The University of Tennessee
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The Rural Partnership
Filling Medical Needs in Underserved Areas
Dear friends and colleagues,

As a new year begins, it is appropriate that we reflect on last year’s successes and challenges, and consider the challenges and opportunities for the future.

The current issue of Medicine Magazine is one of our largest and, I think, one of the best. The staff has done a phenomenal job sharing the great accomplishments and recognition of our faculty, staff and students since the last issue. Please also note that the magazine won the 2008 Gold Vox Award for Best Magazine for External Audience.

Dr. Schwab’s “State of the College” address was nicely summarized. His outstanding leadership is especially evident in the major positions that have been filled over the last 18 months, see page 11 and the New Faces section. We are particularly proud of the feature on the Rural Partnership, an initiative for which our college has been striving for many years.

If I may, I would like to put on my Chancellor’s hat and share with you briefly the “State of the Health Science Center,” especially its challenges and opportunities for the future.

This past year we have all been personally and institutionally confronted with the most demanding economic conditions in my memory. The coming year will continue to present significant problems for all publicly funded higher education campuses in Tennessee and across the country. Our friends in private institutions are also facing significant problems as well. But with these challenges come opportunities for us to create the changes necessary to continue the institution’s viability and productivity consistent with our missions of education, research, patient care and public service.

Because of the state’s severe economic downturn, we will continue to operate with significantly reduced state funding. The extent of these reductions for this coming fiscal year [which begins July 1] is not certain at this time, but will be in the range of $20-plus million, in addition to the $12 million reduction we experienced during the present fiscal year. However, we are committed to keeping the workforce reduction to the lowest possible level. It is our intent to maintain the integrity of all colleges as we work closely and thoughtfully with them to effectively reduce programs not critical to the institution’s mission while becoming more efficient in the process.

Because our physical infrastructure has not been given the attention needed over many years, it is critical that we urgently pursue self-funding – from bonds, private donors, foundations and grants – for new clinical practice and research facilities. Given the state’s economic situation, it will most likely be several years before we can expect capital funding to restore aging buildings, some 80 years old, and construct new critically needed facilities.

Once the state reaches its financial recovery and can restore institutional funding for higher education, our first priority – appropriately – will be to attend to the needs of our faculty, staff and mission-critical educational programs. It would be a tremendous advantage if we could count on a sustainable, reliable source of future funding.

In the meanwhile, we, as a Health Science Center, must keep the faith that this challenging time will soon pass. We have valuable partners here in this community as well as across the state, which we are actively cultivating, and who will advocate for us as we aggressively move forward together. Our valued alumni are becoming cognizant of our dilemma and, no doubt, will be strongly supporting us.

We have made significant connections this past year with our colleagues in positions of leadership in Nashville, e.g., constitutional officers, chairs of the two finance committees, and the chair of the senate education committee among others. We firmly believe these legislators will remember us when times are better.

Most importantly, we must be supportive of one another in our statewide institutional family as we face the future.

Finally, we in the Health Science Center wish all of you the best for 2009. Please keep us in your thoughts as we face very challenging times ahead. We believe we can count on you and would welcome your insights and comments as we enter this New Year.

Pat Wall, MD
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Wherever you live in the world, you probably remember the music of Memphis, which you enjoyed during your med school days. In fact, you may still listen to the soulful sounds of musical giants such as Isaac Hayes, Otis Redding, Sam and Dave, Booker T. and the MGs, Luther Ingram, Wilson Pickett, Albert King, and hundreds of others.

But unless you live in the Mid-South, you may not be aware of how traditional soul music is preserved through the potential of youth. Whether you live near or far, the next time you visit Memphis you may want to stop by Soulsville, USA.

At the corner of McLemore Avenue and College Street, the Stax Museum of American Soul stands as a shrine to original soul music, and next door is the Stax Music Academy – a 27,000-square-foot learning facility that uses music education as a tool to mentor at-risk, inner-city youth.

The Soulsville Foundation, a nonprofit parent company founded in 1997, operates the Stax Music Academy, the Stax Museum, and The Soulsville Charter School. The Stax Music Academy opened in July 2002, although it had been operating since 2000 at local elementary schools and LeMoyne-Owen College. The museum followed a year later in 2003, and the charter school, a full-time academic college prep school, was established in 2005.

Walking into the Stax Museum of American Soul Music takes one back to the 1950s when banker Jim Stewart and his sister Estelle Axton launched a new label in an abandoned movie theater on McLemore Avenue. Combining the first two letters of Stewart’s name and the first two letters of his sister’s, Stax Records was formed. During the next 14 years, hits flowed from Soulsville. The museum catalogs these hits in its Hall of Records where 800 45 single records and 300 LPs are on display. The 17,000-square-foot museum also offers more than 2,000 interactive exhibits, videos, instruments, items of stage clothing and other memorabilia.

The museum twists through a labyrinth of exhibits that preserve the legacy of American soul music. Just a few of the items on display include Phalon Jones’ saxophone, retrieved from a lake intact after the fatal crash of Otis Redding and the Bar-Kays; Otis Redding’s brown suede jacket; Albert King’s purple Flying V guitar; Tina Turner’s gold sequined stage dress and Ike Turner’s silver lamé suit and Fender guitar; the organ used by Booker T. Jones to record Green Onions; and Isaac Hayes’ peacock-blue 1972 Superfly Cadillac El Dorado complete with television, refrigerator, and gold trim. Plus, you can stand on the exact spot where all of the great Stax music was made in a nearly exact recreation of legendary Studio A. Although this studio no longer produces records, music is still being made nearby.

The Stax Music Academy uses music education to help boost its students’ self-esteem, improve academic scores, teach respect for oneself and others, and mold these youth to be facilitators for positive change in the community. It does this through summer music camps and after-school programs. The academy even holds special spring break workshops and takes 14 after-school students on a foreign tour to perform and learn the culture of other countries. Altering the lives of these at-risk youth has become Soulsville’s primary way of carrying the legacy of Stax Records into the future forever.
In a joint announcement earlier this year, UTHSC and Baxter International Inc. (NYSE: BAX) reported data from a laboratory study demonstrating natural antibodies contained in GAMMAGARD LIQUID [Immune Globulin Intravenous (Human)] (IGIV), a plasma-derived antibody replacement therapy indicated for primary immunodeficiency disorders and being studied in Alzheimer’s disease, bind directly to clustered forms of the beta-amyloid peptide molecule. The beta-amyloid molecule may contribute to beta-amyloid plaques, which are thought to be the primary cause of Alzheimer’s disease. The results of this in vitro (laboratory) study were presented by Brian O’Nuallain, PhD, assistant professor, UT Medical Center, Knoxville, at the American Academy of Neurology Annual Meeting. “Observations from this study provide insight into how GAMMAGARD LIQUID may be of potential clinical benefit for Alzheimer’s patients,” said Dave Morgan, director of neuroscience research, University of South Florida. “This study suggests that GAMMAGARD LIQUID may target the primary pathway involved in Alzheimer’s disease and justifies additional studies to evaluate whether GAMMAGARD LIQUID can effectively reverse the effects of Alzheimer’s disease.”

A 2007 national survey by the Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology (ACDP) ranks the UTHSC Department of Physiology seventh in research grant funding ($7,811,518) and 13th in total funding ($11,529,686) among all similar departments. The ACDP survey also listed the UTHSC department as 11th in research dollars per faculty member ($390,576). “We are thrilled to be in the top 10!” enthused Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD, Harriet Van Vleet Professor and chair, Department of Physiology. Much of this funding success is credited to the work of former chairman Leonard “Rusty” Johnson, PhD. Earlier this year, Dr. Tigyi, along with other members of the Department of Physiology, honored him for the contributions he made while serving the department and the work he did to help garner funding. During Dr. Johnson’s 17 years with the department, research funding grew from about $3.7 million to $12.9 million.

“Dr. Johnson recruited a nationally recognized group of investigators into the department,” said Dr. Tigyi. “The department has only grown by three faculty members; whereas, the funding has almost quadrupled.”

To honor Dr. Johnson, a fund was established and donations from the fund were used to purchase a portrait of him, which is now displayed in the departmental conference room of the Nash Building. Dr. Johnson, a native of Indiana, began his career at the University of California, Los Angeles, as junior faculty and moved to the University of Oklahoma. Coming to UTHSC in 1989 from the University of Texas, Houston, he assumed the chair position in physiology. After stepping down as chair of physiology in 2006, Dr. Johnson was named vice chancellor in the UTHSC Office of Research.
A product based on research conducted at the UT Health Science Center has been selected by the 2008 Better World Project as one of the top 100 examples from across the globe of how innovation from academic research makes its way to the market.

The featured product — a compound called RX100, which is designed to protect the human body when it is exposed to radiation — was developed in 2004 at UTHSC by Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD; Duane Miller, PhD; and Leonard “Rusty” Johnson, PhD. Studies have shown that the compound can prevent death if given before or after lethal radiation exposure, and even save life if administered 24 hours or longer after exposure. In addition to boosting the immune system and inhibiting organ failure, RX100 also protects rapidly growing cells, such as those in the bone marrow or the small intestine. Because it protects the lining and preserves the function of the intestine, it can prevent diarrhea and combat bacterial infections.

RxBio, Inc., a biotechnology start-up company headquartered in Johnson City, licensed the patented technology from the University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF) and continues to study and do further development on RX100. Applications of the substance abound in fields where radiation exposure is possible or even necessary, including health care and military or defense scenarios.

“RX100 is just one example of successful product ideas that are emerging from UTHSC and the university as a whole,” said Hershel P. Wall, MD, UTHSC chancellor. “Working with companies to license and further develop these products is consistent with our mission to improve human health for Tennesseans, as well as on a global scale.”

The Better World Project was launched by the Association of University Technology Managers in 2005 to increase public understanding of how academic research and technology transfer — the process that takes laboratory discoveries to the marketplace — benefit communities around the world. UTRF harvests the discoveries and inventions of UT’s faculty and staff and seeks commercial outlets for those inventions. UT was the only educational institution in Tennessee that was highlighted in the project this year. The project’s publication is being distributed to members of the U.S. Congress, state officials and leaders of Fortune 500 companies. UT’s participation in cellulosic ethanol development was also included in the publication.
Chattanooga Gains Emergency Medicine Residency

UTHSC’s College of Medicine, Chattanooga campus, received accreditation for a new Emergency Medicine Residency program in February 2008 and accepted its first residents in July.

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and its Emergency Medicine Residency Review Committee have approved this addition — the first Emergency Medicine Residency program on any of the three UTHSC College of Medicine campuses, located in Memphis, Knoxville and Chattanooga.

The three-year program will accept six residents each year for a total of 18 residents a year when the program reaches its maturity. The program will be based at the Erlanger Baroness campus in Chattanooga and will be led by James Creel, MD, program director and chief of emergency medicine at Erlanger.

“We are honored to announce the addition of the Emergency Medicine Residency program at UTCOM Chattanooga,” stated David Seaberg, MD, dean of the COM, Chattanooga. “The program is not only essential in providing University of Tennessee medical students with the opportunity to pursue emergency medicine training, but it is also important to have trained, board-certified emergency physicians available to staff the emergency departments across the state.

“This approval is another step in the growth of our academic medical center and will help improve the care of our patients in the Chattanooga area,” Dean Seaberg added.

Telehealth Holds Landmark Events

Landmark telehealth video conferences took place last spring — first with physicians in Vietnam and then with officials from China.

On April 18 several physicians at the Hamilton Eye Institute collaborated with Ho Chi Minh City Eye Hospital in Vietnam.

For two and a half hours, physicians in Vietnam presented retinoblastoma cases that were reviewed by Drs. Barrett Haik and Ibrahim Qaddoumi. Via the live video feed, pediatric oncologists, pathologists and ophthalmologists on opposite sides of the globe were able to share and discuss high-resolution images of pediatric eye tumors.

Although this was the first videoconference with Vietnam, during the past two years, the Hamilton Eye Institute’s Telehealth program has enjoyed great success in prior videoconferences with countries such as Guatemala, Honduras and Panama.

In May, the “Summer Institute in Tennessee – Chinese Rural Health,” a delegation of 17 high-level health care administrators from several provinces in China, visited UTHSC. The group gathered in Freeman Auditorium at the Hamilton Eye Institute for a live demonstration of the UTHSC Telehealth network.

They clearly appreciated the opportunity to view how Telehealth is successfully applied for rural and distant patients in three areas of specialty: dermatology, psychiatry and pediatric cardiology.

The Chinese delegation included health economics and finance specialists, as well as planning, auditing and rural health officials.

