

Meet our Leadership Updates:

Dr. Lori Rice Spearman:

Lori Rice-Spearman, Ph.D., became the ninth president of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in June 2020, making her the first female president in the Texas Tech University System. She joined TTUHSC in 1987 and has held various leadership positions within the university, including Provost and Chief Academic Officer as well as Dean of the School of Health Professions.

Dr. Rice-Spearman is a nationally recognized innovator in health professions education, with numerous publications in peer-reviewed journals. She was appointed in 2024 to the state's 11-member HealthCare Workforce Task Force by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board at the governor's request. The task force aims to address health care workforce shortages in Texas and meet the growing demand for health care services. She also has served as an accreditation reviewer and site visitor for the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences and the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education.

As a proud TTUHSC alumna and native West Texan, Dr. Rice-Spearman has a deep connection to the region, which fuels her dedication to advancing access to quality care. She graduated from the School of Health Professions' inaugural class in the Clinical Laboratory Sciences program and earned her master's and Ph.D. from Texas Tech University.

Felix G. Morales, M.D.

Dr. Morales has served as the Associate Dean since April 2017. ~~He previously was named the Assistant Dean in August 2016.~~ He is a graduate of the TTUHSC School of Medicine. He completed his Family Medicine residency training at Texas Tech as well. During his residency, Dr. Morales served as the chief resident. Dr. Morales has been on faculty at Texas Tech since April 2012. He also serves as Tenured Professor for the Department of Family and Community Medicine. He is board-certified by the American Board of Family Medicine. He is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. He has multiple roles in the school of medicine which include serving on various committees for Texas Tech and teaching in the FMAT program. Dr. Morales still has an active medical practice that serves the families of Lubbock and the surrounding West Texas communities. His practice includes the care of newborn, obstetric, adult, and geriatric patients. Dr. Morales also serves as the faculty advisor for the Latino Medical Student Association and was the founding member of the Bernard Harris Pre-Med Society at Texas Tech University. He loves to teach and provides mentorship for many medical students and residents.