HANK HERROD, MD

AFTER MORE THAN SEVEN YEARS AS DEAN, LEADING A NEW ERA IN CHILDREN’S HEALTH
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
Medicine Magazine
FALL 2005

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MEDICINE MAGAZINE

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LETTERS

MEMPHIS
The Memphis Zoo

FACULTY FOCUS
Sheldon Korones, MD

NEWS
• Hurricane Katrina Relief
• Kevin Foley Develops New Surgery

FEATURE
Hank Herrod, MD, leaving dean’s position to follow his healthcare passions

NEWS
• Hamilton Eye Institute Opens

STUDENTS
• UT is a Family Thing for Frances Kirkland
• Dennis Schaberg’s Graduation Address

DEVELOPMENT
• Andrew Kang Endows Chair
• Students Start Giving Program

ALUMNI
• Outstanding Alumni
• Sprabery Wins Teaching Award

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2005
• Golden Graduates
• Medicine Alumni Council

CLASS NOTES & OBITs
From the Dean

This is my last letter in Medicine Magazine. I have been privileged to serve as dean at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center’s College of Medicine for the last seven and a half years. In the role of dean, one has the opportunity to see all aspects of our College of Medicine, which is such a remarkable resource for our state and region. Our students are a delight and our main reason for being here. They are characterized by their enthusiasm for healthcare; their remarkable achievements as undergraduates and as medical students; and their competitiveness as graduates for residencies across the country. We should all take pride in these young learners. Our faculty is an extremely talented group of individuals who are committed to teaching, research and patient care. You should be proud of all that they do and of the national recognition many of them have.

The group that I knew the least about when I became dean, and have become most impressed with, is our alumni. One hears exciting stories from those who have graduated and just completed their residency as they enter into their research careers or move into small communities to provide primary care. These stories complement what I hear every year from our Golden Grads (50th class reunions), whose lifetime contributions to their patients and communities are truly awe-inspiring.

A number of good things have been accomplished over the last seven and a half years, and the credit for that belongs to the group of faculty and staff who can take the germ of an idea and turn it into something very concrete. During this period, there has been a rather dramatic change in our curriculum, with a greater emphasis on community service, and introduction of quality improvement and patient care concepts earlier into the curriculum. Our research enterprise has grown because of the skills and the important research questions that our research faculty have been asking. The recognition they receive brings recognition to your college. Our faculty, just like our students and residents, continue to provide important services for the individual patients we care for and also to our community in the form of outreach efforts to a varied group of citizens.

As I step away from the dean’s position, I am very pleased that Dr. Pat Wall has agreed to serve as the interim dean. Pat is known to all of you, and is a strong advocate for medical education and for the College of Medicine. He will serve all of us well. Working with Chancellor Bill Owen gives me every confidence that the Health Science Center and the college will continue to grow and expand, and will become an increasingly vibrant organization.

At a personal level, I am going back into the Department of Pediatrics and hope to spend my time engaged in medical student education, as well as in research initiatives that look at how the intellectual talent of the university can complement very important community initiatives, with a focus on trying to improve the status of children during their first years of life. I will continue to be involved in the life of the college and am looking forward to seeing how it grows over the next few years.

Henry G. Herrod, MD
Dean, 1998-2005
College of Medicine-Memphis

From the Editorial Board

This is an exceptional issue of Medicine Magazine for a number of reasons. First of all, our exceptional dean for the past seven and a half years, Henry Herrod, stepped down in early November to pursue an exciting career, not a new one, but one that will allow him to pursue his passion for teaching and community research. His many accomplishments will be noted elsewhere in this issue. His visionary leadership in our College of Medicine will, no doubt, continue to be felt by our college family.

This issue also features exceptional faculty and student accomplishments in teaching, research and public service. The faculty focus on Dr. Sheldon Korones, known as “Dr. K” to scores of students and residents, is appropriate given his accomplishments in teaching, research and public service over fifty years.

The number of faculty devoted to and recognized for their investigation, both clinical and basic science, is phenomenal. Their pursuits of new knowledge in the neurosciences, cardiovascular diseases, gastrointestinal, neurosurgical, and ophthalmologic disorders are also featured. Our ongoing involvement in biodefense is also updated.

Hershel P. Wall, MD
Editorial Board

Henry G. Herrod, MD
From the President

It is with the best wishes of our College of Medicine alumni that we say farewell to Dean Hank Herrod. He assumed the position after Dean Robert L. Summitt, Sr., in 1998 and officially stepped down on November 1. He has been a tremendous asset to our College of Medicine over the past seven plus years. His service as dean exceeded the national average tenure for a dean by about three years. As Dean Herrod recently noted during an Alumni Weekend event, he was #22 on the list of longest serving deans – on a list of over 100 deans of U.S. medical schools, so he felt it was time to make a change.

Prior to joining the dean’s office in 1998, Dr. Herrod served as vice chair in the UT College of Medicine Department of Pediatrics. He will be re-joining that department as a full-time faculty member to work with medical students and with the Urban Child Institute. In both roles he will be in a position to make a tremendous impact on the future of young people, both those who will be providing healthcare in the future, as well as those who need special care in their earliest formative years.

I want to mention a few noteworthy achievements that were accomplished during Dean Herrod’s leadership, and these are by no means all inclusive. He has:

- pioneered and implemented an inter-professional curriculum across the health science colleges;
- embedded the STEEEP (safety, timeliness, efficient care, effective care, equitable care and patient-centered care) principles into the medicine curriculum;
- formalized an educational and clinical care affiliation with the Methodist Health System that culminated in the establishment of Methodist University Hospital, a nationally recognized facility;
- nurtured a culture of scientific scholarship that facilitated a three-fold increase in the amount of federal research awards;
- offered the vision and leadership resulting in the ongoing construction of the basic science research building;
- championed the dream of the Hamilton Eye Institute to become a world-renowned research, education and clinical care beacon of excellence;
- inspired the development of a nationally-acclaimed telehealth program, taking the expertise of UT specialists to more remote communities via computer linkages;
- overseen a successful, multi-million dollar grant application award for a regional bio-containment laboratory at UTHSC, one of only nine in the United States;
- created a vision of a stronger cancer program with integrated clinical care and research partners across the state;
- led the UT Medical Group through the challenges of declining reimbursement and practice uncertainty;
- and garnered a record amount of philanthropic contributions to the College of Medicine.

Now we have an opportunity to recruit another excellent dean who can build on the strong foundation laid by previous deans such as Dr. Summitt and Dr. Herrod. As that search process goes forward, I will keep you apprised.

Alumni support for our College of Medicine is vital to our continued success. Please know that your advocacy for higher education and for our college means so much. Please remember to make your annual contribution to the Dean’s Fund, to provide some flexible funding support for our next dean of the College of Medicine-Memphis.

Please join me in expressing our appreciation to both Hank and Ann Herrod for all they have done to lead and support our college.

James Christian Fleming, MD, ’74
President
UT College of Medicine Alumni Council

Hershel P. Wall, MD, ’60
Chair
UT College of Medicine Magazine Editorial Board
hwall@utmem.edu

Letters

James Fleming, MD

Our students continue to demonstrate superb leadership and outstanding community service, locally as well as nationally, as witnessed by their efforts in support of those displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

Former students also were recently honored for their leadership in public service to our profession at the Alumni Weekend as distinguished graduates of our College of Medicine.

This year, our most recent graduates were honored at the Dean’s Convocation by Dr. Dennis Schaberg, professor and chair of the Department of Internal Medicine, who gave the faculty address. Please read his extraordinarily thoughtful comments on page 23.

This past August, Dr. Bob Tooms, who was one of our recent distinguished alumni, honored our new young colleagues by his charge to them on entering our profession.

And lastly, although not sought, I was humbled by the request of Chancellor Owen and Dean Herrod to serve as interim dean for the College of Medicine. With the support of our outstanding students, devoted faculty, committed staff and loyal alumni, we will continue to be the outstanding college we have been for almost a century.

Hershel P. Wall, MD, ’60
Chair
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The Memphis Zoo

The Memphis Zoo’s 100-year anniversary is in 2006, bringing with it a whole new meaning to the phrase, “You’ve come a long way baby.” Founded in 1906, the zoo has undergone $77 million in renovation and expansion since the 1990s, and it’s not stopping there.

If you haven’t visited the zoo lately, you’re in for a real treat and a pleasant retreat. Home to more than 3,500 animals representing over 500 different species, the zoo sits on 70 acres in the middle of Overton Park amid a forest of shade trees. Meandering paths lead visitors from the dramatic Egyptian-themed entrance to one-of-a-kind exhibits located throughout the park.

The “Once Upon a Farm” exhibit allows children up-close-and-personal interaction with horses, chickens, goats and much more. Primate Canyon provides hours of entertainment as monkeys, chimpanzees and other exotic primates cavort with each other and scold their young. The newest addition to this exhibit is a baby bonobo, the rarest of the great apes which was born at the zoo in early August 2005.

Cat Country features 11 species of cats from around the world, including three orphaned cougar kittens rescued from the state of Washington. Based on DNA testing, it was determined that the kittens were the offspring of an adult female cougar killed after she attacked and killed livestock in the Duvall, Washington area. Cougar experts said the kittens were too young to have the survival skills necessary to be returned to the wild, so Cat Country became their new home.

Another, even more recent rescue, is “Andre,” a California sea lion pulled from the Hurricane Katrina floodwaters surrounding Gulfport, Miss. A former resident of the Marine Life Oceanarium, Andre was found three miles from his home behind an abandoned casino. He is recovering in his “foster home,” which is his very own pool next to the hippos, and is being fed 20 pounds of fish a day to bulk him back up, after losing over 100 pounds from his ordeal.