The visit was initiated when Gov. Phil Bredesen and UT President John Petersen invited the summer institute to Tennessee.
The Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI), a revolutionary interdisciplinary center at UTHSC with a mission to conduct research that translates scientific discoveries into clinical applications, made its first awards in July. Four grants to researchers were made through the CTSI Pilot Projects Program. The program’s goal is to provide funds for investigators and clinicians to enhance the quality and efficiency of translational research and its applications.

The 2008 Pilot Projects Program award recipients are Monica Jablonski, PhD, ophthalmology; Karl Weber, MD, cardiology; Ron Adkins, PhD, pediatrics; and Betty Lew, MD, pediatrics. This group of primary investigators each pulled together a team from UTHSC, and from other institutions such as Oak Ridge National Laboratory, National Eye Institute, University of Memphis and Cumberland Pharmaceuticals to develop their submissions. Collectively the researchers and their teams received more than $280,000.

Support from the Pilot Projects Program will lead to advanced training and education of faculty and collaborators in translational research. Findings from translational research allow the medical community to turn key results into clinical studies for medical practices and health care decision makers. All research projects adhere to CTSI’s “bench to bedside” and “bedside to community” mission.

**CTSI Awards More Than $280,000 to Four Investigators**

On May 1, about 200 volunteers, staff members and guests affiliated with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Memphis gathered at the Memphis Botanic Gardens for the group’s second annual volunteer reception. Among the special guests were the Health Science Center’s Owen Phillips, MD, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, and her husband Reid Phillips. Dr. Phillips was selected as the 2008 Volunteer of the Year for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tennessee, which includes five agencies across the state.

For most of the evening, Dr. Phillips was surrounded by the beaming, excited faces of the three children she mentors, Kentera, 8, her brother Karlos, 7, and their cousin Courtney, 10. The children’s sense of ease and readiness to smile around Dr. Phillips stem from close relationships cultivated over years of caring and support. It started four years ago when then reserved Kentera was paired with Dr. Phillips.

“Kentera used to be real shy,” her mother LaKendra Madison said, “but having Dr. Phillips for a Big Sister has been a blessing. Now she isn’t afraid to speak up and talk to people. Kentera and Karlos get on the principal’s list every year, and they are both in the national honor society.”

The children’s grandmother, Rhoda Veasley, stated, “Dr. Phillips is real nice … she’s about the nicest person we ever met, and my granddaughter just loves her. She takes all the kids to educational places. She buys them books. She exposes them to all kinds of things.”

Dr. Phillips’ generosity included a true above-and-beyond purchase in 2008. In February, she bought a used car and gave it to the family. “Karlos has chronic asthma trouble and twice a week we have to take him for appointments with his doctors,” said Madison. “I didn’t have a car and I was working on getting one, then Dr. Phillips gave us this gift.”

“Dr. Phillips is the best. She really is. I’m the grandmama and she even buys me gifts,” Veasley said, smiling at the thought of such unexpected generosity. “I wish she was my Big Sister.” In a way, Dr. Phillips is.

**Owen Phillips Named Big Sister of the Year**

![Dr. Phillips poses with LaKendra Madison, her mother Rhoda Veasley and (from left front row) Courtney, Kentera and Karlos.](image-url)
**Telehealth Bridges Health Science Center Campuses**

The UTHSC Telehealth Department helped bridge the Knoxville and Chattanooga Health Science Center locations to the Memphis campus when a presentation aired in October. Giancarlo Mari, MD, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, presented a lecture that aired at all three College of Medicine campuses, allowing faculty to hear the lecture and ask questions.

Dr. Mari spoke on the topic of “Doppler in Fetal Anemia and IUGR.” His presentation was also seen by a network of 16 to 20 top medical schools in the United States and around the world.

**New Robotic System at Methodist University Hospital Aids Surgeons with Minimally Invasive Procedures**

The first patient to undergo a procedure using the new surgical robot at Methodist University Hospital had a hysterectomy on an August morning and returned home later that same evening. Hysterectomies typically require a three to four-day hospital stay.

“Rather than a long scar down her abdomen, this patient has four very small incisions on her abdomen,” said Todd D. Tillmanns, MD, associate professor in obstetrics and gynecology at the Rout Center for Women and Newborns, UTHSC College of Medicine, who performed the surgery. “She will be back to her normal routine much faster.”

Around 5 p.m. the day of her surgery, the patient said she felt good, but was “a little sore.” She was grateful to Dr. Tillmanns, his resident Mercedes Sayago, MD, and the entire surgical and nursing team. “Every one has been so nice. I feel blessed to be living in a time when medicine is so advanced.”

Dr. Tillmanns is one of a growing number of surgeons taking modern medicine to the next level with robotics.

Methodist North Hospital received the robotic system last fall. The da Vinci-S, a minimally invasive surgical system, provides surgeons with enhanced features including an interactive video display, lower profile arms and greater mobility.

It is not just the physicians, but the entire team of nurses, anesthesiologists and technicians who receive special training to use the da Vinci-S robotic system.

The da Vinci system lends a mechanical helping hand to surgeons who use them for unprecedented control and precision.

Using a high-powered camera, the surgeon guides the robot’s four arms — that hold surgical tools which are inserted into the patient through small, keyhole-sized incisions. The system’s ergonomic design allows the surgeon to operate from a comfortable, seated position at the console, with the eyes and hands positioned in-line with the instruments.

At the same time, the state-of-the-art robotic and computer technologies scale, filter and seamlessly translate the surgeon’s delicate hand manipulations into precise micro-movements of the instruments.

In addition, the da Vinci’s video monitoring system provides a three-dimensional view of the surgery with magnification 10 times that of the naked eye.

Dr. Tillmanns said the new Memphis Robotics Society also had its inaugural meeting and includes physicians from the medical disciplines of cardiothoracic, colorectal, gynecologic oncology, gynecologic, and urologic surgery.

“It is so exciting to be able to meet and discuss robotics with a group of physicians who are united to bring this remarkable advance in health care to patients in the Mid-South,” said Dr. Tillmanns.
State of the College Address

Editor’s Note: In a presentation to College of Medicine faculty and staff last year, Executive Dean Steve Schwab, MD, described the changing landscape at UTHSC. Much of the progress over the past year has come with new faces filling key leadership positions.

Compared to the message a year ago, I believe we have come a long way,” said Executive Dean Steve Schwab, MD, at the College of Medicine State of the College address.

With the five-year goal of moving the College of Medicine to the top quartile nationally, and with one year down and four more to go, Dr. Schwab outlined the current status of the college, as well as what needs to happen in the coming months and years.

Currently, in most listings, the College of Medicine ranks above the 50th percentile when compared against all MD-granting U.S. colleges. There are rankings for all three of the college’s primary missions: research, clinical programs and educational programs. The goal of our COM leaders is to move to the 75th percentile in all three sets of rankings.

Reorganization of the college has been the major goal and accomplishment in this first year. Dr. Schwab pointed out that proper finances are the next step to make continued forward movement. “The path from 50th to 75th [percentile] starts with finances,” he said.

The College of Medicine’s all source revenue is projected to approach $400 million this year with about 12.5 percent coming from the state appropriation. Dr. Schwab explained that medical schools are funded at a lower rate than undergraduate schools because they are expected to generate a substantial amount of their own funds. However, when compared to East Tennessee State University COM, the UT College of Medicine is substantially underfunded by the state appropriation. According to Dr. Schwab, the good news is that UT President John Petersen has brought this situation to the attention of the governor, and there is new trustee support for UTHSC.

Using the college’s three missions – education, research and clinical patient care, with the idea that all three tie the college to service – Dr. Schwab elaborated on each area. He spoke of current successes, as well as current challenges.

Education

Our medical student performance is strong with very high first-time United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE) pass rates. For instance, our USMLE step one first-attempt pass rate has been up to 99 percent. Our multi-campus system continues as a

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major strength. The college plans to expand its medical class by 10 percent to 165 students per year starting in 2009.

The college’s Graduate Medical Education (GME) programs (residents and fellows) are also areas of educational strength. With more than 1,100 GME trainees on our three campuses, we are a major force in Tennessee physician education. All of the college’s programs are fully accredited with many new accredited GME programs, including: emergency medicine in Chattanooga; vascular surgery in both Chattanooga and Knoxville; cardiology and pulmonary in Knoxville; and child and geriatric psychiatry in Memphis. Plus, Dr. Schwab shared that accreditation for additional GME programs, such as anesthesia, in Memphis, are pending.

Patient Care

In addition to GME programs providing financial growth, clinical areas, such as the UT Medical Group, have also offered resources during this past year. Dr. Schwab explained that the sale of Memphis Managed Care helped create growth reserves. It is such funding from clinical enterprises and GME programs that has allowed the College of Medicine to concentrate on recruiting and filling positions. Dr. Schwab indicated that the college has 95 new full-time faculty members, bringing the total to 921 from a low of 855 two years ago. We have filled almost all of our vacant leadership positions with outstanding physicians and scientists. (Please see sidebar to view a list of recent appointments.)

Dr. Schwab also discussed the fact that without a current UT academic university hospital, there is no medical center providing unrestricted financial support for the college. However, the current status allows UT COM faculty and students to practice and learn at the sites of several great hospital partners.

One area of clinical focus that College of Medicine leaders are concentrating on is to increase the number of programs with national prominence. “We have four; we must have at least eight to reach the 75th percentile,” explained Dr. Schwab. “Our goal is to have at least one program reach national prominence each year.”

Research

Research funding is another area leaders are looking to grow. “Make no mistake this campus has a strong R01 base,” began Dr. Schwab; however, “We don’t have the big program project grants or major NIH contracts that provide big research boosts to a campus. We have to get them.”

In an effort to maintain the R01 funding, while seeking new opportunities, the COM is looking to such projects as the Regional Biocontainment Lab (RBL) and the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). Describing such projects as “tickets to play,” Dr. Schwab explained that these investments make the College of Medicine eligible to compete for future funding. In order to reach the college’s goal in research, funding must be doubled during the next four years. The RBL and CTSI will help to achieve this goal.

In addition to increasing the educational, clinical and research programs, the College of Medicine must secure infrastructure and facilities to support these growing research initiatives. Struggling with a 20-year history of underinvestment in “brick and mortar,” Dr. Schwab said, “The good news is you look out today and you see multiple cranes on campus.”

Presenting a scorecard to sum up the college’s progress, Dr. Schwab concluded, “I believe we are on track for where we want to be five years from now. We still have issues to deal with, but we are better than we were.”

Filled Leadership Positions:

New Campus Deans
Knoxville – James Neutens, PhD
Chattanooga – David Seaberg, MD

Associate Deans
Medical Education – Robert Shreve, EdD
Student Affairs – Owen Phillips, MD
Faculty Affairs – Polly Hofmann, PhD
Finance – J. Timothy Mashburn, MBA
Hospital Affairs – Lacey Smith, MD

Chairpersons
Chattanooga
Pediatrics – Alan Kohrt, MD
Knoxville
Obstetrics and Gynecology – Bobby Howard, MD
Radiology – J. Mark McKinney, MD
Memphis
Anatomy and Neurobiology – Matthew Ennis, PhD
Medicine – Guy Reed, MD
Family Medicine – David Maness, DO
Physiology – Gabor Tegyi, MD, PhD
Psychiatry – James Greene, MD
Psychiatry Co-chair – Kenneth Sakauye, MD
Radiology – Harris Cohen, MD (Initially Executive Vice Chair – Le Bonheur)

Directors/Division Chiefs
Maternal-Fetal Medicine – Giancarlo Mari, MD
GYN Specialties – Edward Stanford, MD
Pediatric Pulmonary – Dennis Stokes, MD
Pediatric Endocrine – Robert Ferry Jr., MD
Trauma Radiology – MED – Timothy Cramer, MD
Vascular Surgery MUH – Michael Rohrer, MD
Surgical Oncology – Mathew Ninan, MD
Colorectal Surgery – John Cromwell, MD
Burn Center – William Hickerson, MD
Cardiac Surgery MUH – Phillip Schoettle, MD

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Ennis Chairs Anatomy, Neurobiology

In June, Matthew Ennis, PhD, was appointed as the Simon R. Bruesch Endowed Professor and chairman for the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology.

Dr. Ennis is a five-year veteran of UTHSC, having joined the faculty of the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology as professor in 2003. Dr. Ennis is a systems neuroscientist whose research focuses on neural networks involved in olfaction, taste and pain regulation. Since his arrival at UTHSC, he has been continuously funded by multiple research grants and is currently the principal investigator and a co-principal investigator on grants funded by the NIH. Other members of Dr. Ennis’ research team are also independently funded by NIH research grants.

