

Suad Ghaddar, PhD

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences
 College of Health Professions
 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
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EDUCATION

Fall 97 – Spring 03 The University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, Texas
 Ph.D., Business Administration with an emphasis in International Business
 (Economics and Finance Track)

Fall 95 – Spring 99 Sanfilippo School of Language, Harlingen, Texas
 Spanish

Fall 88 – Spring 90 American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon
 Master of Business Administration

Fall 85 – Spring 88 American University of Beirut, Beirut, Lebanon
 Bachelor of Business Administration (Distinction)

WORK EXPERIENCE

9/23 – Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences
 College of Health Professions
 The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
 Associate Professor
 - Courses taught: Research Methods for the Health Sciences (Online)

9/17 – 8/23 Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences
 College of Health Professions
 The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
 Assistant Professor
 - Courses taught: Health Care Policy, Organizations, and Financing (Online);
 Research Methods for the Health Sciences (Online); Special Topics in Health:
 Population Health Equity (Hybrid)

5/13 – 8/17 South Texas Border Health Disparities Center
 The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (previously the University of Texas-
 Pan American)
 Director

1/16 – 5/17 College of Health Affairs

	The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Adjunct Faculty - Courses taught: Research Methods for the Health Sciences (Online)
1/15 – 5/15	College of Health Sciences and Human Services The University of Texas-Pan American Adjunct Faculty - Courses taught: Research Methods for the Health Sciences (Online)
9/12 – 4/13	South Texas Border Health Disparities Center The University of Texas-Pan American Interim Director
9/08 – 8/12	South Texas Border Health Disparities Center The University of Texas-Pan American Associate Director
5/03 – 5/08	Center for Border Economic Studies The University of Texas-Pan American Research Associate
Fall 00 – Spring 01	School of Business The University of Texas at Brownsville Adjunct Faculty - Courses taught: Macroeconomics, International Financial Management
Spring 96- Fall 96	Department of Economics and Finance College of Business Administration The University of Texas-Pan American Adjunct Faculty - Courses taught: Managerial Finance, Macroeconomics
Fall 90 – Spring 91	School of Business American University of Beirut Adjunct Faculty - Courses taught: Financial Management, Financial Markets & Institutions
Fall 88 – Spring 90	School of Business American University of Beirut Graduate Assistant

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

**Names with an asterisk indicate student co-authors at the time.*

1. **Ghaddar S.** Plain Language and Health Literacy. In *Handbook of Language in Public Health and Healthcare*. Pilar Ortega, Glenn Martinez, Maichou Lor, and A. Susana Ramirez, eds. New York: Wiley Blackwell, 2024.
2. **Ghaddar S.** Medicare for All: A health insurance literacy perspective. *Health Literacy Research and Practice*. 2021 Oct;5(4):e272-e275. [doi: 10.3928/24748307-20210908-01](https://doi.org/10.3928/24748307-20210908-01).

3. **Ghaddar S**, Vatcheva K, Alvarado S*, Mykyta L. Understanding the intention to utilize telehealth services in underserved Hispanic border communities: Cross-sectional study. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*. 2020;22(9):e21012. [doi:10.2196/21012](#). [Abstract](#).
4. **Ghaddar S**, Byun J*, Krishnaswami J. Health insurance literacy and awareness of the Affordable Care Act in a vulnerable Hispanic population. *Patient Education and Counseling*. 2018;101(12):2233-2240. doi: 10.1016/j.pec.2018.08.033. [Abstract](#).
5. Krishnaswami J, Jaini PA, Howard R, **Ghaddar S**. Community-engaged lifestyle medicine: Building health equity through preventive medicine residency training. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. 2018;55(3):412-421. doi: 10.1016/j.amepre.2018.04.012 [Abstract](#).
6. Schembri S, **Ghaddar S**. The Affordable Care Act, the Medicaid coverage gap, and Hispanic consumers: A phenomenology of Obamacare. *The Journal of Consumer Affairs*. 2018;52(1):138-165. [PDF](#).
7. Benham G, **Ghaddar S**, Talavera-Garza L. Short Sleep Duration Is Associated with Obesity in Hispanic Manufacturing Workers. *Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved*. 2017;28(4): 1304–1313. [Abstract](#).
8. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ, Pagán JA. Alliance for a Healthy Border: Obesity prevention in underserved U.S.-Mexico border communities. In: Brennan V, Kumanyika S, Zambrana R, eds. *Obesity interventions in underserved U.S. communities*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014.
9. **Ghaddar S**, Ronnau JP, Saladin S, Martinez G. Innovative Approaches to Promote a Culturally Competent, Diverse Health Care Workforce in an Institution Serving Hispanic Students. *Academic Medicine*. 2013;88(12):1870-6. [Abstract](#).
10. Talavera-Garza L, **Ghaddar S**, Valerio M, Garcia C. Health Care Access and Utilization among Hispanic Manufacturing Workers along the Texas-Mexico Border. *Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved*. 2013;24:654-668. [Abstract](#).
11. Wang X, **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ, Pagán JA, Balboa M*. Alliance for a Healthy Border: Factors Related to Weight Reduction and Glycemic Success. *Population Health Management*. 2012;15(2):90-100. [Abstract](#).
12. **Ghaddar S**, Valerio MA, Garcia CM, Hansen L. Adolescent Health Literacy: The Importance of Credible Sources for Online Health Information. *Journal of School Health*. 2012;82(1):28-36. [Abstract](#).
13. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ, Pagán JA, Diaz V*. 2010. Acculturation and Healthy Lifestyle Habits among Hispanics in U.S.-Mexico Border Communities. *Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health*. 2010; 28(3):190-7. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20963266>.
14. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ. 2005. The Cross-Border Mexican Shopper: A Profile. *Research Review*, 12(2):46-50.
15. **Ghaddar S***, Baek HY. 2001. Stock Market Development and Economic Growth: A Stochastic Frontier Approach. *Journal of Accounting and Finance Research*, 9(5):81-90.
16. Sargent J, **Ghaddar S***. 2001. International Success of Business Groups as an Indicator of National Competitiveness: The Mexican Example. *Latin American Business Review*, 2(3/4):97-121. [Abstract](#).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS/REPORTS