No visit to the Memphis Zoo is complete without a stop at the big red pagoda, part of the strikingly original CHINA exhibit which features Ya Ya and Le Le, the giant pandas which are the zoo’s trademarks. Not content to rest on its laurels, the Memphis Zoo will introduce another unique exhibit, the Northwest Passage, in March 2006. It will be home to polar bears, eagles, seals, sea lions and two young black bear cubs which arrived at the zoo in June 2005.

The Memphis Zoo’s mission goes far beyond providing unique wildlife exhibits and entertainment to thousands of visitors; it is dedicated to preserving wildlife through conservation, education and research. An entire department, with a staff of 14 PhD scientists, several PhD candidates, two master’s-level biologists and a number of student interns, is focused on expediting conservation and scientific research to preserve our natural world. Two fully equipped laboratories allow these investigators to pursue nutritional, reproductive, endocrine genetic and behavioral research of animals within the zoo’s collection.

For the modest price of admission, visitors enjoy a fun-filled adventure in the animal kingdom, although they get much more. They can also enjoy knowing that their tickets help support wildlife conservation efforts and research into preserving a multitude of at-risk species.

Schedule and Rates

March through October
9 a.m. - 6 p.m. (last admission 5 p.m.)

November through February
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (last admission 4 p.m.)

$13 Adults (ages 12-59), $12 seniors (ages 60+), $8 children (ages 2-11), Free for children under 2

For more information: www.memphiszoo.org
Mallett Named OB/GYN Chair

Veronica T. Mallett, MD, has been appointed professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UTHSC. She comes to Memphis from Detroit, where she was clinical associate professor of OB/GYN at Wayne State University School of Medicine and program director for the OB/GYN residency program at Oakwood Health System. She is the first African-American to serve as chair of a clinical department in the College of Medicine.

Dr. Mallett graduated from Barnard College at Columbia University and received her medical degree from Michigan State University. She has an extensive background in urogynecology, serving as director of the Women’s Continence and Pelvic Surgery Center and fellowship director in urogynecology and reconstructive pelvic surgery at Hutzel Hospital. Most recently, she was director of urogynecology at Oakwood Health System.

Named one of the nation’s top 100 physicians by Black Enterprise Magazine, Mallett was honored with the National Medical Association’s Humanitarian Service in Medicine Award in 2001.


Dhanireddy to Lead Neonatology

Ramasubbareddy Dhanireddy, MD, has been named neonatology division chief and the Sheldon B. Korones Professor in Neonatology at UTHSC.

In this role, he directs a UT Medical Group practice unit and serves as medical director of the Sheldon B. Korones Newborn Center at The Regional Medical Center at Memphis (The MED), which is the state’s designated regional perinatal center. He also has oversight of neonatal care at Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center and the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Methodist South Hospital.

Previously the neonatology division chief at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center for six years, Dr. Dhanireddy feels confident that this collaboration will continue the University Medical Center Alliance’s goal of improving the health of patients in the Memphis community.

He commented, “We will be able to impact neonatal care for the large population of the Memphis metro area in a coordinated fashion at the UT Health Science Center. Through our work together, we will have enhanced operations in terms of clinical care, teaching and research,” said Dr. Dhanireddy.

Additionally, Dr. Dhanireddy commented on how honored he is to work with Sheldon B. Korones, MD, the namesake of the Newborn Center.

Burton is New Radiology Chief at UTC

The Erlanger Health System, the clinical site for the College of Medicine-Chattanooga has a new chief of radiology, Edward M. Burton, MD. Coming from the Medical College of Georgia in January 2000, Dr. Burton became the first full-time pediatric radiologist in the community.

His new responsibilities, however, go far beyond the pediatric setting. He explained, “Balancing the demands of the teaching program at Erlanger with the realities of a private practice in multiple specialties has been a distinct challenge.” His focus will be on improving clinical quality and service, a hallmark of his practice for the past 30 years.

“As chief of radiology, I expect that our department will provide expert consultation and support to the physicians and patients we serve,” he said.

Dr. Burton earned a medical degree from the University of Florida and a postdoctoral fellowship from Children’s Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. He has published extensively and co-authored a textbook used internationally, Essentials of Pediatric Radiology.
Sheldon B. “Shelley” Korones, MD

A Lifetime Spent Helping Those Least Able to Help Themselves

With a medical career that spans more than 57 years and still counting, Sheldon Korones, MD, has worked tirelessly to give new life a fighting chance. Having served as medical director of the Newborn Center at The Regional Medical Center at Memphis for 36 years, Dr. Korones has been at the helm of neonatal medicine in Memphis and Shelby County. As the Alumni Distinguished Service Professor of Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology at the UT Health Science Center, his dedication to the community continues.

Establishing the Newborn Center in 1968, Dr. Korones has managed the care of more than 45,000 sick newborns, some weighing as little as one pound. Before stepping down as director, Dr. Korones led this neonatal intensive care unit to become one of only 14 member institutions of the National Research Network, which is supported by the National Institutes of Health’s Child Development Program. Under his tenure, 38 physicians have been trained in neonatal/perinatal medicine at the center.

Dr. Korones also has devoted more than four decades to instructing the “next generation” of doctors as a UTHSC faculty member. Returning to his alma mater - where he received a medical degree in December 1947 - Dr. Korones began teaching as a clinical assistant professor of pediatrics at the University of Tennessee’s College of Medicine in 1961. Through his years of instruction, thousands of students have received his guidance; and he has gained recognition as a national and international visiting professor and invited lecturer.

Not only has Dr. Korones influenced those within the sound of his voice, but also as the author or co-author of 321 scientific publications, he has reached countless more. Included in the number of his writings are textbooks titled, “High Risk Newborn Infants: the Basis for Intensive Nursing Care,” which is in its fourth edition and has been translated into Spanish and Russian, and “Neonatal Decision Making,” published in 1993 and translated into Polish. Since 1979, Dr. Korones also has maintained an in-house database from an abstracted 20-page code sheet on approximately 30,000 babies. His first database experience was with the National Institutes of Health Collaborative Perinatal Study that documented 50,000 pregnancies in 12 institutions from 1960 to 1975.

Dr. Korones’ contributions to medicine are evident through 60 honors, citations and awards. He also has served on numerous state, regional and national healthcare committees.

Dr. Korones embarked on his lifetime of service with an internship at Boston City Hospital in July 1948 after graduating from medical school. He then completed his residency at Babies Hospital in New York, as well as postgraduate work in pathology at the Children’s Medical Center in Boston. He also served as a commissioned officer in the United States Public Health Service from 1951 to 1953. Dr. Korones continues to leave a legacy of service in Memphis as he constantly devotes his life to the lives of others.
APA Recognizes Beizai

UTHSC Assistant Professor Kristin S. Beizai, MD, has received the prestigious Nancy C.A. Roeske Certificate of Recognition for Excellence in Medical Student Education from the American Psychiatric Association (APA). The award is presented annually to a small number of selected nominees who have made outstanding and sustaining contributions to medical student education.

Instrumental in establishing a link between psychiatry and obstetrics/gynecology in the realm of medical student education, Dr. Beizai spearheaded an innovative program of joint psychiatry/ob-gyn teaching conferences. Because of her active involvement, psychiatric training now transcends discipline boundaries: students completing clerkship rotations with her learn about common psychiatric problems associated with pregnancy, the premenstrual period, fertility problems, and menopause, as well as other issues often encountered in an ob-gyn practice.

Wheless Named Chair at Le Bonheur

James Wheless, MD, from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, moved to Memphis in early June to become the endowed Le Bonheur Chair in Pediatric Neurology.

Dr. Wheless, who utilizes his grounding in drug therapy from his past pharmacist training to help treat epilepsy, hopes to transform Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center from a level one facility to a level four, the highest ranking by the National Association of Epilepsy Centers. Currently the closest such centers are in St. Louis and Birmingham.

Sun Awarded Grant for Cardiac Health

Yao Sun, MD, PhD, professor of medicine, has been awarded a 1.4 million dollar National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant to investigate how to improve cardiac function in patients following a heart attack.

“Chronic heart failure appears most commonly in patients who have suffered a heart attack (myocardial infarction, MI). We are trying to better understand the cardiac repairing processes post-MI, which are usually degenerative, so that interventions can be developed that will improve cardiac function and lead to higher survival rates and longer lives for these patients,” said Dr. Sun.

Yoo Named Il-Chun Laureate

Tai-June Yoo, MD, PhD, chief of the Allergy-Clinical Immunology Section at the Memphis VA Medical Center and professor of immunology and allergy at UTHSC, has been selected as the 2005 Il-Chun Award laureate by the Korean Society of Molecular and Cellular Biology.

The Korean Society for Molecular and Cellular Biology (KSMCB) was established to advance the science and technology of molecular and cellular biology through academic studies and the dissemination of fundamental knowledge. For this purpose, the KSMCB publishes its journals, “Molecules and Cells” and “Molecular Biology News,” organizes symposia, and encourages researchers through academic awards. The society introduced the Il-Chun Memorial Lecture and Award in 1994 to commemorate the work of Professor Ki-Nyung Lee (nicknamed Il-Chun), a pioneer of Korean molecular biology, and is awarded to a noteworthy candidate once every two years. The award was presented to Dr. Yoo during the 2005 Annual Meeting in Seoul, South Korea in October where he gave the keynote address.
Leonard Johnson, PhD, the Thomas A. Gerwin Professor and interim vice chancellor for research, was recently awarded a prestigious National Institutes of Health (NIH) MERIT award. The five-year $2,368,450 grant is unique because it allows the researcher to easily re-apply for a five-year extension, effectively making it a ten-year award. According to the NIH, MERIT awards are designed to provide a few outstanding investigators with the opportunity for long-term stable support.

