

LEADERS IN CLINICAL EXCELLENCE 2021 - MENTORING AWARD



Dr. Sunati Sahoo proudly accepts her Mentoring Award from Dr. Lee
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Sunati Sahoo, M.D.

Professor of Pathology



In her position as Director of Surgical Pathology at Clements University Hospital and Director of Breast Pathology Services at UT Southwestern and Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dr. Sahoo plays an important leadership role in the delivery of UTSW's pathology services and strives to provide the highest standards of care to her patients. She encourages those around her to do the same by serving as a trusted mentor and role model to many.

“She is extremely generous with her time and tireless in her efforts to provide education and guidance for trainees and junior colleagues,” says a

mentee. “What sets her apart is her passion for helping, guiding, and mentoring.”

Indeed, during her decade on the UT Southwestern faculty, Dr. Sahoo has built a reputation as someone who is personable, approachable, encouraging, and always willing to help – someone who has a strong desire to help those less experienced learn and succeed.

“When I was a junior faculty member, Dr. Sahoo provided me with guidance and advice and shared her experience in conducting translational research,” the mentee recalls. “The experience and insight she generously shared with me was invaluable in developing my academic career.”



Word of Dr. Sahoo’s reputation is apparently getting around. A mentee maintains that Dr. Sahoo’s enthusiasm for pathology and her engaging teaching style are qualities that attract trainees to pathology and to UTSW for residency and fellowship. “My medical school class has a record-breaking eight students applying to pathology residency, which can be attributed in part to Dr. Sahoo and other pathology faculty who have a passion for mentoring students,” the mentee says.

It’s mentorship with purpose, of course: to provide excellent patient care. “Dr. Sahoo has been pivotal in standardizing an excellent breast pathology program,” says a colleague. “She is always available, ready, and willing to discuss a patient, a pathway, or a process that experienced a hiccup, and she never displays any annoyance with detailed requests to review a specific finding (even one that keeps her here way after hours!). She is widely recognized as an expert in her field.”

That level of expertise never stops giving to patients – or to colleagues. “I’ve witnessed Dr. Sahoo taking calls from former mentees who are now attending pathologists and helping them through difficult cases or diagnoses,” says a mentee. “She is more than a faculty member and more than an educator – she is truly a mentor to trainees at all levels of experience.”

In her words: “I am truly humbled to receive this award at an institution known for its excellence in clinical care, teaching, and research. The relationship between a mentor and mentee is built on respect and trust, and one that can last for a lifetime. It is gratifying to work with an incredible number of smart and hardworking individuals, not just in my own department but in other medical specialties. I am grateful that I was able to foster that relationship with my students and colleagues who trusted me to guide them in their professional career.”