

# **TSAHP Annual Business Meeting**

## **Minutes of September 18, 2025**

**Call to Order:** Dr. Baker called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 18, 2025 in Room 2.36, Gran Salón at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley in Brownsville, Texas.

**Introduction of 2025 and 2026 Officers and Directors.** Dr. Baker presented the 2025 officers and board of directors as follows: Dr. Baker, president; Dr. Lynette Watts, past president; Dr. Michael Lehker, president-elect; Dr. Venessa Kodosky, vice president; Dr. Sue Anne Chew, secretary; Dr. Cecilia Fierro, treasurer; and Dr. Sarah-Ann Keyes, Dr. Kathryn Panasci, and Dr. Morgan House, directors at large. Dr. Sue Anne Chew, TSAHP secretary, will not be returning to the board in 2026, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her service to TSAHP.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the annual meeting of September 19, 2024 were presented. Dr. Vealé made a motion to approve; Dr. Kodosky, seconded; motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ms. McGraw reported the treasurer's report for Dr. Fierro, TSAHP treasurer. The current account balance as of September 1, 2025 is \$67,409.31 with \$54,046.03 in checking and \$ 13,363.28 in savings (certificate of deposit). TSAHP financials are not posted on the website; however, detailed information is available to members upon request to Shirley McGraw, TSAHP Executive Director. TSAHP's fiscal year is January 1 through December 31. This year, TSAHP was faced with making a slight increase in our membership dues and conference fees due to inflation and our desire to enhance our research grant and student award offerings. TSAHP is awarding three research practice grants in the amount of \$3,000 each this year and increased student awards from \$500 each to \$1,000 each.

**President's Report.** Dr. Baker thanked the presenters and attendees for coming to the conference.

**Student Awards.** Dr. Watts reported the 2025 student awards as follows. Certificates and checks will be presented to students at the evening awards ceremony but are noted below for historical purposes. TSAHP will award three (3) student awards in the amount of \$1,000 each at tonight's award dinner. The student awards are presented to health profession students who have demonstrated scholastic achievement and a commitment to service in their profession and community. To be eligible for the student award, students must have successfully completed 24 hours or 50% of their professional program (whichever is greater), must have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA on a 4.0 system, and must be enrolled on a full- or part-time basis at a college or university that is a TSAHP institutional member. Recipients of the 2025 awards are:

Undergraduate: **Dorina Madrid**, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley  
**Florestella Rivera**, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

## **Serenade Trevino, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley**

**Research Grant Awards.** Dr. Panasci reported on the 2025 research grant awards. TSAHP will award three \$3,000 Research and Innovative Practice Grants at tonight's award dinner. These grants support scholarly activity in allied health in the areas of health care quality, education, procedures and techniques, and outcomes, and TSAHP hopes that recipient's sponsoring institutions will match this grant to further their scholarly activity. It was our pleasure to have Dr. Brown from Texas Woman's University as well as Dr. Rajendram and Dr. Salazar from UTMB present their research findings. Recipients of the 2025 research grant awards are:

***Brittany Hall, Hoyoung Yi and Hesper Holland*** from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center for the project entitled, ***"Disseminating Speech-Language Pathologists' Knowledge through Nudges for Promoting Read-aloud Strategies in Early Learning Environments"***

**Christopher Hovorka, Ashley Mullen, Amandi Rhett, and Jeremy Sherman** from Baylor College of Medicine for their project entitled ***"Effectiveness of a Novel Amputated Limb Simulator for Teaching Clinical Skills in Prosthetics"***

**Gary Kearns** from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center for his project entitled ***"Ultrasound Validation of Dry Needling Guidelines Targeting Rectus Capitis Posterior Major"***

**Election & Nominations.** Ms. McGraw reported for Dr. Cecilia Fierro, nominations chair, on TSAHP elections that were held online during August 2025. Results are president-elect, Dr. Beth Vealé; secretary, Dr. Kathryn Panasci; and board member at large, Catherine Earley. Next year, TSAHP will elect the offices of president-elect, vice president, treasurer, and one board member-at-large. She congratulated the officers, and thanked Dr. Chew for serving as secretary the past two years.

**Student Poster Competition.** Dr. Chew presented information on the annual student poster competition. TSAHP encourages students in the health professions to acquire expertise and practice in dissemination of research and demonstration projects through the medium of poster presentations. The TSAHP Student Poster Competition is open to undergraduate and graduate student members who are currently enrolled in a health professions degree or certificate program. Cash awards are given for first (\$300), second (\$200), and third (\$100) place student poster presentations, as determined by judges. Judging this year took place online, and poster are available for viewing at [TSAHP Posters - 47th Conference](#).

Dr. Chew thanked the following individuals and presented them with certificates for judging the student poster competition: Dr. Jamie Baker, Dr. Tammy Carter, , Dr. Sarah-Ann Keyes, Dr. Ulku Karabulut, Dr. Gary Kearns, Dr. Carrol LaRowe, Dr. Wilton Muriithi, Dr. Misty Miller, Dr. Natalie Najera, Guillermo Nunez, Dr. Susanna Okere, Dr. Esmeralda Rivera, and Dr. Logan Winkelman.