Dr. Ennis noted that it is an honor and privilege to step into a leadership role in a department that has consistently ranked in the top-tier of neurobiology departments nationally. The most recent NIH research grant rankings in 2005 placed the department in the 12th position nationally among U.S. medical school neuroscience departments.

Reed Named Chairman of Medicine

Guy L. Reed, MD, began as the Diggs Professor and chairman of the Department of Medicine in the College of Medicine in August.

“Dr. Reed was selected from a group of outstanding finalists. Without question, he was the clear consensus choice in the group of outstanding physician scientist leaders,” stated UTHSC Chancellor and Vice President for Health Affairs, Hershel P. Wall, MD. “Dr. Reed emerged as the best fit to lead our Department of Medicine.”

Dr. Reed previously served on the faculty at the Medical College of Georgia as the Kupperman Professor of Medicine, chief of Cardiovascular Medicine, and co-director of the Georgia Cardiovascular Center of Excellence. He also holds a prestigious Georgia Research Alliance Eminent Scholar Chair.

Dr. Reed received his medical degree and a master’s degree in mathematical statistics from Stanford University. After serving his residency as chief resident at Yale University, he trained in cardiology at the Massachusetts General Hospital where he joined the faculty at Harvard University. Recruited to the faculty of the Harvard Cardiovascular Biology Laboratory in the Department of Genetics and Complex Disease, he became adjunct professor of immunology and served as the director of the CV Biology Lab. He was on the cardiology staff at the Massachusetts General Hospital for more than 15 years before being recruited to Georgia.
Mari Leads Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Giancarlo Mari, MD, was appointed chief of the division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) and director of the Maternal-Fetal Institute in the UTHSC College of Medicine and the UT Medical Group, Inc. (UTMG). Dr. Mari has also accepted the role as professor and vice-chair of Ob/Gyn.

An internationally renowned physician who has pioneered therapies in maternal-fetal treatment, Dr. Mari received his medical degree from the University of Napoli in Italy. He completed his residency in Ob/Gyn, as well as a fellowship in MFM from Yale University. Dr. Mari is board certified in Ob/Gyn and MFM. He comes to Memphis from Wayne State University in Detroit where he served as professor of Ob/Gyn.

“The Mid-South region has some of the highest perinatal and infant mortalities in the United States. The mission is to change this,” Dr. Mari stated. “This is a challenge I wanted to take up. The goodwill I found in the doctors, administrators and staff of the different hospitals here, as well as from the elected officials in the state, encouraged me to believe the mission could be accomplished. I am happy and proud to be part of this effort,” he added.

Dilawari Assumes New Roles

Beginning in October, Raza Dilawari, MD, FACS, assumed new roles at UT Medical Group and Methodist University Hospital (MUH). He was named the associate chief medical officer for UTMG and as vice chairman for MUH in the Department of Surgery.

Dr. Dilawari currently serves as professor of surgery and associate director of the surgical training program at MUH. A regionally renowned general and oncologic surgeon, Dr. Dilawari has built a robust referral practice founded on patient and referring-physician service. He has also fostered a remarkable working relationship between the College of Medicine and the Methodist University Hospital.

Dr. Dilawari is certified by the American Board of Surgery and performed his oncologic surgery training at the University of Rochester, Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, N.Y., and Roswell Park Memorial Institute, Buffalo, N.Y.

Dr. Dilawari has been a key mentor and figure in the training and supervision of medical students and surgical residents on the College of Medicine campus in Memphis since 1976. He will remain as associate surgical program director for MUH.
New Faces

The University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine Office of the Dean in Knoxville named J. Mark McKinney, MD, chair of the Department of Radiology. He began this new role at the Graduate School of Medicine in September.

“The Graduate School of Medicine is very pleased to bring Dr. McKinney on board. He has a unique set of skills, including a clinical background in interventional radiology, that will be a great asset to the graduate school,” said James J. Neutens, PhD, dean, UT Graduate School of Medicine.

One of Dr. McKinney’s goals in this position is to implement an interventional radiology program, which will provide to patients minimally invasive procedures that require imaging for guidance.

A native of Greeneville, Tenn., Dr. McKinney most previously worked with the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla., serving as chair of the Radiology Practice Team; assistant program director of the Radiology Residency program for the Department of Radiology; assistant professor of radiology for the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine; and section head of interventional radiology for the Department of Radiology.

Dr. McKinney earned his medical degree at Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, Calif., where he also completed his residency in diagnostic radiology and fellowship training in interventional radiology. He was appointed chief resident during his residency.

Howard Appointed OB/GYN Chair in Knoxville

Bobby Howard, MD, FACOG, has been named chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UT Graduate School of Medicine in Knoxville. Dr. Howard, an associate professor for the graduate school, commenced as chair on September 1.

“The Graduate School is very pleased that Dr. Howard will be serving as chair of obstetrics and gynecology,” said James J. Neutens, PhD, dean, UT Graduate School of Medicine. “He has specialized training in maternal-fetal medicine, which is high-risk pregnancy, and has a unique set of skills that will help the Graduate School of Medicine meet its mission of excellence in education, research and patient care.”

In addition to associate professor, Dr. Howard currently serves as division director of Maternal-Fetal Medicine and medical director of the Regional Perinatal Center at UT Medical Center.

“Each team member in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology is steadfastly committed to improving women’s health throughout East Tennessee,” Dr. Howard said. “I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve such a distinguished group of educators and health care providers as department chairman.”

Originally from Birmingham, Ala., Dr. Howard earned his medical degree at the University of Alabama School of Medicine in Birmingham, where he also completed his residency training in Ob/Gyn. He received his fellowship training in maternal-fetal medicine from Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Wash.
UT President Names New Knoxville Chancellor

UT President John Petersen has recommended Jimmy Cheek, PhD, as the new chancellor of UT Knoxville, and the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees voted unanimously in favor of the appointment at its board meeting in October.

Dr. Cheek is currently the senior vice president for agriculture and natural resources at the University of Florida.

“Dr. Cheek is an excellent choice and, we believe, the best fit for the university from among a superb field of candidates. The Knoxville campus is a top public research university with great potential to grow and advance its national profile,” Petersen said. “I’m recommending Dr. Cheek because he will ensure this momentum continues in a way that positively impacts our students, faculty and staff, and the state.”

Dr. Cheek said he looks forward to leading the Knoxville campus.

“I am delighted,” Dr. Cheek said, “to be chosen as chancellor of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. This is one of the best public institutions in America with many unique assets and a very bright academic future.”

Dr. Cheek is slated to begin serving as chancellor on February 1, 2009.

Appointed to the vice president post at Florida in 2005, his current role involves managing the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences which includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the School of Natural Resources and the Environment, the School of Forest Resources and Conservation, elements of the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, 13 Research and Education Centers throughout Florida and the Florida Cooperative Extension Service.

Prior to that, Dr. Cheek was dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences for five years and assistant dean for seven years.

Dr. Cheek, 62, earned a doctorate in interdisciplinary education from Texas A&M University. A native of Texas, he and his wife, Ileen, have two adult children and one granddaughter.

Jan Simek, PhD, has been serving as interim chancellor since January 2008. He will continue to lead the campus until the transition in February.

UTHSC New Dentistry Dean Announced

In September, Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, announced the appointment of Timothy L. Hottel, DDS, MS, MBA, as dean for the UT College of Dentistry. Dr. Hottel arrived in January to assume his new responsibilities in Memphis.

“We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Hottel to our Health Science Center community,” stated Chancellor Wall. “Through his 35-year academic career, he has developed the wide variety of skills required to succeed as our dentistry dean. Dr. Hottel’s experience collaborating with administration, faculty and staff, as well as his background with financial and student issues, will be of tremendous benefit both to his college and to our institution as a whole.” Dr. Hottel was appointed after a seven-month national search.

Previously, Dr. Hottel held several senior-level positions at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) in Fort Lauderdale-Davie, Fla. He had been with NSU since 1998 and had accepted roles with increasing responsibility over the years. Dr. Hottel served NSU as executive associate dean and chief financial officer, associate dean for academic and financial affairs, division chief for primary care, professor in the Department of Prosthodontics, and interim chair, Department of Cariology and Restorative Dentistry.

Dr. Hottel spent his early years as a resident of Arkansas and Tennessee before his family moved to Cleveland, Ohio. He earned a bachelor’s in chemistry from Cleveland State University, plus a DDS and a master’s in biomedical engineering both from Case Western Reserve University. He holds an MBA from California Coast University in Santa Ana, Calif., and is currently involved in graduate studies leading to a PhD. Dr. Hottel and his wife Linda have four children and two grandchildren.
Access to quality health care can seem like a luxury to residents of underserved communities. Difficulties accessing services can be frustrating, to say the least and life threatening at their worst. Fortunately, there is an organization that connects physicians with underserved patients in rural and economically challenged urban sections of Tennessee — the Rural Partnership.

An effort that began in 2006, the Rural Partnership matches resident physicians with practice opportunities in Tennessee’s rural and inner-city areas. Public and private sector collaboration, financial incentives and other strategies are used to meet this challenge. The organization is funded by TennCare, the state’s health insurance plan.

During the past year, the program placed 11 physicians in underserved rural and urban areas. After recently completing a two-year statewide assessment, the Rural Partnership identified 372 vacant positions for doctors in Tennessee. It is essential to recruit residents to fill this large number of vacancies.

“We have 104 physicians registered with the Partnership,” said the Rural Partnership board secretary, Mary Ann Watson, assistant dean for Graduate Medical Education at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. The Partnership’s recruitment strategies are developed by a statewide board and by Cindy Siler, its chief executive officer.

“One of the most effective marketing tools we have is word of mouth,” said Siler. “We meet personally with community groups, residents and seasoned physicians throughout Tennessee. In resident presentations, we provide photos of places where opportunities exist to give an idea of the variety out there. Also, we discuss the types of practice environments available such as community health centers, critical access hospitals, health departments and private practices. We direct residents to our Web site for program details, and our new interactive Web site was launched in November.”

Financial Incentives for Residents

The Partnership offers a stipend to recruit residents for the matching process. It is available to residents enrolled at one of four medical schools in Tennessee: the University of Tennessee...
Health Science Center, Meharry Medical College, East Tennessee State University and Vanderbilt University.

Stipend recipients amass $25,000 per year for three to four years of residency in exchange for practicing full time in an underserved area for each year the income is awarded. This incentive is provided in addition to the resident’s compensation.

The Rural Partnership has awarded eight stipends since 2006. Marc Courts, MD, is one recipient who practices as a pediatrician in Loudon, Tenn. “The stipend got me started, but I receive far more in continual smiles and gratitude as I serve children previously deemed underserved,” said Dr. Courts. “I get rock solid support from the Loudon community and from my partners who are as sharp and dedicated as any physicians I’ve ever met. I also benefit from the Rural Partnership team that still calls or stops by to see if I need anything.”

Since the state of Tennessee offers fewer stipends compared to other states, the organization anticipates the need for more financial incentives. To respond, the Partnership is working with the Tennessee Department of Health on two related initiatives. First, they plan to reactivate the Loan Repayment Program, which provides funds that help physicians in underserved areas repay student loans. Second, they are attempting to reinstate Practice Incentive Grants, funds that help rural communities support the establishment of a medical practice.

**Physician Placements Across the State**

To date, the Rural Partnership has placed doctors in rural or urban underserved areas in 11 Tennessee counties: McNairy, Greene, Marshall, Meigs, Hawkins, Loudon, Monroe, Dickson, Fayette, Davidson and Shelby. The residents of these communities convey a sense of relief at having a new physician and show appreciation for the Partnership. Citizens of other remote areas requesting placements are waiting patiently. They understand it takes time to recruit physicians. Nonetheless, they have patients with needs that are not adequately met and view the Partnership as a meaningful effort to combat the problem.

“Every community we’ve visited has been pleased with our approach and accommodating of the minimal participation fee,” said Siler. Community providers pay an annual fee of $500 to obtain locator services. Once a physician is secured, providers pay a placement fee between $500 and $8,000 based on community size and/or the size of the medical entity.

**A Statewide Board Leads the Way**

To guide the Rural Partnership’s objectives, its 14-member board is divided into task groups that encourage recruitment and retention goals. Each team focuses on one of four concerns: curriculum development, recruitment and retention, specialty involvement and stipend revision.

Comprised of government and private industry leaders from across the state, the board is committed to increasing the health care workforce in all underserved areas of Tennessee, matching a diverse pool of providers with a diverse field of opportunities.

