program implementation, resource mobilization, advocacy and policy. In her role at Johns Hopkins, she is responsible for securing major gifts, attracting new corporate and foundation funding and recently led a \$45 million capital campaign for a new building.

"We are delighted Dr. Anyanwu will join our team and build upon the success the Institute has seen in recent years," said Dr. Larry Schlesinger, Professor and President/CEO of Texas Biomed. "Dr. Anyanwu's experience in public health innovation, international philanthropy and infectious diseases brings significant strength to our fundraising efforts and will grow the philanthropic program, attracting new supporters and enthusiasm for the work we do."

As Vice President of Development, Dr. Anyanwu will be responsible for overseeing the Development team as it aims to steward and strengthen local, national and international support for the Institute. She will serve on the senior leadership team of the Institute, responsible for setting Institutional priorities, managing operations and setting a development strategy that will drive forward the goals of the 10-year strategic plan.

Dr. Anyanwu has served on the boards of Roll Back Malaria, the Global Health Council and the AIDS Healthcare Foundation and has led public health coalitions for malaria and soil transmitted helminths. In her previous roles, she has raised more than \$230 million for the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria from both government and private donors and more than \$600 million for AIDS, TB and malaria programs in developing countries.

"I am passionate about institution building, implementing best practices for nonprofits with a focus on corporate governance and strategic planning," Dr. Anyanwu said. "Texas Biomed is well-positioned to play a leading role globally in infectious disease research and transforming the health sector. The idea of helping Texas Biomed envisage future possibilities for partnerships as a means to bringing its mission and vision to fruition is one that I find very exciting."



Dr. Akudo Anyanwu

"I am passionate about institution building, implementing best practices for nonprofits with a focus on corporate governance and strategic planning."

Dr. Anyanwu's pioneering work on the Gift from Africa Campaign was recognized by the Rockefeller Foundation as a top 100 next century innovation. She also received Tufts University's Distinguished Service Award (2015), Harvard School of Public Health's Innovator of the Year (2013), Ogunte's Social Leader of the Year (2013) and Stevie's Innovator and Social Entrepreneur of the Year (2012).

Dr. Anyanwu received an M.D. from Tufts University, an MSc in Public Health from Harvard University and a BSc in Molecular Biology from Lehigh University.

She also has a Diploma in Transformational Leadership from the Oxford University SAID Business School, a Diploma in Global Leadership and Public Policy for the 21st Century from Harvard University and a Diploma in Non-profit Management from Duke University.

Dr. Anyanwu will begin her tenure at Texas Biomed in mid-September of 2020. Corbett Christie has been working with Institute leadership for several months on an effective transition plan.

"Corbett has made significant contributions to Texas Biomed through the years," said Dr. Schlesinger. "He has not only helped the organization grow and flourish, but his commitment and dedication to both the Institute and the San Antonio community has helped increase support for the bioscience industry in our community. We are grateful for his passion and his service and wish him the best in his retirement."



SCIENTISTS AT TEXAS BIOMED DEVELOP NEW TOOL TO AID IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SARS-COV-2 ANTIVIRALS AND VACCINES

Researchers at Texas Biomedical Research Institute (Texas Biomed) published findings from an innovative SARS-CoV-2 study that will assist in the development of new vaccines and antivirals for COVID-19.



Luis Martinez-Sobrido, Ph.D.

Through the process of reverse genetics via bacterial artificial chromosome (BAC), scientists have created a recombinant SARS-CoV-2, which is a cloned virus that behaves like the original virus both in cultured cells and hamsters. This is the first SARS-CoV-2 study using this approach, which will facilitate the development of live-attenuated vaccines to combat the disease. The study was led by faculty member Luis Martinez-Sobrido, Ph.D. Lead author of the paper published in the journal **mBio** was Chengjin Ye, Ph.D., who is a postdoctoral fellow in Dr. Martinez-Sobrido's laboratory at Texas Biomed.

The team aimed to provide the framework to alter the SARS-CoV-2 virus genome and create a recombinant virus (rSARS-CoV-2), which will open doors to further understand the mechanisms

behind infection. To accomplish this, scientists generated a BAC plasmid in the lab, which contains the entire virus genome. The scientific team is highly accomplished in this technique for other viruses and conducts the research under rigorous research standard practices.

Working with this BAC, scientists can alter the genome sequences and measure the characteristics it produces. It's essentially a building block in the development of disease prevention measures, such as vaccines. Scientists continue to work on the development of attenuated viruses to create a live attenuated vaccine.

To ensure the recombinant virus resembles its original, scientists evaluated its behavior within a cell, sequenced the virus to verify its genetic identity and tested disease progression in golden Syrian hamsters. These animal models were infected with either rSARS-CoV-2 or the original virus through the nasal cavity to compare disease progression.