The recipients of the 2025 student poster competition awards are:

**First place - \$300: Kaelan Wilson** from UT Rio Grande Valley for the poster entitled ***“Breaking Barriers: Experiential Learning Opportunities for Minoritized Students”***

**Second place - \$200: Serenade Trevino; Dorina Madrid; Samantha Davila; Marco Arriaga; Sue Anne Chew** from UT Rio Grande Valley for poster entitled ***“The Development of Injectable Alginate Scaffolds with Different Sodium Alginate Concentrations for the Treatment of Glioblastoma”***

**Third place - \$100: Clara Elliott, Paola Aguirre; Francisco Almaguer; Hugo Brown, Romeo Garcia Jr, Marco Arriaga; Carlos Trevino de Leo; Karen Martirosyan; Sue Anne Chew** from UT Rio Grande Valley for the poster entitled ***“An Investigation of Endothelial Cell Attachment and Proliferation on Porous Polycaprolactone Scaffolds for Bone Tissue Engineering”***

**Student Leadership Program.** Dr. Baker presented information on the TSAHP Student Leadership Development Program that is offered to first-year health professions graduate students. It is a 6-month program that is aimed to develop and instill professionalism, management, and leadership skills in this select group of students. The program includes readings and six monthly online meetings as well as a face-to-face components. Dr. Wade Redman, Kayla Northrip (24 cohort member) and Dr. Baker served as mentors to the 2025 cohort.

The 2025 cohort is composed of: Vivianna Castro Rodriguez (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), Saul Delgado (UT Health Science Center-Houston), Somalia Gibson (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), Katherine Kmetz (Baylor College of Medicine), Michael Martinez (Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center), Santiago Vargas (The University of Incarnate Word), and Ciana Washington (University of Texas Medical Branch)

**Executive Director:** Shirley McGraw went over membership and conference registration information (noted in the following tables).

- **TSAHP Membership**  
Institution Members: 19: \$500 (2); \$650 (9); \$900 (4); \$1,500 (4)  
Individual Members: 5  
Student Members: 4  
Membership through institution: 125
- **Event Registrations.**

|      | Annual September Conference |              | Annual January Summit |              |
|------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Year | Location                    | Registration | Location              | Registration |
| 2014 | Houston                     | 45           | Round Rock            | 26           |
| 2015 | San Antonio                 | 75           | Round Rock            | 36           |
| 2016 | Houston                     | 51           | Round Rock            | 31           |
| 2017 | Houston                     | 62           | Round Rock            | 37           |
| 2018 | San Antonio                 | 84           | Round Rock            | 33           |

|      |               |       |            |     |
|------|---------------|-------|------------|-----|
| 2019 | Lubbock       | 109   | Round Rock | 51  |
| 2020 | Brownsville   | COVID | Round Rock | 46  |
| 2021 | Zoom          | 116   | Zoom       | 102 |
| 2022 | Round Rock    | 91    | Zoom       | 69  |
| 2023 | Wichita Falls | 74    | Zoom       | 91  |
| 2024 | San Antonio   | 91    | Zoom       | 153 |
| 2025 | Brownsville   | 100   | Zoom       | 108 |

TSAHP offers the following memberships: \$500 (one primary representative); \$650 (one primary representative and four members); \$900 (one primary representative and eight members); \$1500 (one primary representative and 14 members); \$50 (individual membership) and \$15 (student membership). The TSAHP board of directors tries diligently to maintain reasonable and affordable costs for its members. This year, however, TSAHP were faced with making a slight increase in our membership dues and conference fees due to inflation and our desire to enhance our research grant and student award offerings. TSAHP is pleased to announce there will be three research practice grants in the amount of \$3,000 each this year and will increase student awards from \$500 each to \$1,000 each.

**Recognition of Institution Members.** The following TSAHP institutional members were recognized and given certificates: Current institution members: Abilene Christian University – OT, Angelo State University, Baylor College of Medicine, El Paso Community College, Houston Community College, Midwestern State University, North Central Texas College, Sam Houston State University, San Jacinto College, Texas Christian University, Texas State University, Texas Tech University Health Science Center, Texas Woman’s University, University of Texas Medical Branch, UT – El Paso, UT Health – San Antonio, UT Southwestern, UT MD Anderson, and UT Rio Grande Valley

**Distinguished Service Award.** Dr. Lehker presented the Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Wade Redman, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, during the evening’s awards ceremony for his outstanding leadership and service to TSAHP. Congratulations, Dr. Redman!

**Installation of 2026 Officers and Board of Directors.** Dr. Redman installed and congratulated TSAHP’s 2026 officers and board of directors as follows:

Michael Lehker, President  
 Beth Vealé, President-elect  
 Jamie Baker, Past President  
 Venessa Kodosky, Vice President  
 Kathryn Panasci, Secretary  
 Cecilia Fierro, Treasurer (not present)  
 Sarah-Ann Keyes, Member at Large (not present)  
 Morgan House, Member at Large  
 Catherine Earley, Member at Large (not present)

**2026 Conference.** The 2026 TSAHP Conference is scheduled for September 17-18, 2026 at UT MD Anderson – Houston.

**2025 Summit.** The 2026 Summit is scheduled for January 9, 2026 via Zoom.

**Closing and Adjournment.** Dr. Lehker thanked everyone for attending the conference, and thanked Dr. Baker for her leadership and service to TSAHP.

**Adjournment.** Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.