Dr. Johnson is currently in his 37th year of consecutive funding as he pursues his exploration of the processes that regulate cell death (apoptosis) within the lining (mucosa) of the intestinal tract. To date, his findings have led to a greater understanding of mucosal damage and repair and the development of gastrointestinal cancer. An outgrowth of his work has been a more in-depth investigation into how the gastrointestinal tract can be protected from the negative side effects of cancer treatments.

“We want to prevent the nausea and sickness cancer patients currently experience while undergoing radiation or chemotherapy,” he explained. “These therapies kill normal intestinal cells, as well as the abnormal, cancerous cells. By preventing the death of the normal cells, we will increase the therapy’s effectiveness and enhance the patient’s quality of life.”

Abdallah Mtanios Hayar, PhD, assistant professor of anatomy and neurobiology, was recently awarded a $1,460,000, five-year National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant to study olfactory functioning.

“Recently, interest in olfactory dysfunction has heightened because there appears to be a link between olfactory bulb impairment and Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease,” explained Dr. Hayar. His team was the first to discover unique neuron activities that may further explain how the sense of smell works. The current grant will explore the fundamental network mechanisms responsible for encoding and processing odor information.

Russell W. Chesney, MD, the Le Bonheur Professor and chairman of the Pediatrics Department, received the Founders Award from the American Society of Pediatric Nephrology.

The award is presented to a senior pediatric nephrologist for meritorious service to the society and to the discipline of pediatric nephrology.

Dr. Chesney served the 600-member organization as a council member, secretary/treasurer, and president from 1979 to 1988. He was editor-in-chief of “Pediatric Nephrology,” the journal of both the American and International Societies of Pediatric Nephrology.

A $1.5 million grant, provided by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), will allow UTHSC to establish a tele-health network that will link ten UT Cancer Institute cancer outreach centers in the tri-state area (Eastern Arkansas, Northern Mississippi and Western Tennessee). The three-year grant will consolidate the expertise of specialists and researchers at UTHSC, Methodist Healthcare and UTCI. The new extended telehealth network will include the Technology Exchange for Cancer Health Network (TECH-Net), which will allow Mid-South cancer patients who need regular cancer care, but who previously lived too far away from a medical center to gain access to oncology and hematology care.

Another phase of the project involves creating an electronic medical record database so that no matter which of the ten outreach centers patients visit, their records will still be accessible from several locations.

The AHRQ grant will bring about benefits in terms of cost savings, safety and overall quality of cancer care throughout the region.
Tigyi, Others Receive Long-term NIH Grants

Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD, professor of physiology at UTHSC, was recently awarded his third National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant.

The nearly $1.5 million four-year grant, awarded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, will focus on the earliest events in the process of atherosclerosis (hardening of the arteries). “Our goal is to identify compounds that impede the buildup of cell growth on the walls of arteries so that atherosclerosis can ultimately be prevented,” explained Dr. Tigyi.

“NIH grants are the gold standard of medical research,” said Mike Dockter, PhD, professor and associate dean of administration and research for the College of Medicine. “It’s great when a researcher can get one NIH grant, exceptional if he or she can get two; but it’s phenomenal when an investigator has three separate, distinct grants running simultaneously.”

Dr. Tigyi joins four other UTHSC faculty members—Gerald Byrne, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Molecular Sciences; Gadiparthi N. Rao, PhD, professor of physiology; Anton Reiner, PhD, professor of anatomy and neurobiology; and Ronald Wetzel, PhD, professor in the UT Graduate School of Medicine at the health science center campus in Knoxville—who each have three or more active NIH grants running simultaneously. To date, this group has contributed a total of over $27.5 million in NIH grants through UTHSC to the advancement of medical research.

Jarrett Awarded NIH Grant to Study Muscular Dystrophy

Harry Jarrett, PhD, professor of molecular sciences, was awarded a second grant this year to discover the root causes of muscular dystrophies. The $1 million dollar, five-year National Institutes of Health (NIH) Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases grant begins in January 2006.

As Dr. Jarrett explained, “Many muscular dystrophies are caused by defects in a membrane protein complex but the natural role of this complex is unknown. When we know the role of this complex and how it functions, new therapies for these diseases can be devised.”

UTHSC and St. Jude Awarded NIH Training Grant

Ronald I. Shorr, MD, MS, associate professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine, and Patricia M. Flynn, MD, MS, professor, Department of Infectious Diseases at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, were recently awarded a five-year $1.5 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant.

The grant will focus on improving and expanding multidisciplinary clinical research training and mentoring new clinical investigators. The ultimate goal is to establish a Clinical Research Track that will enhance the current Master of Science in Epidemiology program.

Chaum Awarded NIH Grant

Edward Chaum, MD, PhD, recently was awarded a $1.62 million National Eye Institute grant to develop computer-based methods for diagnosing blinding eye diseases.

The project is a three-year collaborative research program among Dr. Chaum of the University of Tennessee Hamilton Eye Institute, Ken Tobin Jr., PhD, of the Image Science and Machine Vision Group at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and Karen Fox, PhD, interim vice chancellor for community affairs. The research will investigate the feasibility of computer-based imaging to automate broad-based population screening for diabetic retinopathy.

“The potential of digital technologies is clear, and new computer-based image analysis systems hold the promise of producing low-cost, potentially automated diagnosis of eye disease,” said Dr. Chaum, Plough Foundation Professor of Retinal Diseases, and associate professor of ophthalmology, pediatrics, anatomy and neurobiology and biomedical engineering at UTHSC.
Goldowitz Awarded $4 M NIH Grant

Daniel Goldowitz, PhD, the Methodist Hospitals Foundation Professor for Neuroscience at UTHSC, has been awarded a five-year grant totaling nearly $4 million by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. He is the principal investigator on the grant which will support researchers from UTHSC, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and Bowdoin College in Maine.

The research team will study the genes that are involved in the development of the cerebellum, a part of the brain that is critical to movement and has been implicated in autism, schizophrenia, and other important neurological disorders.

Rosloniec Wins Research Advisor Award

Edward F. Rosloniec, PhD, associate professor of medicine and pathology, was selected as the first recipient of the College of Graduate Health Science’s Annual Research Advisor Award. The award is presented to a faculty member who has shown continued interest in the growth and development of graduate students, and whose concern goes beyond that of the average, but dedicated, member of the graduate faculty.

Dr. Rosloniec, who joined the Veterans Affairs Medical Center and UTHSC in 1991, has been involved in training over 17 postdoctoral or pre-doctoral students. Dr. Rosloniec has been described as a “patient mentor who stimulates and challenges his students to think on their own even if they have to learn from their mistakes.”

Dick Peppler, PhD, dean of the College of Graduate Health Sciences and associate dean of academic and faculty affairs for the College of Medicine, stated, “I am delighted that our first recipient is Dr. Rosloniec who epitomizes what a research advisor is within our educational programs.”

UTHSC Receives Grant to Study Hepatitis in African-Americans

UTHSC recently received a five-year $3.2 million grant as one of eight National Institutes of Health (NIH) Cooperative Research Centers. The grant, which funds multiple projects and investigators directed at a common health problem, will focus on hepatitis C.

Program director for the grant, Tony Marion, PhD, professor in the Department of Molecular Sciences, is also the project leader on one aspect of the research: To understand the reason for the poor immune response to hepatitis C virus in chronically infected patients, particularly African-Americans. Lawrence Pfeffer, PhD, Muirhead Professor in the Department of Pathology and interim deputy director at the UT Cancer Institute, is project leader to determine why African-Americans are particularly unresponsive to therapy. Jaquelyn Fleckenstein, MD, associate professor of gastroenterology, will direct all clinical activity related to the grant.

“Among the three million Americans currently infected with the hepatitis C virus, 85 percent become chronically infected. The rate of infection is much higher among African-Americans and their response rate to current therapy is much lower than Caucasians. The net effect is that chronic hepatitis C has become a serious health problem for Memphis and the Mid-South,” explained Dr. Marion.

