Dental students have several opportunities to engage with our community and participate in rotations to underserved areas of South Texas. Throughout the various rotations, students deliver primary care, develop and implement health promotion and disease prevention projects, volunteer at local agencies that provide assistance to patients with special needs, participate in school-based prevention programs, and clinical care delivery to the homeless of San Antonio.

Each year, two HCOE affiliated dental students become engaged in a research project and have a mentoring relationship with a UTHSCSA-DS faculty member to guide and support the student’s research project in any of the following: Biomedical research, Clinical research, Educational research, Evidence-based practice, Informatics, Critically Appraised Topics (CATs), and, Health Care Delivery/Minority Health Issues. Each student and mentor team present the research project at the Dental School Science Symposium; some projects are selected for presentations at national dental meetings, such as the American Association of Dental Research (AADR), the Hispanic Dental Association (HDA) and American Dental Education Association (ADEA). The HCOE supports travel costs associated with attendance at the national conferences.

Juanita Lozano-Pineda, DDS, MPH
HCOE Director
UT Health Science Center San Antonio
Mail Code 7914
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78229-3900
pinedaj@uthscsa.edu

Funded by
HRSA Grant # D34HP26035

DEON South Texas Clinic Net

Hispanic Center of Excellence
Pathways to a Successful Dental Education and Career in Dentistry
Recruitment and Mentorship

Several HCOE activities focus on the recruitment of students into the dental profession and include programs to facilitate development in leadership, clinical preceptorships, and mentoring by dentists in the South Texas region and UTHSCSA faculty.

- **BOLD** (Building Our Leaders in Dentistry) – a program for high school level students
- **DEAP** (Dental Early Admission Program) – a program for pre-dental college level students
- South Texas High School Recruitment Network – various programs in dental science careers for high school students and presentations at college health fairs
- Workshops at Science Teachers’ Institutes in San Antonio and other South Texas Communities

**Learning Enhancement for Achievement in Dentistry (LEAD)**

3-week Summer Enrichment Programs – Pre-dental/college thru 3rd year of Dental School

**LEAD 1 (summer after college year 1)**
- Mini-courses: Organic Chemistry, and Genetics or Cell Biology
- Study skill development & tutoring
- Cultural Diversity Matters session
- Participation in clinical preceptorship to shadow dental private practitioners, clinical outreach programs, and clinical activities
- Case-based ethical discussion groups

**LEAD 2 (summer after college year 2)**
- Mini-courses: Microbiology, Anatomy and Physiology
- DAT preparatory course
- Information technology skill enhancement – hands-on workshops
- Ethics and dental professionalism sessions
- Clinical preceptorship with dental practitioners

**LEAD 3 (summer after college year 3)**
- Mini course: Biochemistry
- TMDSAS application workshop
- Professionalism and communication skills
- Hispanic Oral Health Disparities session
- Presentation skills workshop
- Clinical preceptorship with dental practitioners and/or faculty

**LEAD 4 (summer before starting dental school)**
- Mini courses: Gross Anatomy, Histology, Dental Anatomy, and Biochemistry
- Study skill, time management and test taking workshops
- Student life and financial aid sessions
- Ethics and the culture of dentistry sessions

**LEAD 5 (summer after dental school year 1)**
- Mini courses: Pathology, Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry
- Oral-Systemic Health Links impacting Hispanics
- Community Service Learning (CSL) opportunities
- Mentored research opportunities

**LEAD 6 (summer after dental school year 2)**
- Clinic navigation and electronic record workshops
- Cultural ethical dilemmas in dentistry session
- National Dental Board Exam Part 1 prep course

**LEAD 7 (summer after dental school year 3)**
- 2-week summer selective clinical rotation at an affiliated Community Health Center in South TX
- Cultural Diversity in Healthcare session
- Community Health and Leadership Honors
  - Research issues important to oral health care access and delivery