The study has already proved to be beneficial to other institutions researching SARS-CoV-2, as Texas Biomed has provided this rSARS-CoV-2 virus to other researchers for both basic and preclinical studies. This research was partially funded by the support of Texas Biomed donors, whose COVID-19 philanthropic donations made the realization of this study possible.

\$20k in Education Grants

Available to High School Science Teachers!

Applications are due by
Monday, February 1, 2021

Apply Now

Awards will be announced
Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Grant Writing Resources

The Texas Biomedical Forum would like to invite all public and private high school science teachers from **BEXAR COUNTY AND SURROUNDING AREAS** to apply for the science education awards.

Awards will be given to the **TEACHERS** whose proposals demonstrate the strongest commitments to the scientific process through engaging activities designed to ignite student curiosity about science. Considered submissions should (1) involve students in hands-on learning and (2) create connections between TEKS and trending science topics.

****PLEASE NOTE THAT APPLICATIONS TO FUND FIELD TRIPS OR EQUIPMENT REQUESTS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.**

For more information visit
FORUM.TXBIOMED.ORG



Texas Biomedical Forum and Fall Lecture Luncheon

"At-Your-Leisure" Movie Night
View **"Contagion"** while enjoying an
Argyle wine tasting kit and charcuterie for two
Curbside pick up at The Argyle between
Wednesday, October 28th and Friday, October 30th

Virtual Lecture
CONTAGION: WHAT HOLLYWOOD GOT RIGHT AND WRONG ABOUT PANDEMICS
Presented by a panel of Texas Biomed Scientists
Wednesday, November 4th at 12pm

Please reserve online at <https://forum.txbiomed.org/events/lecture-luncheons/>
by Wednesday, October 21st

Forum Members are also welcome
to join our virtual Board Meeting
on November 4th at 11am

\$125 per Wine Tasting Kit
(\$25 tax deductible)

Questions?
texasbiomedicalforum@gmail.com

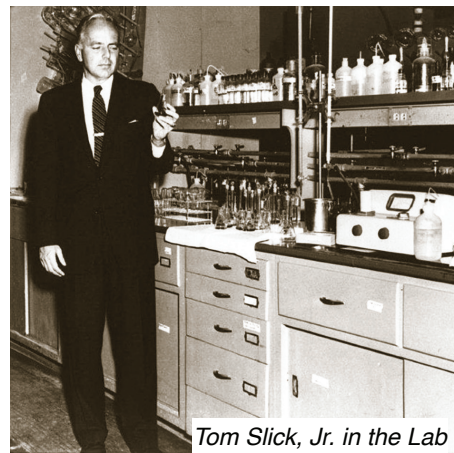


A PAST WITH A PRESENT FOR THE FUTURE

The Argyle and Texas Biomedical Research Institute are part of the fabric of San Antonio and its rich history reaching back decades.

The stately Argyle mansion was originally built in 1854 as the headquarters of a horse ranch that has, through a succession of owners, served as a grand hotel and home where guests have been lavished with entertainment and fine dining.

When visionary oilman, philanthropist and adventurer Tom Slick, Jr. started Texas Biomed more than 76 years ago, his sister, Betty Moorman, suggested a club whose members would make an annual contribution to The Institute. She and her husband Lewis J. Moorman, Jr. shared Slick's vision, and in 1956 led an effort to restore The Argyle to its glorious splendor to stand as a symbol, both of its rich past and of progress toward a better tomorrow for humankind. The Argyle continues with world-class culinary cuisine and spectacular events.



Tom Slick, Jr. in the Lab

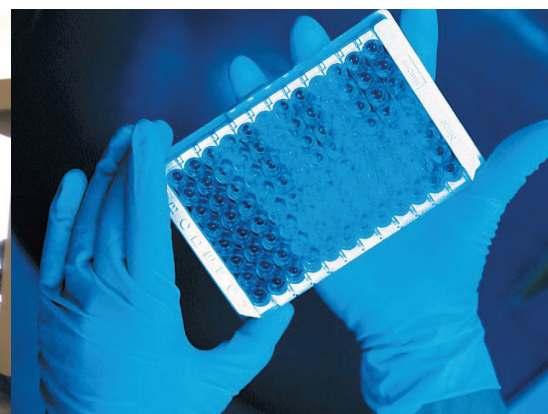


Today, each member of The Argyle supports the future of scientific discovery with a financial contribution to advance the studies conducted by the men and women of science at Texas Biomed. The Argyle serves as a bond between the research institution and those who give the time and money to support it.

Texas Biomed is one of the world's leading independent biomedical research institutions dedicated to advancing health worldwide through innovative studies.