Kotb to Serve on Security Task Force

Malak Kotb, PhD, A.C. Mullins Professor in Research and director of the Mid-South Center for Bio-defense and Security, has been asked to serve on the Advisory Committee to the newly formed National Task Force on Community Preparedness and Response.
Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts

When Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, approximately 15,000 individuals fled the disaster and sought shelter in Memphis. University of Tennessee Health Science Center faculty, staff and students responded by providing a multitude of services:

- The Division of General Internal Medicine, in conjunction with the interim vice chancellor for community affairs, organized UT physician volunteers to provide medical assistance for the Dunn Elementary School Katrina Shelter and the Red Cross Disaster Relief Center on Central.
- Residents and fellows volunteered their time to American Red Cross stations at Lamar and Central.
- Professionals in the College of Dentistry saw patients from the Gulf Coast areas free of charge.
- UTHSC experts in infectious disease have been working with their colleagues in the Southeast Regional Center of Excellence for Emerging Infections and Biodefense to address pertinent infectious disease issues.
- On Thursday, Sept. 1, students in the College of Pharmacy repackaged medications for the Church Health Center, which provided care for evacuees from Hurricane Katrina. In two hours, 67 students packaged 2,932 prescription bottles that contained 81,675 doses.
- The SGAEC also sponsored a campus-wide drive for collecting food and other items, which was distributed based upon need to local churches and other organizations that were housing or caring for evacuees. M1 students, Neil Patel, Robin Atkinson and Stephanie Grissom took the lead in student fund-raising efforts. In a joint effort among colleges, students collected boxes of clothing, food and countless other needed items. Food was taken to the Memphis Food Bank and the other supplies to area churches that were housing evacuees. Stephen Bockhold, M4, worked several days at the FEMA shelter helping evacuees and supporting medical efforts. Pat Wall, MD, interim dean of the College of Medicine-Memphis, and SGAEC president, Kirk Hevener, helped organize student efforts.
- The UTHSC Student Government Association Executive Council (SGAEC) sponsored a blood drive, collecting 80 units and plans to hold several more throughout the school year for Katrina victims. Specifically with the College of Medicine:
  - David Nutting, PhD, associate professor of physiology, a member of the Three-Starr Volunteer Fire Department in Southeast Tipton County, helped the group raise donations for Katrina victims by standing in traffic for four hours in a “Fill the Boot” (firefighter’s boot) campaign.
  - Grant Scarborough, MD, PGY3 resident, and Trey Eubanks, MD, assistant professor of pediatric surgery, went to Bay St. Louis where the eye of the hurricane came ashore. They spent four days handing out supplies and short-term medicines.
  - A number of displaced faculty and students have found a home away from home at the UT Health Science Center. One such researcher is Salima Haque, MD, a gastrointestinal and liver pathologist from Tulane University, who will be working in the COM’s Department of Pathology. During her stay, she will collaborate with Lillian Gaber, MD, professor of pathology.
  - Chris Fleming, MD, and several UT Medical Group staff members worked extra long hours to offer vision care to evacuees at the Hamilton Eye Institute.
Neurosurgeons and orthopedic surgeons come from hospitals and major universities worldwide to UTHSC to learn from him.

Patients fly in to Memphis from around the world to have him perform spinal surgery at Methodist University Hospital. Why? Because Kevin T. Foley, MD, professor of neurosurgery, is changing the face of spinal surgery.

He’s the inventor, developer and innovator of medical devices and procedures that make back surgery minimally invasive and markedly less painful.

**A Well-Kept Secret**

In spite of all the attention from the medical community, minimally invasive spinal surgery is one of the best kept healthcare secrets in the country. Annually, more than 250,000 Americans still undergo traditional open surgery to remove or repair herniated discs, a leading cause of back and leg pain. In fact, only 10 to 15 percent of all spinal surgeries are done using minimally invasive procedures—an interesting statistic when one considers the extraordinary benefits of Dr. Foley’s methods. For starters, almost immediate pain relief, faster healing and less hospital time are the key attention getters. Sound impossible? It’s not. The reason: Most of Dr. Foley’s spinal procedures require an incision barely the size of a dime and can be done on an outpatient basis. None require cutting through muscle tissue, which is standard for traditional open back surgery and the major cause of post-operative pain and a longer recovery time.

John Thornton, real estate investor and developer from Chattanooga and University of Tennessee Board of Trustee member, illustrates the point. After experiencing extreme pain from a herniated disc in the back of his neck, Thornton commented, “The pain was getting worse day by day and I just couldn’t sleep; so I called Phillip Fulmer (UT head football coach) because I figured he’d know the best doctors in the country.” Fulmer referred Thornton to surgeons in Los Angeles and Dallas. Golfer Greg Norman, another friend of Thornton’s, referred him to a physician in Pennsylvania.

“But they were all using the scalpel, and I’d heard from another friend, Dr. Bill Moore Smith of Chattanooga, that back surgery could be done arthroscopically, so I continued checking. I was astounded to discover a real bonus: Dr. Kevin Foley, a UT professor right over in Memphis, had invented a minimally invasive process and had been performing it successfully for hundreds of patients,” stated Thornton.

“Before the surgery with Dr. Foley, I had to reach my left arm around to put pressure on the back of my neck to relieve the pain. My upper body looked like a chicken wing! The moment I woke up from outpatient...
surgery, I was pain-free; the next day I ran three miles,” said Thornton.

**Academic Medicine: Pushing the Envelope**

When asked what drove him to invent the medical devices required for minimally invasive surgery, Dr. Foley explained, “Academic medicine asks us to push the envelope. I think we all leave medical school asking, ‘How can I improve upon what my professors taught me?’”

But what Dr. Foley wanted to improve required product engineering expertise, something he hadn’t learned in medical school. He started by experimenting with some of his ideas in the lab in 1994 and then obtained a joint appointment in UTHSC’s biomedical engineering department. During this process, he got to know an engineer at Danek, a Memphis-based medical equipment company which subsequently purchased Sofamor and then was bought by Medtronic, becoming Medtronic Sofamor Danek.

“Medical advancements require clinical collaboration and product development know-how,” said Dr. Foley, explaining his nearly ten-year relationship with Medtronic engineers. The fruits of their labor are four medical devices that enable the minimally invasive procedures that result in hundreds of grateful, pain-free patients. “For all intents and purposes, we can now reconstruct the spine in a minimally invasive manner,” he noted.

The METRx MicroDiscectomy System, developed in collaboration with Maurice Smith, MD, allows surgeons to repair herniated discs by viewing the affected nerves through a narrow tube inserted into a small incision in the patient’s back or neck. By dilating a pathway between the muscle fibers, surgeons can displace the tissue around the area that needs repair and safely remove the herniated disc fragments without cutting any muscle. Performed on an outpatient basis, the METRx procedure is a viable alternative for 70 to 80 percent of patients who need herniated disc surgery.

In addition to the METRx system, Dr. Foley is nationally recognized for developing the CD Horizon Sextant, a minimally invasive spinal system used to fuse spinal vertebrae together by inserting screws and rods through small incisions. A third invention is the FluoroNav Virtual Fluoroscopy System, a navigational surgical system that uses a computer to take pictures, allowing the surgeon to perform minimally invasive spinal surgery with very precise guidance.

His latest invention, the CAPSTONE TM implant, introduced in July, helps people with chronic back pain get their lives back by restoring the disc space between the vertebrae.

**Mentoring the Next Generation**

Driving innovation and relieving hundreds of patients’ pain are just two of Dr. Foley’s roles. He’s also a devoted teacher and mentor to a cadre of young neurosurgeons and orthopedic surgeons who’ve become known as “Foley Fellows.”

Sanjay Gupta, MD and CNN medical guru, is a former Foley Fellow and claims, “No one is a bigger Foley fan than me! I met Dr. Foley at one of the national neurosurgery meetings. Minutes into his talk, I knew I wanted to train with him. He had that much of an impact.” After spending a year under Dr. Foley’s tutelage, Dr. Gupta pointed out, “He is certainly well-known for completely revolutionizing spinal surgery, but he was also able to teach it so well and create the next generation of spine surgeons.”

Langston Holly, MD, a rising star in neurosurgery at UCLA, concurred, “I decided to do my fellowship with Dr. Foley because I wanted to learn how to perform cutting edge, minimally invasive spinal procedures, as well as participate in a number of innovative research projects. I was able to achieve both of these goals during my one year in Memphis, and this helped lay the groundwork for my career in academic medicine.”

Shepherding one to two residents a semester around the corridors of Methodist University Hospital, Dr. Foley is reshaping the way an entire generation of neurosurgeons will approach spinal surgery in the coming years. After all, that is what academic medicine is all about. And that is one reason Dr. Foley, former Chief of Neurosurgery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, chose to come to UTHSC.

Dr. Foley is a strong supporter of UTHSC and the way academic creativity is encouraged on campus. “I think it’s important to note that these minimally invasive procedures all started here. These are medical advances that have positively impacted people’s lives. UT deserves a lot of the credit for creating a culture that allows innovation to thrive,” he concluded.
“I’ve always felt that the academic setting is the most invigorating intellectual environment possible, and I’m pleased that I will remain a part of it. I will miss serving our incredibly talented faculty. However, I am excited to be going back to my deepest interests of hands-on education of students and treatment of patients.”
After serving as dean of the College of Medicine at UTHSC for seven and a half years, Hank Herrod, MD, is leaving the position to more closely pursue two of his professional loves: educating students and coordinating healthcare entities to better serve the community. He will remain a professor in the Department of Pediatrics and will work with the Urban Child Institute of Memphis to align synergistic efforts in pediatric research between UTHSC, the University of Memphis and community partners.

“I have been incredibly lucky in my professional life because every few years I have been presented with an opportunity to do something new and exciting,” said Dr. Herrod. “When I first took over as dean, I told my wife it would last for a maximum of seven years. After that amount of time, I realized I was interested in doing something different and wanted to get to a more hands-on approach to education and service. I’ve enjoyed serving the college as dean, but I look forward to interacting with more areas of healthcare.”

Dedicated Educator and Physician

Since joining the UT faculty in 1978 after training as a pediatric immunologist, Dr. Herrod has continually been dedicated to educating future doctors. In his ongoing role, he will serve different levels of students and patients in an effort to help UTHSC produce the most well-rounded physicians.

For first- and second-year students, he will teach the art of medicine, as opposed to strictly clinical or academic subjects. For third- and fourth-year students, he will offer instruction in procedures and practices for interfacing with patients.

“I like to teach students that there’s a lot more to being a doctor than getting good grades in scientific coursework. Doctors deal with people on a very personal level at some of their most vulnerable moments, and it’s important for us to prepare them to handle these situations and keep the patients and their families at the center of all that we, as physicians, do."