**Rural Partnership Challenges**

The greatest challenge facing the Rural Partnership is the growing physician shortage, a phenomenon in Tennessee and the entire nation. Since 2006, the Partnership has visited 60 Tennessee communities that requests providers and the group will continue this strategy for responding to community needs for physicians.

Additionally, gathering updated community statistics can be demanding. The State Department of Health identifies federally designated areas that
are experiencing physician shortages or a lack of health care resources. To supplement this data, the Partnership obtains its own demographic information directly from these communities. The Partnership conducted a two-year Health Care Professional Demand Assessment to determine specific practice openings. According to Siler, “Until we had the results of this assessment, we did not have a way to identify true practice opportunities throughout the state. We want to visit all possible sites to gather adequate data and ensure the ‘perfect placement.’ ”

Building relationships with individual residents is a complex but fun program task. Residents are bombarded with invitations about positions across the nation. So, to remind those who perform residency outside of Tennessee about the Rural Partnership’s opportunities, residents are entered into a tracking system and communicated with periodically. Contact is made to determine if they want to practice in an underserved area of Tennessee, the home state of their medical education, once residency is completed.

As community visits increase, so do requests for other types of health care providers. Many areas desire advanced practice nurses, mental health professionals and dentists. Currently, the Partnership’s TennCare funding is designated for the placement of primary care physicians only. As concerns for other types of medical placements grow, the organization may consider addressing these needs.

**Long-term Program Goals**

Continued visits to communities and meetings with residents are elements of the Partnership’s plan for ongoing success. By providing residents exposure to underserved areas through presentations and photos, these communities will gain doctors they may have otherwise been unable to secure. In addition to physician placements, the program may one day find itself securing health practitioners such as nurses and dentists.

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**The Rural Partnership**

Connecting Physicians With Communities

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The Partnership is committed to expanding its close working relationships with stakeholders to improve placement services. Current strong stakeholder relationships include TennCare, the Tennessee Department of Health, the Tennessee Hospital Association, the Tennessee Primary Care Association, and the Rural Health Association of Tennessee.

To retain physicians, the organization will promote tangible, as well as intangible incentives for practicing in rural or inner-city communities. Wonderful experiences await those who want to meet the challenge — a lower cost of living, community appreciation, and cultural diversity can provide a valuable lifestyle for physicians who choose to practice in underserved areas.

To learn more about the Rural Partnership, visit www.theruralpartnership.com.
Health Care Heroes Lauded

On September 4, the Memphis Business Journal held its 10th Annual Health Care Heroes Awards dinner to honor those who bring healing and hope to those who need it most. Three hundred members of the health care community, along with their families and friends, attended the awards dinner sponsored by BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee and First Tennessee.

“The finalists tonight are the best of the best,” said Bruce Hopkins, executive vice president and market manager, Private Client Financial Services & Trust Divisions, First Tennessee.

This year the judges selected six UTHSC nominees as Health Care Heroes finalists in five categories. Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, was selected for Administrative Excellence. Martin Croce, MD, professor of general surgery, and chief of the Division of Trauma and Critical Care, was a finalist for Health Care Provider – Physician. Mona Wicks, PhD, associate dean and professor, College of Nursing (Research Programs), won the Health Care Provider – Non-Physician Award. Owen Phillips, MD, professor of obstetrics and gynecology and associate dean of student affairs, was a finalist for Community Outreach. Brian Kelly, PhD, assistant professor, biomedical engineering and imaging, and Denis DiAngelo, PhD, professor, biomedical engineering and imaging, were both finalists for Health Care Innovations for their development of the spine robot.

In accepting the Administrative Excellence Award, Chancellor Wall stated: “I have been so blessed to have been able to serve the Health Science Center for almost 50 years. “Jean, my bride of 43 years, who has always encouraged me to accept additional administrative responsibilities which I neither sought nor to which I aspired, deserves the greater credit, and I will always be grateful to her and to my colleagues who have been so supportive.

“Thank you for recognizing me and my colleagues at the Health Science Center for the important role it has played in this community and state for almost a century.”

Chancellor Wall also took a moment to congratulate the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award winner, Emmett Bell, MD. The well-known pediatrician took the first residency slot at Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center when the hospital opened in 1952.

Dr. Croce earned the Health Care Provider – Physician Award. Attributing his success to many of the health care professionals with whom he has worked, Dr. Croce observed, “I am very appreciative of the faculty, medical students and surgical residents of Tennessee. I’m also appreciative of the trauma center which opened in 1983 and was started by Tim Fabian, a previously awarded Health Care Hero who is incredibly well respected. I am thankful to be part of a place [The MED] filled with people who care about patients no matter the social strata.”

John DeVincenzo, MD, the physician who won in the Health Care Innovations category, was nominated by Le Bonheur where he is director of virology and molecular diagnostics laboratories. He is also a professor in the UTHSC Departments of Pediatrics and Molecular Sciences. He is considered an international pioneer in developing antivirals to combat Respiratory Syncytial Virus, an infection responsible for the most infant hospitalizations.
Faculty Achievements

Sam Dagogo-Jack, MD, FRCP, professor of medicine and program director, Division of Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, has been selected by the American College of Endocrinology (ACE) to receive the 2008 Distinction in Clinical Endocrinology. The award was presented at the ACE’s annual meeting in May.

Dominic M. Desiderio, PhD, professor in the Department of Neurology and Department of Molecular Sciences, presented the lecture “Nitroproteomics of Human Pituitary” at the Functional Proteomics Center at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology in Seoul in June. He also presented the lecture at the Korea Basic Science Institute in Ochang and at the Department of Life Sciences at Pohang University of Science and Technology.

James D. Eason, MD, professor of surgery at UTHSC and chief of transplantation at the Methodist University Transplant Institute, has been invited and accepted to join the editorial board of the American Journal of Transplantation as an associate editor.

Zheng Fan, PhD, professor in the Department of Physiology, recently had a study published in Circulation: Arrhythmia and Electrophysiology, which garnered the recognition of “Editor’s Picks.”

The paper, titled “Molecular and Clinical Characterization of a Novel SCN5A Mutation Associated With Atrioventricular Block and Dilated Cardiomyopathy,” ran in June with an accompanying editorial article, titled “Dilated Cardiomyopathy due to Sodium Channel Dysfunction: What Is the Connection?”

James Greene, MD, professor and chair of psychiatry, and David Maness, DO, professor and chair of family medicine, have developed a first-of-its-kind continuing medical education course, which garnered attention as a feature story in Psychiatry News, the newspaper of the American Psychiatric Association.

The article, printed in the July 18 edition and titled “Teamwork Helps Family Medicine, Psychiatry Break Down Walls,” explains the collaborative training efforts of these departments.

Barrett Haik, MD, FACS, chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, was elected president of the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology. Selected from among leaders of all academic ophthalmologic departments in the United States and Canada, Dr. Haik will serve in the position for one year.

Wahid T. Hanna, MD, professor, Department of Medicine; chief, Division of Hematology/Oncology, UT Graduate School of Medicine; and director, Hemophilia Center, UT Medical Center, was honored with an award from the World Federation of Hemophilia, Egyptian Society of Hemophilia and the Egyptian Ministry of Health for his outstanding contributions to the field of hemophilia.

Since Dr. Hanna’s involvement in a collaborative program between the UT Medical Center and Egypt began in 1995, several new hemophilia treatment centers have been created in Egypt.

Alessandro Iannaccone, MD, MS, associate professor, Department of Ophthalmology, led research which helped conclude that Duane’s Retraction Syndrome is linked to mutations in gene coding (alpha2-chimaerin).

Collaborating with researchers from Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Harvard Medical School, and Children’s Hospital

Faculty continued on Page 22
Boston, Dr. Iannaccone and his team provided pertinent research data for a Science magazine paper titled, “Human CHN1 Mutations Hyperactivate a2-chimaerin and Cause Duane’s Retraction Syndrome.” As a result, he is recognized as a major contributor to the Science paper.

Andy Kang, MD, professor in the College of Medicine, was recognized by his alma mater with the highest honor in an honorary degree that the college can bestow – the Doctor of Science. He was recognized by Wofford College at its commencement exercises in May.

Robert Klesges, PhD, professor of preventive medicine, was recently honored by his alma mater, the University of Wyoming College of Arts and Sciences, as an outstanding alum. Dr. Klesges is recognized as a leading authority in two areas of research, tobacco use and weight control.

Veronica Mallett, MD, professor and chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, was recently recognized by Black Enterprise magazine in its survey of 140 leading physicians in the United States.

David M. Mirvis, MD, professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine, was featured in the July 2 issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association for his commentary, “Population Health and Economic Development in the United States.” The commentary was written with David E. Bloom, PhD, professor at Harvard School of Public Health.

Randall J. Nelson, PhD, professor of anatomy and neurobiology, has been designated the honorary title of National Associate from the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies in honor of his public service in anatomy and neurobiology. The NRC is recognized for its work in advising government and the public on matters of science, technology and health.

Sarwat Salim, MD, FACS, assistant professor of ophthalmology, has been selected as one of “50 Women Who Make a Difference” in 2008. In its 12th year, this distinguished award, which is presented by Memphis Woman magazine, is given to women in the Memphis area for the difference they are making in the community. Dr. Salim’s profile appeared in the July/August 2008 issue of the magazine.

Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD, Harriet Van Vleet Professor and chair of the Department of Physiology at UTHSC, presented one of two keynote addresses at the 50th anniversary meeting of the Japanese Lipid Biochemical Society in Tokushima, Japan.

W. Bedford Waters, MD, FACS, professor, Division of Urology and Urologic Oncology, Department of Surgery, UT Graduate School of Medicine, was named president of the American Board of Urology.

The UT Graduate School of Medicine Office of the Dean in Knoxville presented the following faculty physicians with awards.

Alfred Beasley, MD, director, Graduate Medical and Dental Education: Spirit Award

Oscar H. Grandas, MD, assistant professor, Department of Surgery: Excellence and Leadership in Clinical Research Award

Daphne Norwood, MD, assistant professor, Department of Medicine: Excellence in Teaching Award

Michael Fields, MD, clinical assistant professor, Department of Surgery: Excellence in Teaching for Volunteer Faculty Award
Dr. Wall Speaks to Memphis Rotary
Regarding Best-Kept Secret: UTHSC

Tax day, April 15, is momentous for more than one reason. It’s also the day President Lincoln died and the day the Titanic sank. About 125 Memphis business leaders, entrepreneurs and notables will remember April 15 because of the Memphis Rotary meeting and luncheon on the stage of the Cannon Center. The featured guest, Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, spoke to the group of community leaders about all that the Health Science Center is in the city, state, region and global community. His remarks can be found at: http://www.utmem.edu/record/pdfs/2008/record_may-jun08.pdf

Dennis D. Black, MD, Appointed Buckman Chair

Dennis D. Black, MD, has been appointed to the John Dustin Buckman Endowed Professorship in Pediatrics.

Since 1998, Dr. Black, a professor of pediatrics, has been the scientific director of the Children’s Foundation Research Center (CFRC) located at Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center of Memphis. The CFRC represents a unique partnership between Le Bonheur, the Children’s Foundation of Memphis and UTHSC. The professorship is earmarked to support the CFRC’s scientific director.

Dr. Black is also a professor of physiology and associate director of the Clinical and Translational Science Institute at UTHSC. As vice president for research at Le Bonheur, he is also a member of the hospital’s Senior Leadership Council.

The CFRC was created in 1995 to promote the health and well-being of children in the Memphis area. Under Dr. Black’s direction since 1998, the CFRC has grown from a dozen investigators to 30 full-time scientists whose discoveries are focused on children’s health and well-being. Supported by more than 75 research technicians, postdoctoral fellows, research nurses and study coordinators, CFRC pediatric investigators are breaking ground in all three types of research: basic, clinical and translational (bench to bedside to community).

His lab was the first to prove that an important role of a protein called apolipoprotein A-IV is to enhance fat absorption in a newborn’s small intestine. In his 19th year of National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding, Dr. Black’s ultimate goal is to understand what type of fat is best handled by the apo A-IV system and how the apo A-IV gene is regulated in a newborn’s intestine. This may lead to therapeutic strategies for up-regulating the gene to improve fat absorption in sick infants and possibly down-regulating the gene in older children and adults who are obese.

Dr. Black has been nationally recognized throughout his career. He has served on the Executive Councils of the Society for Pediatric Research and the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition. He has been listed in Woodward/White’s Best Doctors in America from 1998 through the present. In 2005, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Mid-South Chapter of the American Liver Foundation. He has served on numerous NIH review panels and is a member of the editorial board of the American Journal of Physiology: Gastrointestinal and Liver Physiology. Most recently, he was appointed as merit professor of Beijing Children’s Hospital and Capital Medical University, Beijing, China.

