

### **Cristina Dominguez De Quezada, Ph.D., MSN, RN, CNE**

Cristina Dominguez De Quezada was born in El Paso, Texas, and raised in Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico. As an English as an Additional Language (EAL) student and now a faculty, she is passionate about the role language has in the success of EAL nursing students. She also understands the importance of language concordance in the care of limited English proficiency patients. Her personal goal is to inspire others like her to continue their education and pursue higher degrees. She came to the United States at age 18 to pursue higher education. She attended New Mexico State University (NMSU) and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2008.

After graduating from NMSU, she stayed in her community and worked as an intensive/cardiovascular care unit nurse at a level 1 trauma hospital. In 2010, she decided to continue her education and enrolled in a Master of Science in Nursing program at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), where she graduated in 2012. After graduation, she accepted a position as a research nurse for the Oncology Internal Medicine department at Texas Tech Health Science Center. She helped to conduct oncology trials for pharmaceutical and oncology organizations. In 2013, she decided to move to El Paso Community College (EPCC) as a nursing instructor, where she had the opportunity to start teaching in the fundamentals of nursing course. During her time at EPCC, she was promoted to assistant professor, a tenure position at this institution. In addition, she had the opportunity to coordinate different courses, such as fundamentals and complex care for adults. She was also part of the curriculum and accreditation committees, where she learned how curriculum changes are made and the standards required to accredit a nursing program.

In December 2017, Dr. Dominguez graduated from the University of Texas at Tyler (UTTyler) with her Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Nursing. She had the opportunity to learn from many renowned nursing researchers and educators. She currently holds a tenure track position at UTEP. In here, she teaches evidence-based practice to undergraduate nursing students, mentors RN-to-BSN nursing

students, and focuses on her research interest. Dr. Dominguez is interested in learning more about the impact language concordance has in the care of Hispanic/Latino patients. During her short research career, she has received grants to conduct research. She is currently working on a qualitative study to look at the perspective of LEP patients in navigating a predominately English-speaking healthcare environment.

Cristina also understands the importance of providing service to her community. She is the El Paso, Texas, chapter president for the National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN). She also serves at the national level as one of the board of directors and co-chair of the awards and scholarship committee. In addition, she serves as a chapter delegate for Sigma Delta Kappa chapter.

Dr. Dominguez is passionate about nursing and wants to contribute in any way she can. She wants to decrease the healthcare disparities by helping her Hispanic/Latino community. She does all this with the extensive support of her husband and son, her major inspirations. She is thankful for all the opportunities she has had since graduating with her Ph.D. from UTTyler and is honored to be recognized as the 2023 UTTyler Outstanding Nursing Alumni Awardee.