**Names with an asterisk indicate student co-authors at the time.*

1. Butler AM, **Ghaddar S**. *Building Effective Student Stakeholder Research Teams: A Blueprint for Supporting Student Engagement at Hispanic Serving Institutions*. Houston (TX): Baylor College of Medicine and Edinburg (TX): University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; 2023.
2. Lakey D, Elerian N, et al. 2019. *UT System Population Health Strategic Plan*. Austin, TX. University of Texas System.
3. **Ghaddar S**, Guerra S*, Ayala Y*. *Operation Lone Star 2018 Summary Report*. 2018. The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.
4. **Ghaddar S**, Vela L. 2017. *CoPHII Strategic Plan for the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley*. UT Collaborative on Population Health Innovation and Improvement (CoPHII).
5. Simpson P, **Ghaddar S**, Sheng X. 2010. *Winter Texan 2010 Survey*. Valley Markets and Tourism Research Center, The University of Texas-Pan American.
6. *Border Business Briefs* (quarterly newsletter of local economic indicators). Fall 2004 – Summer 2009. Center for Border Economic Studies. The University of Texas-Pan American.
7. **Ghaddar S**, Simpson P. 2008. *Winter Texan Market Survey, Winter 2008*. Valley Markets and Tourism Research Center, The University of Texas-Pan American.
8. *MarketWise*. Spring 2006 – Fall 2007. Harlingen Chamber of Commerce.
9. **Ghaddar S**. 2006. *The Impact of Hispanic Engineering Science & Technology Week (HESTEC 2005) on Students' Engineering Attitudes*. Center for Border Economic Studies, The University of Texas-Pan American.
10. *Harlingen Community Profile*. 2005. Harlingen Chamber of Commerce.
11. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ. 2005. *The Impact of Hispanic Engineering Science & Technology Week (HESTEC 2004) on Students' Engineering Attitudes*. Center for Border Economic Studies, The University of Texas-Pan American.
12. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ. 2005. *The Economic Impact of Mexican Visitors along the U.S.-Mexico Border: A Research Synthesis*. International Council of Shopping Centers Working Paper Series.
13. **Ghaddar S**, Richardson C, Brown CJ. 2004. *The Economic Impact of Mexican Visitors to the Lower Rio Grande Valley, 2003*. Center for Border Economic Studies, The University of Texas-Pan American.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

**Names with an asterisk indicate student co-authors at the time.*

1. Schembri S, **Ghaddar S**. A cultural view on healthcare access: Considering the Hispanic perspective. *Advances in Consumer Research*. 2017;45:469-73.
2. Tasnif Y, **Ghaddar S**, Saladin S, Alaniz A*. Culture Specific Interventions to Increase Organ Donation Advocacy in a Hispanic Serving Institution. *Am J Transplant*. 2016;16 (suppl 3).

3. Sheng X, Simpson PM, **Ghaddar S**, Gressel J. 2012. *The Role of eHealth Literacy in Consumer Using Health Information on the Internet*. 2012 AMHCR Conference Proceedings. Association for Marketing & Health Care Research.
4. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ. 2007. The Economic Impact of Mexican Visitors along the U.S.-Mexico Border: A Research Synthesis. *Proceedings of the 12th Annual Conference on Western Hemispheric Integration in a Competitive Global Environment*. Laredo, Texas and Monterrey, Mexico, March 21-24.
5. **Ghaddar S***, Baek HY. 2000. Stock Market Development and Economic Growth: A Stochastic Frontier Approach. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Accounting and Finance Meeting*. New Orleans, Dec. 7-9.
6. **Ghaddar S***. 2000. Factors Influencing Stock Market Development in Emerging Markets. *Proceedings of the 2000 Academy of International Business U.S. Southwest Chapter Conference*. San Antonio, March 15-18.
7. Hinck W*, **Ghaddar S***. 1999. A Replication with Extension of the Animosity Model of Foreign Product Purchase: Investigating the German Intra-National Predicament. *Proceedings of the Society of Marketing Advances Conference*. Atlanta, Oct. 26-30.
8. Sargent J, **Ghaddar S***. 1999. Latin American Industrial Groups as Multinationals: The Mexican Example. *Proceedings of the Business Association of Latin American Studies Conference*, New Orleans, April 7-10.

CONFERENCE ORAL PRESENTATIONS

*Names with an asterisk indicate student co-authors at the time.