A 1978 graduate of UTHSC, Dr. Black completed his pediatric residency and a fellowship in pediatric gastroenterology and hepatology at Le Bonheur.
Hamilton Eye Institute Receives Final Touches

**HEI Sign Unveiled**

In August, the UT Health Science Center celebrated the unveiling of the completed Hamilton Eye Institute.

After a three-phase project starting in 2004, The Hamilton Eye Institute unveiled the signage of its 60,000-square-foot facility located at 930 Madison Avenue. The unveiling marked the final touch to the Hamilton Eye Institute and was a celebration honoring Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, and his wife Barbara Howell Hamilton for their lifelong work and dedication in the field of ophthalmology.

The HEI space includes the Glaucoma Center, a surgery center, a general adult eye care clinic, subspecialty care clinics, a pediatric eye clinic, a wet lab for surgical instruction, a distance learning suite, and an ambulatory surgery center.

Medical libraries and resource centers for physicians and patients are also housed in the building. The third floor contains an educational facility with a 99-seat auditorium.

**Images in Bronze at HEI**

Most people will never have the chance to see their own faces reflected without benefit of a mirror, but Ralph and Barbara Hamilton have. Ralph Hamilton, MD, professor of ophthalmology, and his wife Barbara Howell Hamilton served as the honored guests during the August 28 reception to celebrate their remarkable lives and acknowledge their incredible generosity. The event was held in the lobby of the 930 Madison building, adjacent to the boardroom of the Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI).

During the celebration, about 75 special guests gathered to watch the unveiling of a handcrafted bronze bust of the two HEI benefactors. The marvelously detailed likeness of the two special donors was commissioned by the World Cataract Foundation.

“Much of the success of Hamilton Eye Institute is because of the vision and support of Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Hamilton,” stated UTHSC Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD. “Thanks to Dr. Jerre Freeman, a commemorative bust will now grace the atrium of the Hamilton Eye Institute as a reminder of the generosity of the Hamilton family.”

Chris Fleming, MD, professor of ophthalmology, told the crowd of friends and supporters, “We’re all standing in a place created by great leaders. The Hamiltons have lived life with tenacity and perseverance, and we’re here today because they managed to make their vision a reality.”

Dr. Wall stated, “These two giants in ophthalmology, Dr. Hamilton and Dr. Freeman, have done and are doing much for the UT Health Science Center and for the citizens of Memphis.”

Images continued on Page 25
Jerre M. Freeman, MD, a lifelong Memphian and UTHSC College of Medicine graduate, founded the World Cataract Foundation in 1978 (It was initially called the World Lens Project). The goal was to create a high-quality, but low-cost intraocular lens to serve those in developing countries who were blinded by cataracts. While the lens is now available in most areas of the world, challenges remain in supplying the health care teams and equipment needed to perform this life-changing, vision restoring surgery.

“For the last 30 years, our foundation has partnered with UT to provide eye surgery to the most disadvantaged people around the world that you could possibly imagine,” noted Dr. Freeman. “It is through the generous gifts of the Hamiltons that both the World Cataract Foundation and the Hamilton Eye Institute have been able to perform this work for so many.

“Hamilton Eye Institute is evidence of Ralph and Barbara’s crowning gift,” Dr. Freeman said. “That’s why we chose to place this bust here.”

Rick Mendius sculpted the bust using the lost wax technique in bronze. Mendius is a well-known medical illustrator from Collierville, Tenn.

The Hamilton Eye Institute is the only university eye center providing advanced vision care within a 200-mile radius of Memphis. HEI’s universal outreach services through Telehealth and its advances in research and clinical care have become models for other ophthalmologists to follow worldwide.

Little ‘Le Builders’ Assist in Le Bonheur Groundbreaking

On February 14, 2008, the theme for Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center’s groundbreaking was Valentine’s Day red. The crowd watched as children — current and former patients — shoveled a heart-shaped mound with small, red, heart-shaped shovels. A larger red heart of Le Bonheur employees encircled the audience. Guests wearing red commemorative scarves adorned with the words “Le Builder” joined with choirs from local schools to sing rousing versions of “You Raise Me Up” and “We are the World.”

The large turnout included local commissioners and Mayor Willie W. Herenton. The crowd also enjoyed video greetings from Tennessee senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker, as well as words from UT Health Science Center Chancellor Hershel “Pat” Wall, MD. The chancellor expressed his appreciation to Le Bonheur as a valued partner as the practice site for many of UTHSC’s faculty and residents. In addition, Dr. Wall said, “How fitting on Valentine’s Day, a day to honor the great hearts who lovingly devoted their lives and careers to this institution over the past 55 years. With this new planned edifice and its superb leadership, Le Bonheur will move, not from good to great but from great to greater.”

In closing, everyone joined musician Eddie Harrison in a moving chorus of “Oh Happy Day.”

The 610,000-square-foot, 12-story hospital will be the result of the largest public campaign in Memphis ever, as well as the largest investment by a nonprofit organization in a free-standing facility in Shelby County.

To date more than $87.1 million has been raised toward the $100 million fundraising goal.

The $327 million hospital has been designed around needs of children and their families. When it opens in 2010, the new Le Bonheur will double its current space for patient care, research and teaching.
Owen Phillips, MD, professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Rout Center for Women and Newborns and associate dean of student affairs, offered words of wisdom at the College of Medicine convocation in May. The graduating medical students heard Dr. Phillips speak about the importance of words — the spoken, written and read word. About the spoken word she emphasized that “words, once uttered are out there, can hurt and can’t be taken back.” She likened negative spoken words to a pillow full of feathers scattered on the wind from a high hilltop. Once released, it is impossible to collect the feathers or the negative words again.

She explained that this generation of physicians will be a transitional generation in many ways, advising them to be mindful of the transition from writing in ink on patients’ charts to describing your patients’ symptoms using drop-down boxes in their electronic medical record. “Please be mindful not to turn a patient encounter into a setting with a tone more similar to the checkout clerk in the sales department as she asks for your telephone number, area code first. Patients need you to face them when taking a history.

Mary Ellen Groshart (left) and Amy Kung (right) celebrate their matches. Mary Ellen was selected as a surgery resident at UT Chattanooga, while Amy received an Ob/Gyn residency at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Match Day ‘08

Each March graduating medical students gather to open envelopes and find out where they will complete their next level of training. The National Residents Matching Program “matches” graduating medical students to residency programs throughout the country.

Of the UTHSC seniors who participated this year, 35 percent will complete residencies in the UT system, 3 percent will be in state, but not at UT, and 61 percent will train out of state. Forty-six percent of all the graduates will pursue primary care specialties.

2008 Graduate Statistics

Areas of Specialty

- Primary Care 46%
- Surgery 21%
- Other 26%
- 1-yr progs. 7%

Where They’re Headed

- PGY1 positions outside Tenn. 62%
- PGY1 positions in UT system 34%
- PGY1 in Tenn. but not at UT 4%

Phillips Offers Words of Wisdom at Convocation

Owen Phillips, MD, professor of obstetrics and gynecology at the Rout Center for Women and Newborns and associate dean of student affairs, offered words of wisdom at the College of Medicine convocation in May.

The graduating medical students heard Dr. Phillips speak about the importance of words — the spoken, written and read word. About the spoken word she emphasized that “words, once uttered are out there, can hurt and can’t be taken back.” She likened negative spoken words to a pillow full of feathers scattered on the wind from a high hilltop. Once released, it is impossible to collect the feathers or the negative words again.

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look at them in the eye and listen to them without a distraction ... Be mindful of missing the written words. Reflect on what this means to your patients' care. Work to improve the new system for the benefit of your patients.”

About the read word, Dr. Phillips advised, “All human truth can be found in fiction and as doctors, we are the ultimate humanists. Find time to read.” Suggesting that they read the words of Albert Einstein, she added, “You have things in common and things not in common with Einstein. The differences you may think are more obvious. You say, ‘I am no genius.’ But remember what Albert Schweitzer said – ‘Genius is 20 percent inspiration and 80 percent hard work.’ You may as medical students and soon-to-be residents be closer to genius than you think.”

Dr. Phillips closed her remarks saying: “I want you to be similar to Einstein ... think of those things he believed and wrote for you to read: Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value. The important thing is not to stop questioning. Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile.”

She paused, noting, “The one I expect you to remember forever – There are two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle. Class of 2008: Live as if everything is a miracle.”

**Graduation May 2008**

On May 30, the UT Health Science Center graduated 535 students, of which 150 were from the College of Medicine. The spring graduation ceremony was held at the FedEx Forum. UTHSC Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, presided over the ceremony, while UT Executive Vice President David E. Millhorn, PhD, conferred the degrees.

Robert Waller, MD, who led Mayo Clinic for 11 years, offered the commencement address to the graduates and their families. Dr. Waller is an ophthalmologist and alumnus of the UT College of Medicine. He joined Mayo Clinic as a consultant in 1970 and was named to the Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees in 1978, serving in several leadership positions, including president and chief executive officer from 1988 through 1998.
White Coat Speaker Shares Feelings About Medicine

On August 15, the College of Medicine white coat ceremony hosted a distinguished speaker: Frederick Rivara, MD, MPH, Children’s Hospital Guild Endowed Chair of Pediatrics, University of Washington.

Dr. Rivara spoke to the medical students about his 35 years as a physician and about the import of the charter of medical professionalism developed six years ago by leaders in medicine in the United States and Europe.

The three fundamental principles of the charter are: the primacy of patient welfare, the principle of patient autonomy and the principle of social justice.

He told the students, “One of my hopes is that you will maintain your idealism, your sense of altruism, and your commitment to public service as you move forward in medical school, to residency and beyond ... Medicine is not a job, it is a profession, a calling to a way of life that includes altruism to its core. It is to constantly guard against seeing patients as different from ourselves.”

He explained, “As physicians, we must realize that all patients share the same basic needs, regardless of income or the type of insurance card they do or don’t carry in their wallets. The profession calls us to realize that altruism comes in the everyday gestures of doing your small share to care for those less fortunate.”

For a copy of remarks by Dr. Rivara, contact Communications and Marketing at (901) 448-5544.
SGAEC/Faculty Senate Awards 2008

Teaching and service awards were presented at the 10th Annual Student Government Association Executive Council (SGAEC) and Faculty Senate Awards Banquet.

Excellence in Teaching Awards

Medicine
Gregg Mitchell, MD
Vicki M. Park, PhD

Imhotep Award
Cheryl R. Scheid, PhD

UTAA Outstanding Teacher
Deborah Nelson, MD - Medicine

Phil C. Webb Award
Curtis “C. J.” Holmes

Presidential Citation
David Nutting, PhD
Richard Nollan, MLS
Cheryl Scheid, PhD

Presented for performing a specific act or acts not implicit in their assigned duties which contribute to an exceptional degree to accomplishing the mission, goals or purposes of the Faculty Senate.

Meritorious Achievement
Matthew Ennis, PhD
Richard Smith, PhD

Presented for exceptionally noteworthy performance which has contributed significantly to the accomplishment of the mission, goals or purposes of the Faculty Senate.

Certificate of Appreciation
Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD
George Cates, trustee
Karl Schledwitz, trustee
Rhynette Hurd, PhD, JD, trustee

Awarded in appreciation of significant contributions to the Faculty Senate.

2008 Caduceus Ball Teaching Awards

Class of 2011
Outstanding First-Year Course Director ............... Melburn R. Park, PhD
Outstanding First-Year Lecturer ......................... Polly A. Hofmann, PhD

Class of 2010
Outstanding Second-Year Course Director ..... William Pulsinelli, MD, PhD
Outstanding Second-Year Lecturer ..................... Muthiah Muthiah, MD

Class of 2009 and Class of 2008
Outstanding Attending .................................... Joseph T. Santoso, MD
Outstanding Clerkship Lecturer ......................... James B. Lewis Jr., MD
Outstanding Clinical Director .......................... Thomas D. Elmore, MD

Golden Apple Award Recipients

Jack A. Wilson, PhD
Clive A. Slaughter, PhD
Donald B. Thomason, PhD
J. Patrick Ryan, PhD
William A. Pulsinelli, MD, PhD
Charles R. Handorf, MD
Barry M. Wall, MD
Trevor W. Sweatman, PhD
Owen P. Phillips, MD
H. Gail Beeman, MD
I. Keith Ellis, MD
Gregg Mitchell, MD
Kellie W. Wilding, MD
Christopher W. Sands, MD
James B. Lewis Jr., MD
Peter Hin-Chang Law, MD

Daniel L. Menkes, MD
Michael C. Levin, MD
Kate Van Poppel, MD
Joseph T. Santoso, MD
Todd Tillmanns, MD
B. Todd Chappell, MD
Russell W. Chesney, MD
Hershel P. Wall, MD
Karen A. Dillon, PhD
Robert C. Koers, PhD
Renate H. Rosenthal, PhD
Luca Trautman, MD
F. Elizabeth Pritchard, MD
Louis J. Magnotti, MD
Drew H. Reynolds, MD
What began as a discussion of endemic goiter during a lecture on the thyroid later resulted in three UT College of Medicine students traveling to Haiti and uncovering a problem previously unknown to the World Health Organization. Now these students are working to improve the health of an entire community.

