
ELIE D. AL-CHAER, MS, PHD, JD

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

A multilingual professional and a very quick mind with an insider's perspective and proven leadership in science, biotechnology, health care and related laws. Outstanding research design and writing skills, with high-impact executive presentation abilities. A demonstrated talent to select, train and retain self-motivated goal-oriented scientists. Well published and recipient of numerous awards and recognitions in Medicine, Biomedical Research and Law. Exceptional interpersonal and communication skills with an extensive background in the following:

Neuroscience

Basic Research

Clinical & Translational Sciences

Strategic Planning

Collaboration and Outreach

Management & Conflict Resolution

Legal Counsel

High-caliber negotiation

Visioning & Persuasion

- Demonstrated ability to promote basic research, translate it to pre-clinical and clinical application, while generating momentum through publicizing and maximizing support.
- A solid track record of cultivating productive relationships with key decision makers and managing projects on a global basis to achieve institutional goals.
- Excellent qualifications in strategic planning with comprehensive knowledge of governance, management, organizational development, team building and project execution.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) – Little Rock, Arkansas

2004 - Present

Professor (2009 -), Departments of Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, Neurobiology and Developmental Sciences

Founder and Director, Center for Pain Research

Director of Planning and co-Director of Governance, Institute of Translational and Clinical Sciences

A record of successful multitasking combining an active research program with ongoing strategic planning and visionary leadership. In addition to the traditional chores of a university professor and a research center director (institutional boards, cabinets and committees, faculty meetings, etc.):

- Manage and supervise a research program on pain and neurosciences in all its aspects and collaborations
- Teach medical and graduate students and mentor postgraduate fellows and junior faculty
- Recruit mid-level and junior faculty needed for a number of programs
- Design, implement and direct a leadership core for academic centers
- Generate extramural funding to support research from NIH and industry.
- Publish a large number of abstracts, peer-reviewed articles, journal reviews, book chapters and sections in the "Encyclopedia of Pain".

Selected from a pool of outstanding and competitive institutional leaders to lead the strategic planning process for a new *Institute of Clinical and Translational Sciences* at UAMS with a budget that exceeds 30 Million USD between institutional commitment and extramural funding. Important milestones:

- Successfully submitted a planning grant application to NIH: funding approved with high accolades (2006)
- Designed the strategic planning process and lead the planning teams through its steps: SWOT analysis, visioning conferences, strategic goals (short and long term), and evaluation (2006).
- Currently developing a 5 year strategic plan.

University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) – Galveston, Texas

1998 - 2004

Assistant Professor, Departments of Internal Medicine, Anatomy and Neurosciences

Founder and Director, ACELAB™: Laboratory of Elie Al-Chaer for the Study of Pain

- Built a state of the art laboratory for the study of pain, housed in the Division of Gastroenterology with collaborations across the biomedical research spectrum on campus
- Developed a new animal model for functional abdominal pain
- Acquired extramural funding in the form of NIH R01, PPG and pharmaceutical grants
- Led the initiative to institute a postgraduate pain program with basic, pre-clinical and clinical phases
- Evaluated and selected applicants to the medical school while serving on the admission committee
- Taught medical students (year I and II) in the Medical Neurosciences and Gastroenterology and Nutrition Courses

EXTRA-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Allergan, Inc. – Irvine, CA: **2000 - Present**

- Professional consultant
- Member of the pain advisory board
- Provide scientific counsel on projects design, pain research, biobehavioral and physiological studies

Sigma Health Care Inc. – Galveston, Texas: **2002 - 2004**

- Member, advisory board
- Member, governing board of directors
- Provide legal counsel on matters of employment, contracts, business organization and strategy

LEADERSHIP AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

In addition to a number of professional awards and recognitions, service as a reviewer for a number of scientific journals, granting organizations, and NIH study sections, including: *Neurological Science and Disorders*, *Clinical Neuroplasticity and Neurosciences*, *Somatosensory/Pain*, *SCOR Special Emphasis Review Panel*, and others,

- Chair, NIH Special Council on Mind-Body Interactions and Health **2004**
- Chair, NIH Special Emphasis Panel on Behavioral and Social Sciences Research **2003**
- Chair, American Gastroenterological Association committee on Colonic Motility and Disorders **2002-03**

INVITED SPEAKER:

Regularly invited to give seminars and plenary lectures about the state-of-the-science in pain research at academic institutions in the USA, Europe, and Asia and at professional conferences (a comprehensive list of more than 100 invited lectures is available in my CV). Most recent topics include:

- “*Visceral Pain: Reflections on Phylogeny, Physiology and Pathways*”
- “*Neuroplasticity in Visceral Pain*”
- “*Animals Models of Visceral Pain*”
- “*Functional Pain: the Rhapsody of a Nervous System*”
- “*Neurotransmitters: Release and Action*”

STRATEGIC CONSULTANT:

Strategic consultant (ad-hoc) to a number of organizations and companies in the USA and Europe, advising on scientific trends, study designs, research strategies, legal options and conflict resolution; in addition to standing membership on the following advisory boards:

- International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders (non-profit) **2005 - Present**
- ROME Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders **2005 - Present**
- Allergan, Inc., biomedical research advisory board **2000 - Present**

EDUCATION

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF LAW – *Houston, Texas*
Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD), 2002

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH – *Galveston, Texas*
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD: Neuroscience), 1996

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT – *Beirut, Lebanon*
Master of Science (MS: Physiology), 1991
Bachelor of Science (BS: Mathematics), 1988

LICENSURE AND PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW
State Bar of Texas, 2002 - Present
District of Columbia, Court of Appeals, 2006 - Present

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS:
American Gastroenterological Association (1998 - Present)
American Pain Society (1996 - Present)
International Association for the Study of Pain (1995 - Present)
Society for Neuroscience (1993 - Present)

DC Bar Association (2006 - Present)
American Bar Association (2002 - Present)
State Bar of Texas (2002 - Present)