Dr. Herrod will also serve as an attending physician in pediatric rounds and hopes to use his vast knowledge and understanding of academic medicine to give his students a valuable experience.

“What I really enjoy, and something I’ve greatly missed, is working with medical students. I hope that in the classroom and in the hospital, I can be there to help them understand that there is a light at the end of the tunnel. The curriculum is so difficult; it can be hard to keep one’s eyes on the big picture. The point is that we’re educating the people who will hold the future of the profession and this community’s health in their hands. I hope that, while we build their scientific proficiency, we can also mold them into truly good doctors.”

By Brian Wiuff

Continued on page 18
A Successful Tenure

As he leaves the position of dean, Dr. Herrod is particularly proud of several advances in the college that have come about during his time as dean.

On the educational front, the curriculum has been updated to contemporary standards and expanded to be more patient-centered with the inclusion of the STEEEP (safety, timeliness, efficient care, effective care, equitable care and patient-centered care) principles.

“I think our curriculum improvements and updates will be beneficial for the institution and the citizens our grads serve,” said Herrod. “We’ve really made the experience more focused on patients and high quality, safe care.”

Additional successes that have come about under Dr. Herrod’s guidance include NIH funding doubling over a ten-year period, the partnership with Methodist Health Care to form Methodist University Hospital, the founding of the UT Cancer Institute and Hamilton Eye Institute, and an improved community presence.

“Success to this extent across so many areas of our mission requires the careful balance of entrepreneurial activity against collective and coordinated action,” said UTHSC Chancellor William F. Owen, Jr., MD. “We have been fortunate to have Dean Herrod serving as a visionary and skilled leader, one who drove us to new levels of performance and excellence.”

Bringing Institutions Together for Children

Fostering cooperation among healthcare providers has been a hallmark of Dr. Herrod’s career. In addition to his duties as a full-time faculty member at UTHSC, Dr. Herrod will also lead efforts at The Urban Child Institute.
The Urban Child Institute is an outgrowth of the Le Bonheur Health System, the parent company of Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center. The institute was founded to bring together academic and community partners in Memphis in a community/campus partnership for health to conduct research for and provide healthcare to children specifically. Dr. Herrod hopes to use the contacts he has made over the course of his career to integrate the resources available.

“We have such great opportunities with the University of Memphis, UT and various community partners to pool our knowledge and create a synergistic entity devoted solely to helping children,” said Dr. Herrod. “We wanted to create a place where social scientists from U of M, healthcare professionals from UT, and our many community organizations could come together to have a “water cooler” atmosphere and optimize programs that foster neurodevelopment, social development, health policy, health economics and other areas of concern in childcare research.”

One of the first programs that the institute will undertake is to enroll 500 infants in a program that will track their development with extensive data over a five-year period.

“With this study,” said Dr. Herrod, “we hope to develop a large set of measurable data that we can use to encourage behaviors among parents that will lead to healthier kids. I hope this venture will be beneficial for the universities involved, and most importantly, the community at large.”

Looking Forward

Hershel “Pat” Wall, MD, professor and associate dean for admissions and student affairs will serve as interim dean. Chancellor Owen recently announced a restructuring of the college’s administrative structure that calls for an executive dean over all of the campuses, as well as individual deans in Memphis, Chattanooga and Knoxville. Michael Caudle, MD, vice chancellor for health system affairs, will serve as interim executive dean until the position can be filled permanently. At that time, the search for permanent deans at the campuses will begin.

“These are exciting times for this campus under the leadership of our new chancellor with the organizational changes he has already accomplished and those he envisions for the future,” said Dr. Wall. “This college of medicine, almost a century old, has much to be proud of, and its accomplishments in teaching, research, clinical practice and community service will no doubt be continued with our outstanding students, committed faculty and loyal alumni.”

While Dr. Herrod admits that the job of dean has been somewhat challenging at times, there are elements he will miss.

“I’ve always felt that the academic setting is the most invigorating intellectual environment possible, and I’m pleased that I will remain a part of it,” he said. “I will miss serving our incredibly talented faculty. However, I am excited to be going back to my deepest interests of hands-on education of students and treatment of patients.”

Wall Named Interim Dean

Hershel “Pat” Wall, MD, professor and associate dean for admissions and student affairs, has been chosen to serve as interim dean of the College of Medicine-Memphis. A 1965 graduate of the UT College of Medicine, Dr. Wall has served the university for more than 40 years.

Last year, Dr. Wall was recognized by the Association of American Medical Colleges’ Group on Student Affairs with their “Exemplary Service Award.” Five years ago he was honored by the Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics as Pediatrician of the Year. He has also been recognized throughout the state with awards for distinguished public and community service, student mentorship and outstanding teaching. “I am grateful for Dr. Wall’s willingness to lead the transition of the COM and am confident that it will be seamless,” said UTHSC Chancellor William F. Owen, Jr., MD. “A national search will be conducted for Dean Herrod’s permanent replacement and will be coordinated with that for the executive dean for the college.”

“As Chancellor Owen actively seeks an executive dean for the statewide medical campus and a dean for this campus, we will continue the initiatives established by Dr. Herrod and, where appropriate, consider new ones in the interim,” said Dr. Wall.

For information on the Henry G. Herrod, III, MD, Medical Student Education Endowment, see page 28.
UT Celebrates Grand Opening of Hamilton Eye Institute

On September 26, UTHSC celebrated the grand opening of a dream...the second phase of the Hamilton Eye Institute.

With this addition of the pediatric and adult patient care clinics and new educational facilities, the Institute now offers patient care, research and teaching resources in one location to serve the region. Located in the 930 Madison Avenue Building, this new facility has more than 60,000 square feet devoted to laboratory facilities, examination rooms, educational and academic facilities, and administrative offices.

Included in the clinical space is the Glaucoma Center, a general adult eye care clinic, subspecialty care clinics, a pediatric eye clinic, a wet lab for surgical instruction, and facilities for telemedicine. Medical libraries and resource centers for both physicians and patients are also included.

The educational facility, located on the third floor, contains a 99-seat auditorium, which is handicapped accessible, and has display cases filled with historic ophthalmology equipment and memorabilia.

The institute will also house a surgery center dedicated to ophthalmology, scheduled to open in January 2006. Last year, the institute celebrated completion of the Center for Vision Research with 15,000 square feet of research space designed to bring together researchers from across the UT campus in a collaborative environment.

According to UT Hamilton Professor and chair of the Department of Ophthalmology, Barrett G. Haik, MD, “I am overwhelmed just thinking of how much has been accomplished here in a short time. Not only has Dr. Ralph Hamilton’s vision of a comprehensive facility with patient care, research and teaching in one place come to fruition, but also we now have true, state-of-the-art facilities to provide care for individuals from all walks of life. Thanks to the technologies available, our telehealth capabilities allow us to provide care literally to anyplace in the world, which will aid in our current work with doctors in Central America.”

“The most amazing part,” Dr. Haik said, “is that all of this construction has been accomplished through private giving. The university is especially grateful to Baptist Memorial Health Care, who donated the building and helped make all of this possible.”

Stephen C. Reynolds, president and CEO of Baptist Memorial Health Care, commented, “We are so pleased that under the capable leadership of Dr. Haik, our not-for-profit mission of preaching, teaching and healing lives on through the care provided on this campus. It was important that our gift enabled the Memphis medical community to expand and be used for promoting excellence in health care. Certainly, the Hamilton Eye Institute epitomizes this.”

Named in honor of Memphis ophthalmologist and UT faculty member, Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, and his wife, Barbara Howell Hamilton, the institute is designed to provide patient-friendly care and foster groundbreaking research for future ophthalmologists.

Consistently ranked in the nation’s top ten for clinical care, the Hamilton Eye Institute is the only university eye center providing an advanced level of vision care within a 200-mile radius of Memphis.
BAPTIST HOSPITAL IMPLOSION

The old Baptist Memorial Hospital was imploded on Nov. 6 to make way for the construction of the UT-Baptist Research Park (left). The research park will consist of 1.2 million square feet of laboratory, research, education and business development located on 10 acres in the heart of the Memphis Medical District.
For MSEC President Frances Kirkland, UT is a Family Thing

To say that UT is in her blood is an understatement when referring to Frances Kirkland, M4, president of the Medical Student Executive Council (MSEC). She is one of 24 in her family to graduate from the university.

The youngest of four with three older brothers, Frances was born in Memphis during her father’s residency in otolaryngology. She grew up in Jackson, Tenn., before entering UT, Knoxville to pursue a bachelor of arts degree through the College Scholars Program on a Whittle Scholarship. A 1977 college of Medicine graduate, her father, Ron, is a past president of the UT National Alumni Association and serves on the UT Medical Alumni Council. Her mother, Carol, is a director of UT Alumni Programs.

The Kirklans passed on this dedication to the university to their children. Oldest son, Arthur, attended UT, Martin, where he ran for and helped coach the cross country team. James and William attended the university in Knoxville. James was Student Government Association President and a Whittle Scholar, while William served as Interfraternity Council President on a Tennessee Scholarship. The family’s propensity for leadership was not lost on Frances.

With nearly 40 representatives, the Medical Student Executive Council is the student government organization for the College of Medicine.

“I’m consistently impressed to see representatives go above and beyond the call of duty to make sure students’ needs are met,” said Frances.

MSEC is active on campus in addressing issues ranging from campus safety and parking to health insurance and curriculum. The group participates in events such as town hall meetings with the dean’s office and volunteer service projects in the community.