It was a class taught by Lester VanMiddlesworth, PhD, MD, a distinguished professor in the Department of Physiology, that first piqued the interest of Elliott Tenpenny, M4; Philip Sutherland, M2; and Caleb Trent, MD, a 2008 UT COM graduate and now an intern in emergency medicine at Washington University. Dr. VanMiddlesworth discussed how iodine deficiency in certain regions could cause enlarged thyroids of entire populations or endemic goiter. He also shared the remarkable effect supplements can have on endemic iodine deficiency. Untreated it is currently the No. 1 cause of preventable mental retardation worldwide.

An invitation from a community leader in Haiti prompted these medical students to put into practice the things they had discussed in the classroom. The resulting excursion would lead Tenpenny to say, “This has been the most important thing that I have been involved in while in medical school.”

Organizing the trip themselves, the UTHSC medical students set off to investigate the health of a community in the mountainous area northwest of Jacmel, Haiti. They made their first weeklong trip in March 2008 and returned for two more weeks at the end of July.

“Working on this project has made me think about public health issues and international efforts to eradicate treatable and preventable diseases,” said Sutherland. “I have a growing realization of the importance of this project and the way it is impacting my development both as an individual and as a future clinician.”

Before leaving, the students sought the advice of Dr. VanMiddlesworth; he encouraged the medical students that it would be an important problem to investigate and would require collecting specimens from the Haitians they would meet. Obtaining 100 small, clean tubes in which to collect samples, these UT COM students set off on their journey.

To Dr. VanMiddlesworth’s surprise, the students returned with pictures of people with goiters and 88 urine samples transported back to the United States on ice for preservation. The samples were then sent to Boston University Hospital to be analyzed by Dr. Lewis Braverman’s lab.

The transportation of the samples was not as easy as it may sound. Traveling over incredibly rugged terrain, it was a full day’s journey by truck, mule and foot to get to the people they would screen. As guests of community leaders, the med students were driven by truck from Port-au-Prince to Jacmel on a road that turned into a gravel track in a dry riverbed. When the road in the riverbed ended, the medical students still had a three-hour walk to the village destination.

Thankfully, locals met the medical students to help them across the mountain. Supplies were loaded onto mules and carried on people’s heads. “When we arrived there, many of the children would run from us, scared,” Tenpenny remembered. “The leaders in
the community then told us that we were the first white people to have ever traveled to that area, and the first the children had ever seen.”

Even with this hesitation from some of the younger children, the students agree that the reception was incredibly warm, and they felt very welcomed.

In order to set up a makeshift clinic, the local church was used, with sheets curtaining off small areas so that the patients would have some degree of privacy. Patients were interviewed individually, a brief history was obtained, and if the person wanted to participate in the research, they were photographed and donated urine samples.

When it was time to leave, community members again loaded the mules and themselves and set off for a three-hour hike down the mountain – this time in the pouring rain.

The provided samples showed that moderate to severe iodine deficiency and endemic goiter existed among this community. “I am proud to have been able to expose a previously unknown group of people suffering from a major disease to the worldwide medical community,” said Tenpenny. Explaining further, he said, “This was previously unknown to the World Health Organization as only three studies have been done to investigate iodine deficiency in Haiti in the past 20 years.”

These students are continuing to make this problem known to the health care community through presentations and publication. They have shared their research findings at the 79th annual meeting of the American Thyroid Association and are also submitting a paper for publication. Information was also shared at endocrinology and physiology grand rounds seminars on the UTHSC campus in Memphis.

“Our students are highly motivated to use their learning to improve communities,” praised Dr. VanMiddlesworth. “Their efforts have resulted in increased understanding and major contributions to the people involved.”

But, these UT College of Medicine students and graduate have not stopped with papers and presentations.

After receiving full support from the government of Haiti, Sutherland, Tenpenny and Dr. Trent are beginning treatment for the at-risk individuals in this population and are developing a long-term plan for the area.

“Identifying the problem is not enough to satisfy me,” stated Sutherland. “I find myself challenged to work towards a solution that will positively impact the health of this community (in Haiti).”

“I am quite excited when I think about the potential benefits for this community if a treatment plan can be successfully implemented,” he continued.

“I think there is much work to be done, and I am excited to see where this takes us and UT in the future as we combat this problem,” added Tenpenny.

Help our students continue their critical work in Haiti! Their next trip is scheduled for March 2009. Please send your check made out to UTHSC noting the Special Education Fund – Endocrinology on the memo line, and send to Development Department, 62 S. Dunlap, Ste. 500, Memphis, 38163. A donation of iodized oil has been received; more is needed, as well as funds for air and ground travel. Your gift of $50, $100 or more will make a difference! Thank you.

Locals helped carry the medical supplies to the village.

Community members gather outside the church.

A large crowd waits inside the church to be seen by the “doctors.”
A growing internship program has drafted the city’s brightest students and is training them to become future scientists. This summer, InMotion Musculoskeletal Institute recruited four college students through their summer internship program. A second-year student at the UTHSC College of Medicine was one of the four students who participated in the summer internship. Seth Cooper, a Nashville native, teamed with UT-Campbell Clinic orthopedic surgeon Robert Heck Jr., MD, on a research project involving bone metastasis. Cooper is training to become an orthopedic surgeon with a focus on sports medicine.

“My experience at InMotion opened my eyes to the role that clinical research plays on clinical practice,” Cooper said. “It’s going to influence the rest of my career as a physician,” he added.

The program offers students the opportunity to learn research methods through actual projects. The InMotion Musculoskeletal Institute is an independent, private, not-for-profit orthopedic research laboratory that “translates ideas into treatment.” InMotion’s mission is to reduce disability and to improve mobility for the musculoskeletal patient through translational research.

InMotion’s vision is to make Memphis the center of research, innovation, and entrepreneurship for discoveries to treat musculoskeletal disease and injury. “We don’t have many clinical scientists, so we either find talent that we can bring to Memphis, or we grow it in Memphis,” said Chris Przybyszewski, director of grants and communications.

InMotion interns are given major roles in research projects. At the end of the internship, students are equipped to co-author a peer-reviewed article. They chose to copy one of the most successful programs in the world at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Cooper also received a stipend paid through a grant from SunTrust Bank to complete his summer internship at InMotion.
From the President

I’m positive that a great time was had by everyone who attended the 2008 Alumni Weekend this past September. As time goes by, we often realize that life is too short and our friends are truly special. What better opportunity could there be than Alumni Weekend for seeing old friends and classmates?

There were 64 Golden Grads attending from the class of 1958, and they had a wonderful time reminiscing with stories about their teachers, the dean and themselves “back in the good old days.” There were several other large and small class reunions, including a 53rd and 60th reunion.

Mark October 15 and 16 on your calendars now and join us for the 2009 College of Medicine Alumni Weekend.

At our Alumni Council meeting we were updated on the vision for the future of UTHSC and the plan to get us there. Dr. Pat Wall continues to do a great job as chancellor, and he is working with UT President John Petersen and building partnerships with community leaders to improve funding for our priorities.

In recognition of his unwavering commitment and dedication to UTHSC and the College of Medicine, Dr. Joe Johnson was made an honorary member of the UT College of Medicine Alumni Council. Dr. Joe received a plaque commemorating this special occasion.

Executive Dean Steve Schwab, MD, reported that the College of Medicine recently received full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) through 2014. In addition, all the chair vacancies within the college have been filled and almost 100 faculty members have been added.

Benton Pitkanen, a third-year medical student, talked about the Peri Ankh Endowment Fund. The fund, supported by students and alumni, was established in 2004 to help ensure that future medical students are equipped with the tools and resources necessary for a quality medical school experience and education.

I hope that everyone shares my desire to give something back to the school that gave us so much. Linda Garceau-Luis, vice chancellor for development and alumni affairs, and her staff explained the various ways we can all give back — bequests, gift annuities, and annual gifts. Retooled systemwide, the Annual Giving program provides donors with an opportunity to give unrestricted funds to the College of Medicine.

If each of us commits to making a gift to the College of Medicine, we could help ensure that our college gains the national prominence it truly deserves.

I’m looking forward to seeing you next October at the Peabody Hotel for Alumni Weekend.

James W. Morris, MD, COM ’72
President, UT College of Medicine Alumni Council
Golden Grad Classes –
March ’58

Front row, left to right: Wilborn Strode, Taylor Rayburn, Dawson Durrett, Frank Jones, Avron Slutsky, John Batson, Michael Silverman, and Joe Wallace

Back row, left to right: John Maddox, Cornell Faquin, Robert Ford, Charles Lane, Clyde Kyle, George Day, Robert Ryan, Gerry Jones, Webster Riggs, and Virgil Crosby

June ’58

Front row, left to right: Bill Stout, Roger Hiatt, Bill Meyers, Thomas Carter, William Trotter, Nancy Flowers, Jack Yates, and R. B. Robertson

Back row, left to right: Lou Adams, Walt Barret, Lynn Blake, A. Julien Ahler, Dennis Pappas, Ace Rolen, Robert Zumstein, Malcolm Jones, Frank Haws, J. Leighton Pettis, Lawrence Wruble, and Jere Robertson
Alumni Weekend 2008

September ’58

Front row, left to right: Thomas Currey, Fred Killeffer, Don Gaines, and William Buchner

Back row, left to right: B.J. Smith, Frank Russell, William Slonecker, Thomas Wood, and Patrick Pierce

December ’58

Front row, left to right: Harry Blumenfeld, Stanley Dressler, Carter Miller, Luther Young, James Terry, Charles Nicholson, and Charles York

Back row, left to right: Robert Herndon, Sydney Gibbs, Troy Bohannon, James Burkhart, J.W. Atwood, St. Elmo Newton, Jerry Crook, Danny Hays, and George Burkle
I recently had the great opportunity of visiting with Dr. and Mrs. Joe Shavin at their home in Shreveport, La. One might not find that particularly remarkable about a development officer making a visit — after all, it’s my job to travel and visit our alumni wherever they may be. In this particular case, however, the visit was with a graduate who may be one of our earliest living grads. Dr. Shavin, you see, graduated from the UTHSC College of Medicine in 1930!

His medical practice spanned the majority of the 20th century, witnessing two world wars, the Great Depression, presidential and national leader assassinations, the civil rights movement, and the domestic unrest surrounding the Vietnam conflict. If that doesn’t give one a philosophical and historical perspective — I’m not certain what would.

His story really begins in the Ukraine a few years before his birth. His father, a farmer who had served in the Russian military, decided to try his luck at improving his family’s lot by coming to America to join several of his siblings who had already immigrated. Russia in the late 19th and early 20th centuries was a dangerous place for Jewish families. Since the assassination of Czar Alexander II in 1881, (blamed erroneously on the Jews), the incidence of violence against the Jews, or “pogroms,” as they were called, was steadily increasing.

Dr. Shavin’s father came to Ellis Island, as so many of our forebears did, and from there to the Catskills where he tried his hand at dairy farming. He didn’t enjoy much success, and moved on to the St. Louis area where several of his siblings and his maternal aunt were located. By this time, Dr. Shavin’s father had sent for his mother and sister, and they settled in Statesville, Mo. In a few short years, Dr. Shavin was born. He is fairly certain that he was born on April 24, 1907. (He is relatively sure because he has a cousin who was born three days earlier, and they always celebrated his cousin’s birthday on April 21. Record keeping with home births was not what it is today, certainly).

His parents’ little business in Statesville was not thriving, so when his paternal uncles moved to Chattanooga and were doing well, the rest of the family followed. Dr. Joe lived in East Tennessee from the time he was 2 or 3 until he left for the UTHSC College of Medicine in 1926 after doing a couple of years of college at the University of Chattanooga. He remembers his time at the College of Medicine fondly. There he met several other Jewish medical students with whom he maintained lifelong friendships. He worked on holidays and in the summer at Chandler’s Ladies Shoe Store back in Chattanooga to help pay for his education, and lived sparely in a boarding house at the edge of campus on Manassas that is now long gone.