Scientists partner with hundreds of researchers and institutions around the world to understand and develop diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines against pathogens causing AIDS, hepatitis, tuberculosis, hemorrhagic fevers, and parasitic diseases responsible for malaria and schistosomiasis. The Institute also has programs in the genetics of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity, psychiatric disorders, and other diseases. Born from a pioneering spirit, researchers at Texas Biomed continue to forge new paths on the frontiers of human health, producing innovative discoveries for future generations.

Together, The Argyle and Texas Biomed form a common bond to enrich and advance new discoveries.



PAST PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The Forum ended our 2019-2020 year actively navigating the COVID-19 pandemic, and now we are starting our 2020-2021 year doing the same thing! There is no other organization I would rather stand behind at this very time. The Forum continues to support the life saving efforts of the Texas Biomedical Research Institute, which is at the forefront of efforts to create treatments and vaccines against this illness.

We closed the year with a gift of over \$800,000 to Texas Biomed. Thank you to our Gala Chairs, Whitney Schones and Karen Bryant, our Grant Chair, Corinna Richter and to the rest of our Board of Trustees who worked so hard this year. Thank you to our Founders and Past Presidents for shaping us to where we are today and continuing to cheer us on along the way. Thank you to our members for supporting our cause. Thank you to our donors who helped make this a record breaking year especially our 100k donor matches: the Gorman Family Foundation, Mays Foundation and Sullivan Family Foundation. Most importantly, thank you to Dr. Larry Schlesinger and our scientist at Texas Biomed for making the world better one research at a time, and saving lives along the way. I'm in awe of all of you and the part you played in this past year's success.

As The Forum begins its new year, our President, Cynthia Kerby, is already leading our board with purpose and the mission close to her heart. I'm excited to see what this year brings, it will be different because of the challenges, but nothing Cynthia and our board can't handle. It was truly an honor to serve as your 50th president.

With gratitude,
Amy Vogt Swaney



2020 – 2021 TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT



STACY SCHLAGEL

Stacy Elizabeth Schlagel is an author, philanthropist, mother, and homemaker. Her book, *Personification of Entelechy*, a collection of poems, has just been released. She is also a songwriter and music producer, plus she's the owner and operator of Regal Recordings, thus has a background in teaching and law. Schlagel enjoys pursuing her passions, which include writing, science, interior design, cooking, and travel. She is married to David Allen Schlagel, who owns and operates the Natural Resource Consortium. They have one young son, Zachary, who is precocious, strong-willed, empathetic, and kind. She has an older sister, who is a kindergarten educator, and a younger brother, who is a physician. The Schlagel family strongly believes in giving back to their community and living a God-filled life full of learning, new experiences, and adventure. Stacy Schlagel's motto is simple: "Learn from your past, live for today, plan for your future, and make every day count!"



SARAH HAGER

Sarah Latimer Hager was born in Amarillo but grew up in San Antonio. After graduating from Vanderbilt University with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science and a minor in Art History, she worked in marketing for Range Online Media in New York and Taylor West Advertising in San Antonio. She currently works with her husband, Kerr, at Hager Custom Homes. They have two daughters, Wallis & Noland Louise, and Sarah enjoys volunteering at their school, St. Luke's Episcopal. She has also served on numerous fundraising and event committees in San Antonio and is excited to be part of the Forum Board by helping come up with innovative ways to provide Student Tours this year.



CALLIE PRICE

Callie was born and raised in Austin and graduated from the University of Texas at Austin. After working for a money management firm for eight years, Callie currently works as the Event Specialist at The Bank of San Antonio. She is very active in the San Antonio community, serving on the Texas Biomedical Research Institute Founder's Council board since 2015, most recently as President in 2019. She has also served on the YTAC- San Antonio Chapter board and the inaugural board of Stewards of the Wild San Antonio of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Foundation. She and her husband Andrew have one son, Nelson.





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FORUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES CALENDAR 2020-2021

Wed., Nov. 4, 2020	11:00 a.m. Board/Member Meeting Zoom
	12 noon. *Fall Lecture Luncheon Zoom
Wed., Jan. 6, 2021	10:30 a.m. Board Meeting..... Zoom
Wed., Feb. 3, 2021	10:30 a.m. Board Meeting..... Zoom
Wed., Mar. 3, 2021	10:00 a.m. Board Meeting..... Zoom
	11:00 a.m. *Science Education Awards
	11:30 a.m. *Spring Lecture Luncheon
Wed., Apr. 7, 2021	10:30 a.m. Board Meeting..... Zoom
Wed., May 5, 2021	10:00 a.m. New Trustee Orientation Zoom
	11:00 a.m. Board Pictures/Board Meeting Zoom
	11:30 a.m. Board/Past President Luncheon Zoom

**denotes open to the general Forum membership*

**Fall and Spring Special Events and Student Tours - TBD*