1. **Ghaddar S**, Forman T, Baker K, Crossan M, Stanton M, Fenton S. Increasing diversity of the future public health informatics and technology (PHIT) workforce: Tailored approaches to training students at Hispanic serving institutions (HSIs). American Public Health Association's 2023 Annual Meeting and Exposition. November 14, 2023. [Abstract](#).
2. Forman T, **Ghaddar S**, Baker K, Stanton M, Crossan M, Fenton S. Preparing Health Professions Students for Practice: Innovative Approaches to Integrating Public Health Informatics and Technology. 45th Annual Texas Society for Advancement of Health Professions Conference. Wichita Falls, TX, September 22, 2023.
3. **Ghaddar S**, Mordan S*, Jones J, Asonye E, Davila A*, Murray D, Butler A. Impact of COVID-19 on the mental health and emotional well-being of students at a Hispanic-Serving Institution. American Public Health Association's 2022 Annual Meeting and Exposition. November 6, 2022. [Abstract](#).
4. Alvarado M, Hagerty M, **Ghaddar S**, Wang L, Saldivar J. *Professionalism First: Exposing health professions majors to the essentials of professionalism in a first-year experience course*. Texas Society for Advancement of Health Professions Conference. Virtual, September 17, 2021.
5. Forman T, Garcia K, **Ghaddar S**. *Innovative online educational pathways to promote diversity among healthcare professionals*. Texas Society for Advancement of Health Professions Conference. Virtual, September 17, 2021.

6. **Ghaddar S**, Leherker M, Saladin S. *Research Fellows Program: Supporting successful grantsmanship within health professions*. Texas Society for Advancement of Health Professions Conference. Virtual, September 17, 2021.
7. **Ghaddar S**. *Building research competencies among health sciences students: Evidence from an online graduate research methods course*. Texas Society for Advancement of Health Professions Conference. Virtual, September 16, 2021.
8. **Ghaddar S**, Guerra S*, Wang L, Ledingham C, Mykyta L. *Innovative course-based undergraduate research experience to raise awareness of the social determinants of health*. Beyond Flexner 2021 Conference. Virtual, April 26, 2021.
9. Meza C*, Chung M*, Rosenfeld J, **Ghaddar S**, Escareno J, Dominguez E. *Mi Bienestar Mental Cuenta: Providing culturally-relevant mental health education via community health clubs along the Texas-Mexico border*. American Public Health Association's 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting and Exposition. Roundtable Discussion. October 27, 2020. [Abstract](#).
10. Vatcheva K, **Ghaddar S**. *Mediation analysis with an ordinal outcome using empirical data*. American Statistical Association Conference on Statistical Practice. Sacramento, February 21, 2020.
11. **Ghaddar S**, Wang L, Ledingham C. *Course-Based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs): Extensions to social, behavioral, and clinical research*. College of Health Professions Innovations in Teaching Conference, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. Edinburg, November 22, 2019.
12. Salhadar N*, **Ghaddar S**. *Assessing the health of Hispanic college students along the Texas-Mexico border*. American Public Health Association's 147th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Philadelphia, November 5, 2019. [Abstract](#).
13. Mykyta L, **Ghaddar S**, Vela L. *Exploring the Hispanic health paradox in mental health outcomes: Evidence from the US-Mexico border*. American Public Health Association's 147th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Philadelphia, November 4, 2019. [Abstract](#).
14. Asonye E*, **Ghaddar S**, Montañó K, Alvarado V, Benavides M, Montalvo J. *Community Health Clubs: An innovative approach to mental health education in vulnerable communities*. American Public Health Association's 147th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Roundtable Discussion. Philadelphia, November 4, 2019. [Abstract](#).
15. **Ghaddar S**, Salhadar N*. *Assessing the health needs of underserved communities along the Texas-Mexico Border*. Texas Society for Allied Health Professions 42nd Annual Conference. Lubbock, September 20, 2019.
16. **Ghaddar S**, Starr R*, Guajardo E, Ruiz M, Olivarez E, Vela L. *Assessing the training needs of the public health workforce along the Texas-Mexico border*. American Public Health Association's 146th Annual Meeting and Exposition. San Diego, November 13, 2018. [Abstract](#).
17. **Ghaddar S**, Mykyta L, Perales S*, Mordan S*, Forman T, Vela L. *Examining potential barriers to telehealth adoption in underserved Hispanic communities*. American Public Health Association's 146th Annual Meeting and Exposition. San Diego, November 12, 2018. [Abstract](#).
18. **Ghaddar S**, Guerra S*, Ayala Y*, Mykyta L. *Understanding attitudes towards telehealth: Evidence from the United States-Mexico border*. 1st International Conference on e-Health and Telehealth (ICEHAT). Kathmandu, Nepal, November 2, 2018.