Some current MSEC projects include: Project Zion, in which MSEC has helped clean up the historical Zion Christian Cemetery; Peri-ankh, an endowment fund established through student and alumni giving to provide future students with a financial outlet to improve their experiences at UT; a disaster relief effort to aid Hurricane Katrina victims relocated in Memphis; and the student self-assessment program for the college’s re-accreditation process.

“I’ve thoroughly enjoyed serving as MSEC president this year,” said Frances. “I love UT and have especially appreciated the wonderful education and experience I have received at UTHSC and the College of Medicine. Thus, serving in this role has been icing on the cake! It really isn’t a labor but an enjoyable time! I have amazingly bright and talented peers who impress me daily, and faculty/administration who are second to none. MSEC meets as a group once a week, but the majority of the work is done outside of the meeting in smaller groups. I’m always impressed with the dedication of our representatives.”

Frances is a Cannon Scholar and Alpha Omega Alpha member. She also represents medical students on several boards, as well as the Student Government Association Executive Council.
An Address to the 2005 Graduates

Delivered at College of Medicine Convocation on May 27, 2005.

Dean Herrod, distinguished faculty, family and friends, and especially the class of 2005: I am extremely honored by the opportunity to speak to you briefly at this important point in your lives. I want to talk to you today briefly about professionalism and intergenerational conflict. In a few short weeks you will begin internships all over the United States. You will quickly begin hearing tales of the “good old days” from faculty and other attending staff. Many of them will imply “They just don’t make doctors like they used to.” It is this issue I want to comment upon.

Today we celebrate your entry into the “profession” of Medicine. Medicine is not a trade to be learned but a profession to be entered. Our profession is characterized by a specialized body of knowledge that we all must expand and teach, by a code of ethics and a duty of service that put patients first above self-interest, and is also characterized by the privilege of self-regulation granted to us by society. All of you now join us individually and collectively in meeting these professional responsibilities. At the same time, we must all be aware of this intergenerational conflict and variations in perception about what professionalism really is. First, where does this “generation” business come from? Sociologists, demographers, and others present the thesis that each generation is dramatically influenced in its views and actions by large forces. For example, on the stage are a few members of the “veterans” generation born from 1922-1945 and many “baby boomers” born from 1946-1964. The “veterans” were influenced greatly by the Depression and World War II. The “Veterans’” views were heavily influenced by duty, respect for the system, strong heroes, (John Wayne) and traditional gender roles. Mom stayed home, and dad worked. My generation, “The Boomers” is large, ambitious and political. The Vietnam War and the development of the birth control pill were seminal events for us. We live to work, seeking money and title as rewards. Gender roles changed rapidly for boomers and a few, pioneering women challenged the establishment.

Now, the time is rapidly approaching for the torch to be passed to you, Generation X. You are a self-reliant group, partly due to upbringing by us, your somewhat absentee parents. Classic gender roles are gone. You value freedom and time over title and money. Family has increased importance, and you are very protective parents. In stark contrast to boomers, you work to live rather than live to work. In short, in my mind, Generation X is a much more “European” group in its perspective.

So where does the conflict arise? It comes mainly from the mistaken belief by my generation that hours worked equates with professionalism. Boomers, still in charge, demand of themselves long hours and total dedication to work. Yet we are learning that teamwork rather than personal work ensures optimal outcomes. We “Boomers” will soon pass the torch of leadership to you. You are perfectly positioned to transform healthcare for the better. Flexible work hours may be the norm for you, but your total commitment when doing your work will be evident. This will be “being a doctor.” The care you deliver will be seamless team care but remain patient focused. Excellence, not endurance, will be rewarded. You embrace technology and will use it to craft high quality care. And, you will be every bit as professional as the generations that preceded you. I know this from observing several among you, patiently explaining new medicines to a patient at discharge, or compassionately explaining a new diagnosis of lung cancer artfully balancing hope with reality, or ensuring follow-up details for an uninsured diabetic. These and countless other acts of concern and care I saw from you make me confident in your professionalism. The torch will soon be yours. May it shine brightly on all of us, for we will be your patients!

Every best wish as you move on to the next stage of your transformation to physician that began in this room a short four years ago, and thanks again for the privilege to speak with you.
2005 Caduceus Ball Teaching Awards

Class of 2007
Outstanding First-Year Course Director: Melburn R. Park, PhD
Outstanding First-Year Lecturer: Jack L. Wilson, PhD

Golden Apple Teaching Awards
Gross Anatomy: Jack L. Wilson, PhD
Physiology: Donald B. Thomason, PhD
Molecular Basis of Disease: Vicki M. Park, PhD
Prevention, Community & Culture: Owen P. Phillips, MD
Doctoring: Recognizing Signs & Symptoms: H. Gail Beeman, MD

Class of 2006
Outstanding Second-Year Course Director: J. Patrick Ryan, PhD
Outstanding Second-Year Lecturer: Mark A. Miller, PhD

Golden Apple Teaching Awards
Pathophysiology: Muthiah Pugazhenthi, MD
Pathology: Charles R. Handorf, MD
Pharmacology: Trevor W. Sweatman, PhD
Microbiology: Mark A. Miller, PhD
Neuroscience: William A. Pulsinelli, MD
Medicine Resident: Jason C. Chandler, MD
Medicine Intern: Shane Smith, MD
Neurology Resident: Jason B. Lindsey, MD
Peds Resident: Michael W. Riker, MD
Peds Intern: Mariko D. Dewire, MD
Ob/Gyn Resident: Leigh A. Simpson, MD
Ob/Gyn Intern: Lolly H. Eldridge, MD
Family Medicine Resident: I. Keith Ellis, MD
Family Medicine Intern: None
Surgery Resident: Matthew A. Steliga, MD
Surgery Intern: Regan F. Williams, MD
Psychiatry Resident: None
Psychiatry Intern: None

Class of 2005
Outstanding Attending: Joseph T. Santoso, MD
Outstanding Clerkship Director: Susan Brewer, MD
Outstanding Clinical Lecturer: Gregg Mitchell, MD

2005 Entering Class

Applications - 1,051
Applicants interviewed - 375
Class enrolled - 150
Males - 93
Females - 57
In-state - 141
Out-of-state - 9
Avg. GPA – 3.58
Avg. Mcat - 9-9-O-10
Undergraduate campuses represented - 65
Average age - 24
Age range – 21-35

Eleven entering students held graduate degrees, with one of those being a doctorate.

2005 SGAEC/Faculty Senate Awards
Excellence in Teaching Award
Lloyd Finks, PharmD
Mark Miller, PhD

UTNAA Outstanding Teacher Award
Laura Sprabery, MD

Administrator of the Year Award
Odell Horton, Jr., JD
The College of Medicine is offering a new curriculum titled, “Patient Safety and Quality Improvement.” This clerkship will be a requirement for the class of 2006.

UTHSC is among a charter group of schools that is collaborating to address the Institute of Healthcare Improvement’s (IHI) mission to incorporate quality principles supported by the Institute of Medicine into the health professions’ curricula.

“This initiative will ensure that our graduates can take a leadership role in improving the quality of patient care in the communities in which they practice,” said Kristine Lohr, MD, associate dean for outcomes research and improvement.

In April, students received information regarding the basics of how to do quality improvement and examples of quality care improvement projects. Students can work on a project that is already underway or create their own.

“What is especially exciting is that healthcare professionals from most of the major medical research hospitals in the state have volunteered their time as coaches and teammates for this innovative initiative,” said Dr. Lohr.
Andrew H. Kang, MD, Endows Rheumatology Chair

By Anne Manning

He may have retired from his full-time faculty position, but in his place, Andrew H. Kang, MD, Goodman Chair of Excellence in Medicine and professor, is leaving a full-time legacy to UTHSC by initiating a campaign to fund an endowed chair. Capping a highly productive career, he launched the Andrew H. Kang Endowed Professorship of Rheumatology with a generous gift in June. His next step is to enlist additional support from his fellow faculty members, former patients and colleagues from around the world. As soon as the chair is fully funded, a search will begin for a nationally recognized expert for the position.

An internationally recognized researcher in his own right, Dr. Kang made his most notable discoveries during his 33-year tenure at UTHSC. He directed a multidisciplinary group of investigators in several important areas of research which led to monumental breakthroughs toward understanding connective tissue degradation.

Perhaps his most outstanding contribution to the study of rheumatic diseases was the development of the type II collagen arthritis model in rodents which provided the first proof that a tissue-specific autoimmune response could cause autoimmune arthritis. Subsequent to these findings, rheumatoid arthritis has become widely accepted as a tissue-specific autoimmune disease. The animal model led Dr. Kang and his team to develop different immunotherapies for experimental autoimmune arthritis. During his retirement, he will continue his work part-time and focus on the potential uses of novel immunotherapies for treating rheumatoid arthritis and other rheumatic diseases.

Dr. Kang contributed to UTHSC as a leader, as well as a researcher. In 1982, he became chairman of medicine, the first person of Asian descent to do so. Holding the Goodman Professorship of Medicine since 1989, he was then appointed director of the Research Center of Excellence for Diseases of Connective Tissue in 2001.

Highly honored in his field, Dr. Kang received the South Korean equivalent of the Nobel Prize, the Ho Am Award in Medicine by the Ho Am Foundation of South Korea. He has also received several other prestigious awards, including the Russell L. Cecil Award from the Arthritis Foundation, the Philip Hench Award, the Founders Medal by the Southern Society for Clinical Investigation, the Mastership by the College of Rheumatology, and the William Middleton Award by the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Dr. Kang received his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and served in the military as a research associate at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD. He was recruited to the University of Tennessee in 1972 and was chief of the rheumatology section at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Memphis.