Looking back on 101 years:
Dr. Joseph Shavin – Class of 1930

by Gloria Callihan

“We take great pride in our level of intelligence, our accumulated knowledge — the [discoveries] of science. We are fortunate to live in a period of time when so many great and wonderful advances have been bequeathed to us by so many bright minds. Yet in a review of history, our pride may be somewhat blunted, looking backward. Even from the beginning of time there has been ample evidence of great wisdom, and clear and progressive thinking in the past. Starting with Adam. He saw what was happening to Eve. The serpent was persuasive and cunning. So he [Adam] says, “Let’s get the hell out of here.” [the garden of Eden], “before you get into some trouble.” So they did! So we find the beginning of “marriage,” and they begat a generation of offspring. There’s the beginning of wisdom!”

— Personal Philosophy, Dr. Joseph Shavin
A graduate in the Class of 1930 was met with a rather stern reality one short year into the Great Depression. Dr. Shavin finally found an internship in Sacramento, Calif., and became very interested in San Francisco during that time. He tried to get a rotation doing pathology there, but was unable to do so. He spent a year with relatives in Flushing, N.Y., doing whatever he could, riding an ambulance and working in the emergency room. He applied again the next year at San Francisco General, and was given a year to study pathology. Dr. Shavin really enjoyed the work and the insight it gave him into the human body.

It was now the depths of the depression, and even physicians had a difficult time finding work. He was able to secure a position, finally, with the Civilian Conservation Corps (the CCC) — the first emergency relief organization formed by Franklin Roosevelt, with a two-fold purpose of putting young men to work and conserving the nation’s natural resources. He had to join the service to work for the CCC, and went into the Army as a first lieutenant in the Medical Corps with a mission to take care of the men in the CCC camps. He was stationed at Barksdale Field in Louisiana, and has remained in the area since then. He worked for the CCC for three years, and went into the private practice of internal medicine in Shreveport.

As Dr. Joe tells it, he met a girl, married her, and they went on to adopt three children, one of whom is a psychologist in his beloved San Francisco. He became a widower in the early 1980s. He concentrated on both general medicine and allergy, and retired when he was in his 60s. He has a restless spirit, however, and continued to practice at local hospitals until he retired again in his 80s. You might not be surprised to learn that he again became bored with retirement and went to work doing physicals for the Military Entrance Processing Station for about three more years!

In 1987, his life took a romantic turn when he married his wife, Louise. She says that he was her doctor from the time she was 16! She was a widow as well, and they have been married now for 21 years.

Dr. Shavin divulged one of his secrets of longevity. He has one egg for breakfast every morning which he fixes in a non-stick pan as one would a “fried” egg, but with no butter or grease. He then pours egg-substitute around it to make a larger omelet-type dish. When the yolk is totally set, he pops it onto a plate. He then meticulously dissects the yolk out and discards it. All protein — no cholesterol. He had a revelation while I was there having breakfast with him, and he was carving out the center of the omelet. He says he has an engineer’s mind — just like his brother. Nature or nurture? I don’t know, but if his culinary habit turns one into a centenarian — I may have to try it!

We attended Rosh Hashanah services together that morning, (He drove!), and it was an inspiration to see the respect his community has for him and his spirituality as he intoned the ancient Hebrew prayers while I listened in wonder. He is a “mash giach” in his congregation — a term for spiritual leader or guide — and I would not hesitate to describe him as such.

His brother the engineer moved to Israel with his family years ago, where he died. Dr. Shavin is now the family patriarch and tries to visit the Holy Land annually. He celebrated his 100th birthday in Jerusalem, surrounded by his loving family.

Dr. Joe prepared for my visit by hand-writing a personal philosophy statement which I typed while he dictated from his notes. He is reflecting on the century of his life and events that shaped him and the world. I included a quotation from it at the beginning of this piece, and I’ll finish it in his own words:

“So what’s the answer? Are we wiser or smarter than our forebears? For one, I am optimistic, as I look at the picture of this world. Some would say, it is flattening, as Tom Friedman* says. We’re becoming unified in common purpose toward survival. I’ll look for a better future, a better world, which I may never see, but hopefully will come, and I will leave it at peace with myself, and hopefully, others will see the future optimistically as I do.”

— Personal Philosophy, Dr. Joseph Shavin

*[Author of “The World is Flat” and “Hot, Flat, and Crowded,” both of which Dr. Shavin has read and highly recommends]
McAdams Retires After 29 Years in Alumni Affairs

Barbara McAdams has very capably led the alumni office and alumni staff at UTHSC for more than 29 years. On June 30, Barbara retired, and the university lost a very dedicated employee as well as a passionate supporter of alumni programming at UTHSC.

She advanced UTHSC’s alumni affairs office operations and helped build a strong college-oriented alumni program. Barbara’s work, dedication and leadership on behalf of the University of Tennessee is appreciated.

Moving forward, the search for a dynamic, energetic person to lead the alumni operations will begin immediately. The Office of Development and Alumni Affairs’ plan is to work with UTHSC campus leadership to coordinate this search and to keep alumni informed of the progress.

During the interim, while the search is being conducted, Lofton Stuart, executive director of the UT Alumni Association and special assistant to the president, and Linda Garceau-Luis, vice chancellor of the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, have asked Kris Phillips, a veteran director in the systemwide alumni office, to come to Memphis three days a week to work with other alumni staff members.

He will assist in evaluating UTHSC’s alumni office operations, assure continued forward movement, and support the many wonderful programs on behalf of alumni. Kris brings 11 years of advancement experience to this new role, having served in various alumni leadership roles at both UT and his alma mater, Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn.

It is an exciting time to be involved with the University of Tennessee. This institution has embarked upon the largest fundraising campaign in UT’s history — The Campaign for Tennessee.

As the Office of Alumni Affairs diligently works with both alumni and development staff toward the university’s goal of $1 billion, it will continue to provide staffing for alumni activities, as well as seek new ways to be of service to the alumni and the university.

Alumni Association Names Nelson Outstanding Teacher

The UT Alumni Association dubbed Deborah Nelson, MD, associate professor of pediatrics, as an “Outstanding Teacher,” at the 10th Annual Student Government Association Executive Council and Faculty Senate Awards Banquet last spring.

Medical students selected her for the award. Dr. Nelson, a 1990 graduate of the College of Medicine, is certified with the American Board of Pediatrics. She completed a residency in pediatrics at UT, Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and the Regional Medical Center at Memphis.

Serving a dual role on staff at Le Bonheur and educator at UT, Dr. Nelson has received numerous awards from both organizations. She has also been named on the Best Doctors in America® list from 2001 to 2008.

Andrea Franks, PharmD, was also selected as an outstanding teacher, while Waletha Wasson, DDS, MPA, MS, claimed the public service award.

Reunion Giving

The Office of Development and Alumni Affairs has initiated a new reunion giving program. Classes who celebrate reunion years during Alumni Weekend have the opportunity to raise money as a class and dedicate it to a specific area at the UT Health Science Center.

The College of Medicine set the bar high with the inaugural class reunion gift tallying more than $250,000! Congratulations to the classes of 1958, ’63, ’68, ’73, ’78, ’83, ’88, ’93, and ’98!
**College of Medicine Alumni Council Officers 2008 - 2010**

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Alpharetta

**Kentucky**
NANCY FLOWERS, M.D. ’58
Somerset

**Mississippi**
JULIE T. HICKS, M.D. ’82
Tupelo

**North Carolina**
(vacant)

**South Carolina**
(vacant)

**Texas**
RANALD S. WEBER, M.D. ’74
Houston

**Virginia**
THOMAS (TREY) CARR, M.D. ’04
Charlottesville

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Portland, OR

**Region II**
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**Region III**
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UT Medical Center-Knoxville
MARK GAYLORD, M.D. ’78
Knoxville, TN
UT Medical Center-Chattanooga
L. DIANE ALLEN, M.D. ’81
Lookout Mountain, GA

**Tennessee At-Large Positions**
LEONARD HINES, M.D. ’64
Memphis
GARY W. JERKINS, M.D. ’77
Nashville
ROBERT KAPLAN, M.D. ’73
Memphis
RONALD H. KIRKLAND, M.D. ’77
Jackson
BARNETT SCOTT, M.D. ’59
Jackson
RODNEY WOLF, M.D. ’61
Memphis

**Out-of-State At-Large Positions**
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JOHN CRESNESHAW, M.D. ’61
Hot Springs, AR
STEPHEN H. FALWELL, M.D. ’70
Carbondale, CO
ROBERT HOWE, M.D. ’57
Gardendale, AL
CHENG W. TAO, M.D. ’99
Huntsville, AL

**Emeritus**
A. MITCHELL BURFORD Jr., M.D. ’57
Florence, AL
LARRY P. ELLIOTT, M.D. ’57
Isle of Palms, SC
ALBERT M. HAND, M.D. ’42
Shreveport, LA
EVELYN B. OGLE, M.D. ’47
Memphis, TN
LEROY SHERRILL, M.D. ’52
Chattanooga, TN (deceased)

Chancellor
HERSHEL P. WALL, M.D.
Executive Dean of the College of Medicine
STEVE SCHWAB, M.D.
Vice Chancellor, Development and Alumni Affairs
LINDA GARCEAU-LUIS
Assistant Vice Chancellor of Development
GLORIA GREINER-CALLIHAN, J.D.
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Planned Giving
BETHANY GOOLSBY, J.D.
Executive Director of Development, COM
KELLY BROWN-MORRIS
(Acting) Assistant Vice Chancellor of Alumni Affairs
KARIN EGGERT
Directors of Alumni Affairs
CHANDRA TUGGLE
College of Medicine Recognizes Excellence with 2008 Outstanding Alumni Awards

Significant medical strides have been made locally, nationally and worldwide as the direct result of UT Health Science Center College of Medicine graduates. Annually, the COM honors four alumni, recognized by the executive committee of its alumni council, as having made distinguished contributions to the health care industry. This year’s Outstanding Alumni Awards were presented during Alumni Weekend at a luncheon ceremony on September 26.


Robert Demos, MD

Robert Demos, MD, Class of 1944, devoted his working life to obstetrics and gynecology. In 1947, he began serving Army hospitals and delivered numerous low-weight babies that went on to live full lives. His work included delivering the smallest infant ever born in an Army hospital (1 pound, 13 ounces). That infant grew up to become a physician. Dr. Demos’ focus on ensuring the safety of his patients led him to win the second-highest non-combat award in the Army, “The Commendation Ribbon for Meritorious Achievement.”

With a career spanning 50 years of practice, Dr. Demos delivered more than 10,000 babies and never lost a mother. He served as chief of obstetrics and gynecology at hospitals in both Tennessee and Georgia. Additionally, he made a unique treatment discovery, Estratest and Estratest HS, to reduce menopausal symptoms in middle-aged women. Currently, these medications are among the most-prescribed estrogen replacement therapies in the world, providing more energy for menopausal women.

Richard Grossman, MD

Richard Grossman earned his MD in 1957. In 1972, he founded the Grossman Burn Center at Sherman Oaks Hospital in Sherman Oaks, Calif. His goal was to provide the community with the highest level of burn care possible. Under his leadership, the facility grew from a two-bed unit to a 30-bed center with a multidisciplinary burn team administering comprehensive care to more than 300 patients each year.

The Grossman Burn Center evolved to include an outpatient department and same-day surgery center to provide specialized care to patients not requiring hospitalization. From Korea, China, India, Europe, Saudi Arabia and the African continent, patients are flown to the Grossman Burn Center for its excellence in acute burn care and reconstructive surgery.

A California resident since 1964, Dr. Grossman also practices plastic and reconstructive surgery privately. He has authored or co-authored more than 30 medical journal articles and has contributed to six textbooks.

Robert Kerlan, MD

Robert Kerlan, MD, a 1969 College of Medicine graduate, spent time early in his career with Memphis Medical Specialists, a local multidisciplinary medical practice group. While there, he was warmly referred to as “Dr. Bob,” a reflection of his deep compassion in patient interactions.

Dr. Kerlan’s peers later elected him to the presidency of Saint Francis Hospital, Memphis, and to the presidency of the Saint Francis Hospital Independent Practice Association. He is active with
the UTHSC College of Medicine Alumni Council and in recruitment for the UTHSC Stollerman Endowed Professorship in Medicine. Dr. Kerlan has served as a director of Memphis Medical Society and has completed one term of office as its president.