19. Mykyta L, **Ghaddar S**, Vela L. *Mental health on the Texas-Mexico border*. Healthier Texas Summit. Austin, October 25, 2018.
20. Mykyta L, **Ghaddar S**, Perales S*, Mordan S*, Vela L. *Exploring dual-frame survey design to assess mental health needs among a hard-to-reach Hispanic population*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. BRFSS 2018 Training Workshop. Atlanta, April 12, 2018.
21. **Ghaddar S**, Schembri S. *Challenges to ACA enrollment: Perspective of ACA navigators*. American Public Health Association's 145th Annual Meeting and Exposition. Atlanta, November 8, 2017. [Abstract](#).
22. Schembri S, **Ghaddar S**. *A cultural view on healthcare access: Considering the Hispanic perspective*. Association for Consumer Research North America Conference. San Diego, October 28, 2017.
23. **Ghaddar S**, Byun J*, Krishnaswami J. *Health insurance literacy and awareness of the Affordable Care Act in vulnerable Latino populations*. ICCH & HARC (International Conference on Communication in Healthcare & Health Literacy Annual Research Conference). Baltimore, October 9, 2017.
24. Starr R*, **Ghaddar S**. *Health disparities along the Texas-Mexico border: Implications and recommendations*. National Association for African American Studies & Affiliates 25th Joint National Conference. Dallas, February 17, 2017.
25. **Ghaddar S**, Tasnif Y, Khan A*. *A profile of organ donors in a vulnerable Latino community*. American Public Health Association's 144th Annual Meeting and Exposition (Latino Caucus). Roundtable Discussion. Denver, November 1, 2016. [Abstract](#).
26. Starr R*, **Ghaddar S**. *Health Disparities along the Texas-Mexico border: Implications and recommendations*. National Association for Hispanic and Latino Studies International Research Forum. South Padre Island, October 25, 2016.
27. Schembri S, **Ghaddar S**. *A phenomenology of Obamacare: Investigating the Hispanic perspective in South Texas*. National Association for Hispanic and Latino Studies International Research Forum. South Padre Island, October 20, 2015.
28. Talavera-Garza L, **Ghaddar S**. *Using quantitative and qualitative data to explore the utilization of preventive health services among older adults along the Texas-Mexico border*. American Public Health Association's 141st Annual Meeting and Exposition. Boston, November 5, 2013. [Abstract](#).
29. Wang X, Xu L*, **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ, Pagán JA. *Factors affecting border Hispanics' physical activity status and improvements in a chronic diseases prevention program*. American Public Health Association 140th Annual Meeting & Exposition, San Francisco, October 31, 2012.
30. Valerio M, **Ghaddar S**, Talavera-Garza L. *Using quantitative and qualitative data to inform the design of a tailored health literacy intervention: Trabajando Juntos/Working Together program*. Health Literacy Annual Research Conference, Chicago, October 17-18, 2011.
31. **Ghaddar S**, Talavera-Garza L, Valerio M, Wang X, Chopra P*, Niño D*, Oh H. *Health literacy in the manufacturing workplace: Quantitative and qualitative findings*. 5th Annual College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Research and Teaching Conference, University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, March 24, 2011.

32. Niño D*, **Ghaddar S**, Wang X, Talavera-Garza L, Valerio M, Chopra P*. *Utilization of the BRFSS to Explore Local Health Disparities*. 28th Annual BRFSS Conference (Session: BRFSS Local Area Health Estimates), Atlanta, March 22, 2011.
33. **Ghaddar S**, Simpson P, Sheng X, Valerio M. *eHealth Literacy of Older Adults: Findings from Winter Visitors to the Rio Grande Valley of Texas*. American Public Health Association 138th Annual Meeting (Session: Predictors and Facilitators of Healthy Aging), Denver, November 8, 2010.
34. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ, Pagán JA. *Acculturation and Diabetes Self-Management Practices among Hispanics in U.S.-Mexico Border Communities*. American Public Health Association 137th Annual Meeting (Section: Public Health Education and Health Promotion), Philadelphia, November 9, 2009.
35. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ, Pagán JA. *Role of Education Programs in Mediating Disparities in Glycemic Control*. American Public Health Association 137th Annual Meeting (Section: Public Health Education and Health Promotion), Philadelphia, November 9, 2009.
36. **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ, Pagán JA, Diaz V*. *Acculturation and Healthy Lifestyle Habits among Hispanics in U.S.-Mexico Border Communities*. Binational Border Health Research Forum, San Diego, July 18, 2009.
37. Brown CJ, Pagán JA, **Ghaddar S**, Diaz V*. *Qualitative Evaluation of Pfizer's Alliance for a Healthy Border: A Focus Group Study*. 67th Annual Meeting of the United States-Mexico Border Health Association (Session: New Indicators in Human Security, Disease Prevention and Control), El Paso, June 5, 2009.
38. Brown CJ, Pagán JA, **Ghaddar S**, Diaz V*. *Evaluation of Pfizer's Alliance for a Healthy Border, A Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Program*. 66th Annual Meeting of the United States-Mexico Border Health Association (Session: Organized Social Response), Hermosillo, Mexico, May 9, 2008.
39. Brown CJ, Pagán JA, **Ghaddar S**. *Evaluation of Alliance for a Healthy Border: A Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Program*. Annual Research Meeting of AcademyHealth (Session: Building Collaborations to Address Population Health), Orlando, June 4, 2007.
40. **Ghaddar S**. Ownership Variables and Capital Structure: Evidence from Chile. Financial Management Association Doctoral Student Seminar. San Antonio, Oct. 16, 2002.
41. **Ghaddar S***. *Chilean ADR firms – A Profile*. Annual Meeting of the Academy of International Business U.S. Southwest Chapter, New Orleans, March 2, 2001.
42. **Ghaddar S***. *Measuring Ownership Concentration in Latin America*. Annual Meeting of the Academy of International Business U.S. Southwest Chapter, San Antonio, March 17, 2000.
43. Sargent J, **Ghaddar S***. *International Success of Business Groups as an Indicator of National Competitiveness: The Mexican Example*. Guthery Presidential Panel on The Role of Economic Groups in Latin America: Toward the 21st Century. Business Association of Latin American Studies, New Orleans, April 7-10, 1999.
44. Hinck W*, **Ghaddar S***, Castillo M*. *International Business Education in the New Millennium: The Utilization of Simulations in Teaching Hispanic College Students*. Society for Advancement of Management 1999 International Management Conference, Las Vegas, March 29, 1999.