Those interested in contributing to the Andrew H. Kang Endowed Professorship of Rheumatology may do so by contacting Amanda Tamburrino, UTHSC director of development. e-mail: atamburr@utmem.edu; phone: (901) 448-5516.
The Peri-Ankh Endowment, a student-initiated fund, started inauspiciously two years ago during a late-night brainstorming session when a group of students were studying for final exams. This spring, for the first time, the Class of 2005 initiated a commitment drive to grow that fund.

The idea was to ask each graduating senior to give back a small amount of money to the College of Medicine upon starting his or her first year of residency. With the help of Dr. Pat Wall, associate dean for admissions and student affairs and interim dean for the College of Medicine-Memphis, and Andrew Prislovsky, director of development, the seniors set a goal to secure a monetary commitment from each graduate. Commitment cards were passed out in May, and a follow up is planned for early 2006. Hopes are that if every student can give back $100 (less than 0.25 percent of a UT intern’s first-year salary), the Class of 2005 could raise approximately $15,000 for the college.

Together, the classes of 2004 and 2005 committed $10 per person per semester from their class dues to the fund. Subsequent classes have made similar commitments. A committee of alumni, faculty, residents and students decided that the money from the fund would be put toward anything that benefits the medical students’ education, such as extended computer lab hours, more stethoscopes for incoming freshman, or longer-term goals like tuition subsidies and faculty chair endowments. So far, based solely on donations from medical students from each class, the fund has raised close to $13,000. Aside from recent graduates, no alumni have yet contributed, but students are hoping that will change as support for the endowment grows.

“Ultimately, for most College of Medicine graduates, their professional career, the care and compassion they show their patients, and their financial success will be due in large part to the training and education they received at UTHSC. Giving back financially to the College of Medicine, through the Peri-Ankh fund or another route, is a part of the Hippocratic Oath we all took the day we started medical school. The Peri-Ankh Endowment helps remind students from the first year they start medical school of the importance of this principle. The Class of 2005 commitment drive is a step toward fulfilling this oath for a lifetime,” said Frances Kirkland, M4 and UT Medical Student Executive Council president.

The Class of 2006 has already started planning their campaign for graduation in 2006, and an idea that began as a late-night brainstorming session by a few M2’s will grow into a tradition that helps make UT one of the best endowed medical schools in the nation.

Peri-Ankh is the ancient Egyptian word for medical school, and means “house of life.” The best medical school in the world at that time was in Memphis, Egypt.
Many people find it easy to delay making a will. They find it easy to procrastinate because they think estate planning is hard. But really, it’s not all that difficult – at least in most cases. In fact, creating a will can be as simple as ABC!

**A** - assets – Begin by making an inventory of all your assets: insurance policies, bank and brokerage accounts, art work and other collections, real estate holdings, vehicles, everything you own. Once you have the list, estimate the value of your assets and then deduct what you owe. This will give you a rough idea of the total value of your estate.

**B** - beneficiaries – Who do you want to receive your assets? First, consider family needs and obligations. Then review your charitable involvements and how a bequest could benefit them, and create a lasting legacy for you.

**C** - confidants – Choose trustworthy persons to provide legal and other professional assistance, as well as a personal representative to help settle your estate. You may also need to select one or more trustees and guardians for any minor children.

Once you have listed and valued your assets, selected the beneficiaries for your estate, and have chosen the key persons to assist you now and after your death, it is time to act. Don’t delay. Contact an estate planning attorney right away and move forward.

If you need help finding a good attorney, ask your friends for suggestions or contact the trust department of a local bank for a referral. Ask around until you find someone you feel good about. If you wish, we can assist you in this process as well.

While creating a will is easier than you might have thought, it will take some time. But the end result is worth it. You will be well rewarded with a deep sense of satisfaction . . . and peace of mind.

To make the process even easier for you, we have a free brochure on making a will. For more information, please contact Bethany Goolsby, Director of Planned Giving, at (800) 733-0482 or via email at bgoolsby@utmem.edu.

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**Henry G. Herrod, III, MD, Endowment Established**

Friends and colleagues have established the Henry G. Herrod, III, MD, Medical Student Education Endowment. The fund was announced at a faculty/staff reception as a surprise to Dr. Herrod. The fund will be used to support medical student educational initiatives. The UTHSC development office is accepting donations for the fund. If you are interested in making a contribution or for further information, please contact Shelby Terry at 448-4941.
Allen, Tooms and Wruble Receive Outstanding Alumni Awards

Three exceptional alumni were chosen by the College of Medicine Alumni Council to receive the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) College of Medicine’s 2005 Outstanding Alumnus Award. Presented annually, the award was created to give special recognition to UTHSC graduates who have distinguished themselves in their medical practice, their profession, and in their community. Charles Edward Allen, MD (1954), Robert E. Tooms, MD (1956), and Lawrence D. Wruble, MD, (1958) were presented the awards at the October 14 Alumni Awards and Reunion Luncheon, a highlight of the 2005 Medicine Alumni Weekend.

Each award winner made his mark in more than one of the primary academic medicine mission areas of education, patient care, research and community service. Each also left an indelible legacy in his chosen specialty: Dr. Allen in internal medicine and cardiology, Dr. Tooms in orthopedic surgery and Dr. Wruble in gastroenterology.

Dr. Allen

A pioneer in medical education, Dr. Allen served nationally as the director of the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education, was a trustee on the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, was elected three times to the American Medical Association’s (AMA) Council on Medical Education and served on both the AMA’s Section on Medical Schools and the committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation. He was the driving force behind the founding of the Quillen College of Medicine at East Tennessee State University (ETSU), which had a profound impact on the level of healthcare in the Appalachian areas of Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia and North Carolina.

Over his dynamic career, Dr. Allen has received a variety of honors including the Governor’s Outstanding Tennessean Award, the Tennessee Medical Association’s Outstanding Physician Award, the Meritorious Service Award from the Tennessee Hospital Association, and the Spirit of Johnson City Award, presented by his community. In his retirement, his continuing interest in education is evidenced by his service on the ETSU Foundation Board of Directors, the Board of Trustees of Milligan College, and the Board of Trustees of Emmanuel School of Religion.

Dr. Tooms

Dr. Tooms made a huge difference in the lives of amputees by being instrumental in the development of a number of research projects that resulted in increased mobility for physically impaired individuals. Recognized nationally and internationally as an expert in prosthetics, he has authored several textbook chapters and numerous peer-reviewed journal articles.

A leader in the field of orthopedics, Dr. Tooms was also a leader at UTHSC in a variety of positions, including medical director of the University of Tennessee Rehabilitation Engineering Center, medical director of the Spinal Cord Injury Center, chief of the Childhood Amputee Clinic, consultant to the Tennessee Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and chairman of the committee on rehabilitation of the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. In addition to his numerous positions at UTHSC, he was president of the medical staff at Baptist Memorial Hospital and chief of staff of the Campbell Clinic where he mentored and trained orthopedic residents for many years. As a lasting legacy, he spearheaded the drive to establish the Harold Boyd Chair of Orthopedics at UTHSC, helping to raise over a million dollars to fund the professorship.

Continued on page 30
Dr. Wruble

Revered and honored for his contributions to education, Dr. Wruble’s teaching abilities have been recognized as outstanding from the beginning of his career. As a professor of medicine at UTHSC, he has received the Faculty Recognition Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Teaching Excellence Awards for two consecutive years, and the Golden Apple Award.

Opening the first gastroenterology practice in the city of Memphis in 1970, Dr. Wruble established the Memphis Gastroenterology Group and currently serves as its president. He is medical director of Summit Research Solutions, a clinical trials management company, and is the founder and medical advisor of Siteworks Solutions, an industry leader in clinical trials software for the management of administrative and regulatory changes in the conduct of clinical research. Recognized nationally in his field, Dr. Wruble was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from the American College of Gastroenterology, has authored five books and numerous peer-reviewed papers, and remains active in research.

“Drs. Allen, Tooms and Wruble represent the best of what UT College of Medicine graduates contribute in practice, academics and community service. Each has been an innovator in his chosen specialty and has moved the entire field forward, making an enormous difference in people’s lives along the way. I am proud of their association with the College of Medicine,” said Henry G. Herrod, MD, former dean of the College of Medicine-Memphis.

Sprabery Wins 2005 UTNAA Teacher Award

The University of Tennessee National Alumni Association has selected Laura Read Sprabery, MD, assistant professor of internal medicine, as one of its 2005 Outstanding Teacher Award recipients.

Selected by College of Medicine students, Dr. Sprabery was cited for her dedication to teaching medicine as a science, as well as for the way she practices medicine as an art. Students’ nominations referred to her warmth and kindness with patients, residents and medical students. She was also noted for being a great role model in all aspects of her work, both in her professorial duties and for her clinical practice.

Dr. Sprabery received her bachelor’s degree in molecular biology from Vanderbilt University in Nashville and her medical degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine in Jackson, Miss. Her internship and residency were completed at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis.

UTHSC Library Resources for Graduates

Anyone can come to the library and use all of our resources—journals, books, online databases, and so forth. Second, if you have a valid Tennessee license in your field, you can request a library card that will allow you to check out circulating materials. Third, you can contact us (e-mail: utlibrary@utmem.edu, toll-free number: 877-747-0004) for assistance in locating information and requesting searches (there is a small fee for searches). Fourth, we can provide document delivery service for articles you need (the charge, $6, is the same for faculty, staff, students, and alums—but be sure to tell us you’re an alum).

Finally, just for you—our graduates—we developed an alum web page (library.utmem.edu/hslbc/alumni/) that lists a growing number of accessible full-text journals and other resources.