45. **Ghaddar S***. *Third World Multinationals: A Literature Review*. Annual Meeting of the Academy of International Business U.S. Southwest Chapter. Houston, March 10-13, 1999.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

1. *The Role of Mental Health Literacy in Promoting, Maintaining, and Improving Health Outcomes* panel. Health Literacy in the Rio Grande Valley Conference. Harlingen, February 28, 2020.
2. *Understanding Attitudes towards Telehealth in Hispanic Communities along the Texas-Mexico Border*. Translational Research Seminar Series. UTRGV Department of Health & Biomedical Sciences; UTHHealth School of Public Health - Brownsville Regional Campus; South Texas Diabetes and Obesity Institute. Brownsville, January 31, 2020.
3. *Operation Lone Star: Sociodemographic and Health Profile*. Task Force of Border Health Officials. Austin, December 7, 2018.
4. *Health Disparities along the Texas-Mexico Border: Implications for Respiratory Health*. Texas Society for Respiratory Care Conference. South Padre Island, May 3, 2018.
5. *Health Disparities along the Texas-Mexico Border*. Colegio de la Globalización Conference. Edinburg, February 3, 2015.
6. *Culturally Appropriate Health Literacy: How to Begin to Make Changes*. Advocacy 101: Public Official Symposium: Transforming Community Leadership into Healthy Communities. Office of Border Health, Texas Department of State Health Services. Edinburg, August 28, 2014.
7. *Health Disparities along the Texas-Mexico Border*. University of Michigan Future Public Health Leaders Program. July 18, 2013.
8. *Successful Community Programs to Address Health Literacy*. Health Literacy Symposium. Harlingen Consolidated Independent School District and Valley Baptist Medical Center. Harlingen, October 10, 2012.
9. *Health Disparities and Inequities along the Texas-Mexico Border: Challenges and Opportunities*. Public Health Grand Rounds. Michigan Public Health Training Center. University of Michigan. Ann Arbor, January 27, 2012.
10. *Health Literacy in the Manufacturing Workplace*. South Texas Manufacturers Association. McAllen, Texas. May 24, 2011.
11. *Health Disparities and Health Literacy Issues* panel. Bioethics in Health Care Conference. The University of Texas-Pan American, Edinburg, March 23, 2011.
12. *Adolescent Health Literacy: The Importance of Credible Sources for Online Health Information*. National Network of Libraries of Medicine Evaluation Liaisons' Quarterly Teleconference, September 28, 2010.
13. *Diabetes Prevention in the Texas Borderlands* panel. International Week-Global Health & Welfare. The University of Texas-Pan American Edinburg, November 16, 2009.
14. *Estimating the Size and Impact of Cross Border Shopping* panel. Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas Conference on Cross-Border Shopping Activity. San Antonio, Jan. 13, 2006.

15. Brown CJ, **Ghaddar S**, Richardson C. *Economic Impact of Mexican Visitors to the Lower Rio Grande Valley*, 2003. Institute for Defense and Government Advancement Smart Borders Conference, Washington, DC, October 2004.
16. *U.S. Visit Program: Mexican Visitors to the Lower Rio Grande Valley*. Texas Senate Committee hearing on *International Relations and Trade*. Brownsville, August 9, 2004.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

*Names with an asterisk indicate student co-authors at the time.

1. **Ghaddar S**, Mordan S*, Asonye E, Davila A*, Jones J*, Moya I*, Davila A*, Mahoney M*, Murray D, Butler AM. *Building effective college student stakeholder research teams: Engagement strategies for minoritized students*. 2023 PCORI Annual Meeting. Washington, DC, October 4-5, 2023.
2. Guerra S*, Ayala Y*, **Ghaddar S**. *The effects of poverty on health by gender: A sample of 2018 Operation Lone Star participants*. UTRGV School of Medicine Research Symposium. McAllen, September 14, 2019.
3. Wang X, Xu L*, **Ghaddar S**, Brown CJ. *Examining prevention education programs' effects on border Hispanics physical activity intentions and status*. American Public Health Association's 144th Annual Meeting and Exposition (Physical Activity). Denver, October 31, 2016. [Abstract](#).
4. Stegall S, Dearth R, Weimer A, **Ghaddar S**, Atesin T, Weimer N. *Implementing an Institutional Program that Increases Research Experiences in the Undergraduate Curriculum*. Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research Conference. Elon University. Elon, NC, July 24, 2016.
5. Tasnif Y, **Ghaddar S**, Saladin S, Alanis A*. *Culture Specific Interventions to Increase Organ Donation Advocacy in a Hispanic Serving Institution*. American Transplant Congress. Boston, June 12, 2016. [Abstract](#).
6. **Ghaddar S**, Schembri S. *Understanding the implementation of the Affordable Care Act in vulnerable Latino communities: A phenomenological approach*. American Public Health Association's 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition. Chicago, November 4, 2015. [Abstract](#).
7. Ghaddar R, **Ghaddar S**, Talavera-Garza L. *Challenges to the adoption of patient portals in marginalized Latino populations*. American Public Health Association's 143rd Annual Meeting and Exposition. Chicago, November 4, 2015. [Abstract](#).
8. **Ghaddar S**, Talavera-Garza L, Valerio M. *Feasibility testing of a culturally-tailored worksite wellness program to address obesity among Hispanic manufacturing workers*. American Public Health Association's 141st Annual Meeting and Exposition. Boston, November 3, 2013. [Abstract](#).
9. **Ghaddar S**, Garcia C. *Language brokering among Hispanic high school students in South Texas*. Summit on the Science of Eliminating Health Disparities, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. National Harbor, December 18, 2012.
10. Talavera-Garza L, **Ghaddar S**. *Examining the utilization of preventive health services among older adults along the Texas-Mexico border*. Summit on the Science of Eliminating Health Disparities, National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. National Harbor, December 17, 2012.

11. **Ghaddar S**, Benham G, Chopra P*, Talavera-Garza L, Valerio M. *Obesity and sleep duration among Latino manufacturing workers*. American Public Health Association 139th Annual Meeting & Exposition (Section: Latino Caucus), Washington, DC, November 1, 2011.
12. Talavera-Garza L, Garcia C, **Ghaddar S**, Valerio M. *Examining Latino Manufacturing Workers' Utilization of Preventive Health Services: Opportunities for Health Care Reform*. American Public Health Association 139th Annual Meeting & Exposition (Section: Medical Care), Washington, DC, November 1, 2011.
13. **Ghaddar S**, Valerio M, Talavera-Garza L, Wang X. *Examining the association between health literacy and obesity in Hispanic vulnerable populations*. American Public Health Association 139th Annual Meeting & Exposition (Section: Public Health Education and Health Promotion), Washington, DC, November 1, 2011.
14. Valerio M, **Ghaddar S**, Talavera-Garza L, Niño D*, Chopra P*. *Examining perceived health information needs to inform a worksite wellness intervention along the Texas-Mexico border*. American Public Health Association 139th Annual Meeting & Exposition (Section: Public Health Education and Health Promotion), Washington, DC, October 30, 2011.
15. Valerio M, Andreski P, **Ghaddar S**. *Examination of health literacy and health-related outcomes in an older cohort-study population*. Health Literacy Annual Research Conference, Chicago, October 17-18, 2011.
16. Keck P, **Ghaddar S**, Garcia C, Lee S*, Lopez M. *Promising Results from a School-Based Intervention to Address Childhood Obesity in Texas-Mexico Border Communities*. American Public Health Association 138th Annual Meeting and Exposition (Section: School Health Education and Services), Denver, November 7, 2010.
17. **Ghaddar S**, Garcia C, Valerio M, Hansen M. *Adolescent eHealth Literacy: The Importance of Credible Sources for Online Health Information*. Health Literacy Annual Research Conference, Bethesda. October 18, 2010.
18. Lee S*, **Ghaddar S**, Garza D, Salazar D, Keck P. *Association Between Acanthosis Nigricans and Risk Factors for Type 2 Diabetes among Hispanic Children in a Texas-Mexico Border Community*. Annual Research Meeting of AcademyHealth, Boston, June 27, 2010.
19. Brown CJ, Pagán JA, **Ghaddar S**. *Health-Related Quality of Life and Success in Chronic Disease Prevention Programs*. American Public Health Association 136th Annual Meeting and Exposition, San Diego. October 26, 2008.
20. Brown CJ, Pagán JA, **Ghaddar S**. *Predictors of Success in Alliance for a Healthy Border, a Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Program*. Annual Research Meeting of AcademyHealth, Washington D.C. June 9, 2008.
21. Brown CJ, **Ghaddar S**, Pagán JA, Jackson D. *Pfizer's Alliance for a Healthy Border: A Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease Prevention Program*. 65th Annual Meeting of the United States-Mexico Border Health Association, South Padre Island, Texas, May 22, 2007.
22. **Ghaddar S***. *Guidelines for Cross-National Research in Finance: Drawing from Cross-Cultural Methodology*. Academy of International Business Annual Meeting, Phoenix, November 19, 2000.
23. Hinck W*, **Ghaddar S***. *Economic Animosity in Germany's Neue Länder*. Academy of International Business Annual Meeting, Charleston, Nov. 20-23, 1999.

CURRENT RESEARCH SUPPORT

National Institutes of Health. National Institutes of Health, National Institute Of Allergy And Infectious Diseases (NIAID) 8/20/2024-5/31/2027

Co-Investigator. Reaching New Heights: Strengthening Health Professions Research at UTRGV (PI: Michael Lehker)

Goal: To foster a robust Health Professions (HP) research environment conducive to high-quality, cutting-edge basic, translational, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences research.

COMPLETED SUPPORT

US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology 9/21/2021 – 9/20/2025

Lead institution: The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (Boerwinkle E and Zhang J, PIs).

UTRGV subaward: Forman T (PI); Ghaddar S (Co-Investigator)

GET PHIT Gaining Equity in Training for Public Health Informatics and Technology.

Goal: To reduce the nation's health disparities and inequities by expanding the number of public health professionals trained in public health informatics and technology.

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Office of Faculty Success and Diversity, Faculty Travel Support Program 11/2023

Goal: \$800 to support presenting at the American Public Health Association's 2023 Annual Meeting and Expo.

Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), Eugene Washington PCORI Engagement Award Program 9/2021 – 2/2023

MPIs: Butler A and Ghaddar S

Building Capacity in Hispanic Serving Institutions for PCOR/CER focused on Mental Health Impacts of COVID-19

Goal: To increase student stakeholder and scientist capacity for engagement in Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) and Comparative Effectiveness Research (CER) at Hispanic Serving Institutions with a focus on the impact of COVID-19 on mental health and well-being among Hispanic college students.

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Office of Faculty Success and Diversity, Faculty Travel Support Program 10/2019

Goal: \$400 to support presenting at the American Public Health Association's 147th Annual Meeting and Exposition.