All of our online journals and databases can be accessed from library and on-campus computers. However, because of licensing restrictions from the publishers, only current faculty, staff, and students can access these resources from off-campus.

Perhaps the most important resource you can access and use freely is PubMed MEDLINE (pubmed.gov). For example, through this site, you can customize search strategies (use the MyNCBI feature) that will search specific libraries (for example, if you live closer to another health science library, you can search that library’s journal collection), and you can order journal articles (use the Loansome Doc delivery link).

Questions, comments or suggestions are welcomed and should be addressed to utlibrary@utmem.edu.
Golden Grad Classes - Alumni Weekend 2005

March '55

Front row, left to right, Drs. Jim Rackley, Jim King, Lowell Furman, Charles Gill, Kyle Creson, Ralph Monger, Edmond Alley, and Sam Patterson. Back row, left to right, Drs. Vernon Medlin, Louis Britt, R.D. Pitman, George Bryan, Roy Gravesen, Herman Scheinberg, and Warran Ross

June '55


September '55

Front row, left to right, Drs. Robert Hutcheson, David Holt, William Morehead, Roy Ezell, Jesse Miller, and Robert Sherrell. Back row, left to right, Drs. Robert Profitt, Robert Whittle, Robert Cofer, James Lett, and Ed Campbell

December '55

Front row, left to right, Drs. William Foree, Dee Canale, Robert Bourne, David Ellis, and Isaac Newton. Back row, left to right, Drs. Howard Vesser, Carol Williams, Lowry Young, James Howerton, and Ray Curle

College of Medicine Alumni Council 2005
College of Medicine Alumni Council Officers 2004 - 2006

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Germantown, TN

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Memphis
NOEL T. FLORENDO, M.D. ’74
Memphis
RALPH S. HAMILTON, M.D. ’52
Germantown
JAMES G. JOHNSON, M.D. ’63
Memphis
JESSE CANNON, Jr., M.D. ’76
Covington

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Decatur
Ariana
PAUL J. HUFFSTUTTER, M.D. ’73
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Somerset

Mississippi
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Statesville
South Carolina

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Texas
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Dallas
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MARK GAYLORD, M.D. ’78

UT Medical Center-Chattanooga
L. DIANE ALLEN, M.D. ’81

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ROBERT KERLAN, M.D. ’69
Germantown

STEPHEN M. STAGGS, M.D. ’78
Brentwood

BARNETT SCOTT, M.D. ’59
Jackson

WILLIAM A. SHELL, Jr., M.D. ’81
Nashville

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Johnson City

RONALD H. KIRKLAND, M.D. ’77

Jackson

Out of State At-Large Positions
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STEPHEN H. FALWELL, M.D. ’70
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THOMAS WHITAKER, M.D. ’74
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Assistant Vice President, Alumni Programs
BARBARA McADAMS, J.D.
Directors of Alumni Programs
SUZANNE DAVIDSON
AMY SORKIN
George B. Crisp, Jr., MD, of Fort Worth, Texas is retiring from neurosurgery after a 37-year career. Dr. Crisp will now focus on administrative and clinical work.

Roy C. Ellis, MD, is still practicing family medicine in Harrogate, Tenn. after a 42-year career. Dr. Ellis is a retired flight surgeon for the U.S. Air Force; he is active with the school board, as well as in the Angus cattle business.

Dr. Edward W. Sutton is retiring from his Fresno, Calif., family medical practice after 27 years. Dr. Sutton served in the Army Medical Corps in Vietnam and Japan and was also a professional football player, playing for the Redskins, Giants and Packers.

Vance C. Roy, MD, is living with his wife, Barbara, in Switzerland. The retired couple has been there for 12 years, coming home in the summer months to visit family in Rhode Island. Dr. Roy is pursuing his hobbies of hiking, photography, cooking and genealogy.


Rick Elmore, MD, is currently a vein specialist practicing in Fresno, Calif. Dr. Elmore is happily married to wife, Debra. The couple has two children: Alex, 18, is attending Biola University, and Erin, 17, is a senior in high school.

Phyllis E. Miller, MD, recently became the 151st president and the first female president of the Tennessee Medical Association. An OB/GYN by trade, Dr. Miller has been in practice for 28 years. Dr. Miller was also the first woman elected president of the Chattanooga and Hamilton County Medical Society, the first female chief-of-staff at Erlanger Hospital in Chattanooga and the first female physician from Polk County.

Davis J. Donahue, MD, has become the chief of surgery at Cook’s Children’s Medical Center and surgical director of the Epilepsy Center. Dr. Donahue is also co-director of the Gamma Knife Unit at Baylor All Saints Hospital in Fort Worth, Texas.

Joel T. Hardin, MD, has become the director of cardiology for the Children’s Cardiac Center at The Children’s Hospital of New Jersey. As a Naval Reservist, Dr. Hardin served as battalion surgeon during his deployment to Iraq in 2004. As part of his reserve duty, Dr. Hardin serves as surgeon at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

A. Scott Pearson, MD, is an assistant professor of surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn.

William A. Edwards, MD, and his wife, Amy, recently welcomed their first child home. The couple adopted one-year-old Alex from Guatemala. Dr. Edwards continues to practice family medicine and endoscopy in Fayetteville, Tenn.

Matt Shepherd, MD, served as battalion surgeon for the 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment during the battle for Fallujah, Iraq. Dr. Shepherd is currently doing an emergency medicine residency at Balboa Naval Hospital in San Diego, Calif.

Christopher Austin Holt, MD, has completed his transitional year residency at UT Medical Center in Knoxville. He started his residency in anesthesiology at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City in July.
Clyde Lee Capps, Jr., MD, died on May 23, 2005. Dr. Capps pioneered the first ICU unit at Baptist Hospital in Knoxville and was one of several doctors to perform the first open heart surgery there. Dr. Capps was a diplomat of the American Board of Anesthesiologists. In 1979, Dr. Capps became the medical director of the first drug and alcohol treatment unit at St. Mary’s Hospital where he worked for ten years until his retirement.

Clarence Goulding, Jr., MD, died on June 18, 2005 in his home after a long battle with cancer. Dr. Goulding spent most of his nearly 50-year career practicing anesthesiology in Johnson City, Tenn. Active in the Tennessee State Society of Anesthesiology, he was honored in 2002 with the society’s “Distinguished Service Award,” an award that is given only every ten years. Dr. Goulding retired in 2004.

Robert Preston Hornsby, MD, died at home May 23, 2005 of complications from pancreatic cancer. Dr. Hornsby spent the beginning of his medical career in Knoxville; where he is best known for his groundbreaking study of allergy-causing dust mites. In 1980, Dr. Hornsby joined the Veterans Administration Medical Service and began the second phase of his career. He worked for the VAMS for 15 years in Fayetteville, N.C., Memphis and Murfreesboro. Dr. Hornsby retired in 1995 due to disability caused by cancer.

William Robinson Mitchum, MD, died February 28, 2005 at the age of 83.

Iris A. Pearce, MD, died Sept. 20, 2005 of lung disease. A pioneer for women in medicine, Dr. Pearce was one of two women in her UT College of Medicine graduating class. She was the first woman to be appointed chief resident at the City of Memphis Hospital (now the Regional Medical Center) and then became the first woman to serve as medical director there. Dr. Pearce was also a highly regarded professor at UT’s College of Medicine.

Robert Rule Hughes, MD, died March 20, 2005 in Orlando, Fla. Dr. Hughes served as a captain in the U.S. Air Force and flight surgeon in Okinawa. Dr. Hughes joined the faculty at UT Memphis in 1965 and taught for 18 years. He was a leading specialist in the field of gynecologic oncology and was board certified in both. He retired in 1993.

James W. Harrison, MD, died on Sept. 17, 2005 at the age of 87. Dr. Harrison practiced all over the world during his distinguished medical and military careers. Dr. Harrison was an OB/GYN by trade for 50 years, but also spent 35 years of active and reserve military service. He was decorated with eight military medals and service awards. Dr. Harrison retired from practice in 1985.
At the UTHSC College of Medicine
Our Alumni are a Valuable Asset
Please Contact Us!

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Pictured, from left to right, are the staff of the Alumni Affairs Office: Suzanne Davidson, Barbara McAdams, and Amy Sorkin.

Pictured, from left to right, are the staff of the College of Medicine Advancement Office: front row, Andrew Prislovsky, Sue Harpole and Bethany Goolsby. Back row, Amanda Tamburrino and Shelby Terry. Not pictured, Ann Meeks.

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Fall 2005 35
The University of Tennessee College of Medicine

Outstanding Alumnus Award

Send Your Nominations Now

Up to four Outstanding Alumni Awards will be presented each year based upon recommendations from UT College of Medicine alumni, faculty or other UT College of Medicine constituents; and upon approval by the Awards Committee of the UT College of Medicine Alumni Council, on behalf of the UT College of Medicine Alumni Association.

Criteria:
The Outstanding Alumnus Award will not be limited to those in active medical practice, and will recognize a member of the medical profession who has distinguished himself/herself in the areas of:

- Community service
- Leadership in local, state or national health professional organizations
- Teaching and/or research activities or any other area or areas of performance or accomplishment for which the Medicine Alumni Council determines a candidate to be worthy

A letter of nomination and curriculum vitae should be mailed to:
UT College of Medicine Alumni Council c/o UT Office of Alumni Affairs, 62 South Dunlap, Suite 520, Memphis, Tennessee 38163; e-mail: utalumni@utmem.edu; fax: (901) 448-5906.