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Office of Faculty Success and Diversity, Faculty Travel Support Program 06/2019

Goal: \$500 to support presenting at Texas Society for Allied Health Professions 2019 Conference

Suad Ghaddar, PhD

The Valley Baptist Legacy Foundation

01/2015 – 12/2015

PI: Tasnif

Culture Specific Interventions to Increase Organ Donation Advocacy

Role: Co-Investigator

Goal: To assess the effectiveness of a culture-specific intervention to promote organ donation advocacy among allied health professions students.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

H75DP001812-03 (PI: Su)

09/01/2010 – 08/31/2011

South Texas Border Health Disparities Center at The University of Texas-Pan American

Role: Co-Investigator

Goal: To enhance the institutional capacity to conduct biomedical and health services research projects related to health disparities.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

H75DP001812-02 (PI: Su)

09/01/2009 – 08/31/2010

Role: Co-Investigator

Goal: To enhance the institutional capacity to conduct biomedical and health services research projects related to health disparities.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

H75DP001812-01 (PI: Pagán)

09/01/2008 – 08/31/2009

South Texas Border Health Disparities Center at The University of Texas-Pan American

Role: Co-Investigator

Goal: To enhance the institutional capacity to conduct biomedical and health services research projects related to health disparities.

Institute on Systems Science and Health. NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research. *Social Network Analysis Training*. Ann Arbor, Michigan, May 3-8, 2009.

AWARDS AND HONORS

1. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Merit Award. 2019-20, 2020-21, 2022-23, 2023-24.
2. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences, Certificate of Excellence in Service. September 2023.
3. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, College of Health Professions, Teaching Award. August 2021.
4. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, College of Health Professions, Dean's Honor Award. August 2021.

LANGUAGES

Arabic (native/bilingual proficiency), English (native/bilingual proficiency), Spanish (professional working proficiency), and French (limited working proficiency)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES/SERVICE

Updated October 2025

Member

9/2023-8/2027	Member, Faculty Senate, UTRGV Member/Vice Chair, Faculty Senate Research Policy Committee
9/2023-Present	Member, Tenure & Promotion Committee, Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences, UTRGV
2022-Present	Chair, Faculty Evaluation Guidelines Committee, Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences, UTRGV
2022-2023	Member, Merit Guidelines Committee, Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences, UTRGV
8/2021-8/2023	Faculty Search Committee, Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences, UTRGV
9/2021-8/2025	Member, Events/Awards Committee, College of Health Professions, UTRGV
9/2018-8/2019	Scientific Program Committee, 3 rd Annual Research Symposium. School of Medicine. UTRGV
5/2017-10/2021	Student Success Team. College of Health Professions. UTRGV
3/18	Faculty Search Committee, Department of Health and Biomedical Sciences, UTRGV
9/2015-8/2017	Interprofessional Education Subcommittee. School of Medicine. UTRGV
9/2012-8/2017	Executive Council. College of Health Affairs (previously, College of Health Sciences and Human Services). University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (previously, University of Texas-Pan American)
11/2013-8/2015	Interprofessional Education Development Council. College of Health Sciences and Human Services. University of Texas-Pan American
2012-2013	Member, Health Literacy Task Force. Harlingen, Texas
2007-2017	Member, South Texas Independent School District Education Foundation
2006	Member, <i>The Dallas Morning News</i> ' Board of Economists
2000	Member, International Business Advisory Committee, The University of Texas at Brownsville

Reviewer

2/2025-4/2025	National Institutes of Health. Healthcare and Health Disparities Study Section.
2025	<i>Applied Clinical Informatics</i>
2024	<i>BMC Medical Education, BMC Public Health, Health Education and Behavior, JMIR (Journal of Medical Internet Research, Telemedicine Reports)</i>
4/2023-6/2023	National Institutes of Health. Healthcare and Health Disparities Study Section.
2023	<i>HLRP: Health Literacy Research and Practice</i>
2022	<i>Annals of Medicine, Applied Clinical Informatics, JMIR Formative Research</i>
2021	<i>Health Literacy Research and Practice, Applied Clinical Informatics, Journal of Medical Internet Research, Frontiers Public Health</i>
2020	<i>Health Literacy Research and Practice, Journal of Medical Internet Research</i>
2019	<i>Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health</i>
2018	<i>Health Care : Current Reviews, Journal of Medical Internet Research, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Health Literacy Research and Practice</i>
2017	<i>HLRP: Health Literacy Research and Practice, Health Education Research, Journal of Medical Internet Research</i>

2016	<i>Journal of Medical Internet Research, Cultural Diversity & Ethnic Minority Psychology, Journal of Healthcare for the Poor and Underserved, Journal of Health Literacy</i>
2015	<i>Journal of Medical Internet Research, Nutrients.</i>
2013	<i>Health Education Research, Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved.</i>
2012	<i>Journal of AIDS & Clinical Research, Journal of Health Communication, Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved, BMC Family Practice, Journal of School Health.</i>
2010	Stage 1 Reviewer. National Institutes of Health (NIH). Recovery Act Limited Competition: Building Sustainable Community-Linked Infrastructure to Enable Health Science Research (RC4).
2009	Stage 1 Reviewer. NIH. Recovery Act Limited Competition: NIH Challenge Grants in Health and Science Research (RC1).
2006	<i>Journal of Borderland Studies.</i>

Coordinator

9/2016-Present	Research Fellows Program. College of Health Professions. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.
2010-2018	Public Health Action Support Team, UTRGV Site. School of Public Health, University of Michigan.
9/2013-8/2015	Health Disparities and Health Humanities Thematic Community. University of Texas-Pan American.

Volunteer

Oct/Nov 2018	Health Volunteers Overseas. National Academy of Medical Sciences, Bir Hospital. DM (Fellowship) Medical Oncology Program. Kathmandu, Nepal.
July 2018	Certificate of Appreciation from the State of Texas, Texas Military Department, Texas State Guard for service during Operation Lone Star (July 23-27, 2018).
Oct/Nov 2017	Health Volunteers Overseas. Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan. Thimphu, Bhutan.
Oct/Nov 2016	Health Volunteers Overseas. Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan. Thimphu, Bhutan.

Guest Speaker

March 8, 2023	<i>Course-based undergraduate research experiences (CURE): A model for community-engaged scholarship at the intersection of teaching, research, and service.</i> Teaching and Research Integration in the Classroom and Community (TRICC). Center for Teaching Excellence. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
March 23, 2022	<i>Health Disparities Research.</i> Harlingen Distinguished Lecture Series, Harlingen School of Health Professions.
April 12, 2019	<i>Mental Health Disparities along the Texas-Mexico Border.</i> Preventive Medicine Residency Program, School of Medicine, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.
July 12, 2018	<i>Health Disparities along the Texas-Mexico Border.</i> Preventive Medicine Residency Program, School of Medicine, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.
July 6, 2017	<i>Health Disparities along the Texas-Mexico Border.</i> Preventive Medicine Residency Program, School of Medicine, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

January 26 & 27, 2017	<i>Health Disparities Research</i> . Harlingen School of Health Professions.
August 2015	South Texas Health Disparities Youth Program.

Panelist

April 11, 2024	<i>Cross-Generational Collaboration: Bridging Junior and Senior Faculty in Research Excellence</i> . College of Health Professions Health Forward Conference, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.
June 22, 2021	<i>Approaches to Teaching in Web Conferencing Enabled Classrooms</i> . Zoom Room
June 25, 2021	Professional Development Workshops. Center for Online Learning and Teaching
July 2, 2021	Technology, Center for Teaching Excellence, Media Systems. University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Certificates of Completion/Achievement

January 3, 2024	<i>QM Rubric Update Seventh Edition (RU) 2023</i> . Quality Matters
June 24, 2019	<i>Introduction to the Principles and Practice of Clinical Research</i> . National Institutes of Health (NIH), NIH Clinical Center
June 30, 2018	<i>Introduction to Incident Command System, ICS-100</i> . FEMA, Emergency Management Institute, U.S. Department of Homeland Security
July 22, 2016	<i>Independent Applying the QM Rubric (APPQMR)</i> . Quality Matters
April 2013	<i>Health Informatics in the Cloud</i> . Coursera (Georgia Institute of Technology)

Mentor/Advisor

Sep 2018–May 2019	Capstone Faculty Advisor (UNIV 402 and UNIV 403), Center for Civic Leadership, Rice University.
Sep 2017–May 2018	Internship Supervisor, Rehabilitation Counseling PhD Program (REHS 8307 Internship), University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.
Sep 2017–May 2018	Faculty Mentor, School of Rehabilitation Services and Counseling, College of Health Affairs, UTRGV.
Jun 2012–May 2013	Mentor, Junior student (Biology), University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) <i>Undergraduate Research Conference, Explore & Engage</i> . Mentee's work was judged as exemplary and was selected to represent UTPA at the Texas Undergraduate Research Day, April 26, 2013.
Fall 2010–Fall 2011	Mentor, sophomore high school student, <i>Young Epidemiology Scholars Competition</i> (sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the College Board). Mentee advanced to be a National Finalist (Top 12 from 600+ applicants) and was awarded a \$15,000 scholarship. Mentee also presented her research findings at the American Public Health Association meeting in Fall 2011.

Conference Service

Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, 2024
Judge	Engaged Scholarship Symposium (ES2), University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. 2023, 2024

Reviewer	CoHP Health Forward Conference, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. 2024, 2025
Judge	Student Poster Presentations, 2022 College of Health Professions Empowerment Research Symposium. March 2022
Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (Women's Caucus, Public Health Education and Health Promotion), 2023
Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (Latino Caucus, School Health and Wellness, Public Health Education and Health Promotion), 2022
Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (Public Health Education and Health Promotion), 2021
Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (Public Health Education and Health Promotion), 2020
Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (Public Health Education and Health Promotion), 2019
Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (Public Health Education and Health Promotion), 2016
Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (Latino Caucus), 2015
Moderator	The College of Health Sciences and Human Services Symposium on the <i>Science of Health Promotion</i> (Keynote Speaker: Dr. Britt Rios-Ellis). September 27, 2012
Reviewer	American Public Health Association Annual Meeting (Public Health Education and Health Promotion), 2011
Discussant	Financial Management Association Annual Meeting. Session: Aspects of Corporate Control. Toronto, Canada, Oct. 17-20, 2001.
Discussant	Financial Management Association Annual Meeting. Session: Bank-Borrower Relationships. Toronto, Canada, Oct. 17-20, 2001.
Discussant	Academy of International Business U.S. Southwest Chapter. Session: Student Research I: International Marketing and Management. San Antonio, March 15-18, 2000.
Discussant	Academy of International Business U.S. Southwest Chapter. Session: Emerging Stock Market Issues. San Antonio, March 15-18, 2000.