Committed to the physician community regionally, Dr. Kerlan holds several leadership roles with physician-related entities such as the State Volunteer Mutual Insurance Company, the Tennessee Medical Association, and the Board of Directors of Q-Source, Tennessee’s quality improvement organization for the delivery of health care services.

Randal Weber, MD

Randal Weber, MD, an alumnus of the class of 1976, is an internationally recognized surgeon specializing in head and neck injury. He serves in two capacities at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston — he is the Huber L. and Olive Stringer Distinguished Professor of Cancer Research, and chairman of the Department of Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Weber is involved in the oversight of several training fellowships and has been a lecturer and visiting professor at many institutions. He has presented more than 130 lectures and panel discussions, and is past president of the Society of University Otolaryngologists (Head and Neck Surgeons), the American Radium Society, and the American Head and Neck Society. He was appointed director of the American Board of Otolaryngology in 2007 and has published two books, 40 book chapters, and more than 200 manuscripts and articles. For 13 years, Dr. Weber was editor of Head and Neck: Journal for the Sciences and Specialties of the Head and Neck. He currently serves on the editorial boards of several publications including: Journal of Clinical Oncology, American Journal of Rhinology, Head & Neck, and Clinical Medicine: Ear Nose and Throat.

Dr. Weber was recently appointed to the UTHSC College of Medicine Alumni Council.

Johnson Named Honorary Member of Alumni Council

In recognition of his unwavering commitment and dedication to UTHSC and the College of Medicine, Dr. Joe Johnson was made an honorary member of the UT College of Medicine Alumni Council. Dr. Joe received a plaque commemorating this special occasion.

Dr. Weber was recently appointed to the UTHSC College of Medicine Alumni Council.

At the UTHSC College of Medicine
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“Some men see things as they are and say why – I dream of things that never were and say why not.” It was George Bernard Shaw who coined the famous phrase. For UT College of Medicine graduate A. Richard Grossman, MD, (1957) the quote could be a personal motto.

It all started in 1958 at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. A catastrophic fire struck Our Lady of Angels parochial elementary school, killing 93 children and four nuns. Many of the victims were so badly burned it was impossible to determine if they were girls or boys. Young Dr. Grossman was the resident surgeon on duty in the emergency room.

That horrific experience had a profound and lasting impact on him. It caused him to not only question burn care at the time, but became the driving force behind his vision to create an innovative, world-class comprehensive burn treatment facility.

“I wanted to create a facility that would provide the best burn care available anywhere,” the 50-year graduate states, “but the goal was not just to ensure the survival of the patient. Our goal was to restore patients to as close to their pre-injury condition as possible — functionally, emotionally and cosmetically.”

After relocating to Los Angeles, Dr. Grossman took a significant step toward achieving his vision. In 1969, he convinced Sherman Oaks Community Hospital, located in a suburb of Los Angeles, to devote two beds exclusively to burn care. By 1978, the burn center at Sherman Oaks had expanded into a free-standing, 30-bed specialty unit.

A second Grossman Burn Center was opened at Western Medical Center in Santa Ana, Calif., in 1995. The seven-bed inpatient unit is an intensive care facility, equipped to handle the most severe burn cases, as well as those requiring intermediate care for less severe burns. The center also provides outpatient burn care, surgical suites and hydrotherapy, operating in tandem with the hospital, where patients receive all the services and support of a large medical system.

Today, the Grossman Burn Centers remain among the largest and most comprehensive burn centers in the world. The Grossman Burn Centers are plastic surgery based Centers of Medical Excellence specializing in the comprehensive treatment of burns — from acute care and reconstruction, to rehabilitation and psychological counseling.

Depending on the intensity of the burn and level of care required, the specialized team at the Grossman Burn Centers includes the physicians, nurses, therapists, and other health care professionals who are indelibly committed to healing burn patients and helping burn survivors. The GBC team collaborates with psychologists, child life therapists, dieticians, rehabilitation therapists, internists and respiratory therapists to complement the team of caregivers for patients.

“It’s the way we have always practiced,” Dr. Grossman observed. “Collaboration and teamwork with the nurses are a focal point of our operation. With the hospital and burn center located in one place, we can seamlessly coordinate our efforts and stay in constant contact about the patients’ needs.”

The centers are credited with many “world-firsts,” such as the use of high pressure oxygen chambers to speed the healing process and minimize scarring — a therapy that is now standard practice
at burn centers around the world.

In addition to such pioneering techniques developed by its founder, the GBC are further distinguished by the compassionate, nurturing, personalized and team-centered way they provide treatment.

“Our experience has shown the way we provide burn care results in less patient discomfort and speedier recoveries with better outcomes,” observed Peter Grossman, MD, who joined his father’s practice in 1995. Together father and son have collaborated with their team members to restore the lives of literally thousands of patients.

The Doctors Grossman and GBC were recently featured in a CNN news story about a badly burned 5-year-old Iraqi boy named Youssif. The boy had been grabbed by masked men outside his central Baghdad home, doused with gasoline and set on fire. The child underwent numerous painful procedures in Baghdad hospitals. Then Youssif and his family took their first airplane ride to Amman, Jordan, the first step on their journey to GBC. The family traveled 7,500 miles to Southern California so Youssif’s mother could get her son’s smile back. With scars on his chin, nose, hands, forehead and ear — not to mention swollen, hardened flesh around his mouth — the child faced eight to 10 operations by the middle of 2008.

Dr. Peter Grossman said they won’t be able make all the scars disappear, but he told CNN he was confident that “we can make him significantly better.”

Patients travel to the Grossman Burn Centers for their acute and reconstructive care from as far away as Korea, China, India, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Indonesia, the African continent, Europe, and now Iraq. Customized treatment, targeted family care and psychological support are central components of the GBC modus operandi.

Perhaps the highest endorsement of the level of care and results the GBC consistently achieves comes from the city of Los Angeles Fire Department and large utilities like Southern California Edison, and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. These groups have agreements stipulating that their employees are to receive treatment exclusively at Grossman Burn Centers for any burns they receive in the line of duty.

When asked to recall his days on the campus of the UT College of Medicine, the pioneering Dr. Grossman stated, “Working in Gaston was the most fun in the world, learning how to be a doctor. The camaraderie with fellow students has lasted through my whole life.” [Editor’s note: John Gaston Hospital was the city of Memphis charity hospital and a teaching hospital for the UT College of Medicine.]

With 50 years of accomplishment and service to others to his credit, the stately physician shows no signs of slowing his pace. He drives in to work at around 3:30 a.m. daily and begins a four-hour stint in surgery at 6 a.m. Afterward Dr. Grossman makes time to meet with various team members and then spends the afternoon seeing clinic patients.

His wife, Elizabeth, dogs, horses and a 60-acre farm about 30 miles away from the Sherman Oaks center consume a significant share of his leisure time, providing a much-needed respite from his intense work. But when asked what more he could want in light of all that he’s achieved, Dr. Grossman doesn’t hesitate: “I want someone to put me out of business … we are in an age of rapid technological advancement, and I hope that sometime in the near future a skin replacement substitute is developed that will negate the need for skin graft harvesting from the patient’s body. That’s what I really want.”

Until the time when disfiguring burns and their concomitant trauma are no longer commonplace, many will continue to be grateful that the eponymously named Grossman Burn Centers — and their inspired founder — remain on the job.
Alum Talks Up Tour

If you have seen intriguing ads, like the one below, publicizing alumni tours and wondered what the traveling is really like, John A. (Jack) Osborne, MD, (COM ’53), of Beaumont, Texas, is here to share his experience.

“I hunted in Kenya in the early ’70s and wanted to go back to Africa. This trip was a great opportunity,” said Dr. Osborne, who ventured with his wife, Billie, on the latest alumni tour to South Africa. “We’re both really glad we did it. Everyone on the trip was very nice, compatible and on time.”

The tour of South Africa was organized by the UT Alumni Association, and UTHSC Vice Chancellor of Development and Alumni Affairs Linda Garceau-Luis served as the representative on this trip.

Although the airplane ride was tiring, Dr. Osborne and his wife enjoyed the tour. Within a two-week period, the couple, along with other UT alums, saw such places as, Capetown; Livingstone, Zambia; Johannesburg; and the Thornybush Game Preserve.

In Capetown, the tour took in the city as well as the surroundings, including the wine country, the Cape of Good Hope, and Robben Island. The Livingstone stop provided scenes from Victoria Falls and Chobe National Park in Botswana.

The visit to Johannesburg brought city life and a tour of the urban area of Soweto, but the best part for Dr. Osborne was the Thornybush Game Preserve. Here he saw all of the big five [lions, elephants, rhinoceros, buffalo and leopards] at close range, plus innumerable other wildlife. “This was the highlight of the whole trip,” he said.

“We certainly would encourage others to take this trip. The reservations, scheduling and people management worked out well,” said Dr. Osborne. “All of the tour directors and guides were first class, and you will meet many very nice people.”
Class Notes

The University of Tennessee Alumni Association (UTAA) wants to hear from you! The Class Notes section is a great way to share news about your professional and personal accomplishments. It’s also a chance to reconnect with former classmates and good friends! Best of all, staying in touch is quick and easy.

Go to the UTAA Online Community Web site, sign in and click on the Class Notes tab. Staying connected couldn’t be easier. Visit http://alumni.tennessee.edu and click on the link “Get Connected!”

'50 John H. Kinser, MD, a Morristown family physician, is the recipient of the 2007 Spirit Award for Lifetime Achievement presented by Morris-Hamblen Healthcare Systems (MHHS). Dr. Kinser was recognized for more than 50 years of patient care in the region and his service to the hospital. A founding member of the Lakeway Medical Society, Dr. Kinser helped draft the original bylaws of the MHHS medical staff.

'59 George M. Stevens III, MD, Oak Ridge, Tenn., has retired and is spending some of his leisure time golfing.

'62 Roy C. (Doc) Ellis Jr., MD, Harrogate, Tenn., has been in family practice for 46 years and is still active, working five days a week. During these 46 years, he has been a member of both the American Medical Association and the Tennessee Medical Association. He is also active in the community, serving on the school board for 37 years and the 911 board for more than six years.

'74 William D. Crump, MD, is the author of a new book titled Encyclopedia of New Year’s Holidays Worldwide. Published by McFarland and Company, the book was scheduled for release in the spring/summer of 2008. Dr. Crump has also authored two editions of The Christmas Encyclopedia (McFarland, 2001 and 2006). He retired from the practice of medicine in 1995. in Jackson, Tenn. After graduating from UT, he completed his internship at Methodist University Hospital in Memphis and his residency in ophthalmology at the Medical College of Georgia. Dr. Hammond is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society and has served on medical mission trips to Chad, Africa, as well as to Haiti.

'77 Ronald H. Kirkland, MD, is the chair of the American Medical Group Association Board of Directors for 2008. Dr. Kirkland, a Jackson otolaryngologist, serves as president and chair of the Board of Directors for the Jackson Clinic Professional Association.

'79 Kenneth D. Steiner, MD, MBA, was named chief operating officer of the National Stem Cell Holding, Inc. in June. After establishing a private medical practice in 1983, Dr. Steiner served as a medical and business consultant to numerous Fortune 500 companies. During the past 20 years, he has developed a multi-specialty, interdisciplinary physician group in Woodbridge, N.J.

'91 Lee M. Carter, MD, Huntingdon, assumed the presidency of the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians for 2008. Board certified by the American Board of Family Practice, Dr. Carter is a former member of the TMA Board of Trustees and the IMPACT Board of Directors and has been active on numerous TMA committees.

Marshall Banks, MD, an internal medicine specialist with the Jackson Clinic, was awarded the William H. Graves Humanitarian Award in December 2007 at the 136th Founders’ Celebration of Mother Liberty Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Mother Liberty chooses recipients based on their life’s work, witness, ministry and contributions to society. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine.
Pioneer in Sickle Cell Research Passes On

UTHSC sends condolences to the family of Alfred Kraus, MD, pioneer and lifelong advocate of sickle cell research and the care of sickle cell patients. Dr. Kraus passed away in his home on July 22. For more than five decades, Dr. Kraus and his wife Lorraine M. Kraus, MD, were internationally known for their numerous contributions to sickle cell disease. The impact of their years of research deemed the University of Tennessee a highly acclaimed sickle cell research center.

Dr. Alfred Kraus was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1916. He immigrated to Chicago in 1938 where he trained at Michael-Reese Hospital in hematology and internal medicine. He and his family relocated to Memphis in 1950.

During this time he and L.W. Diggs, MD, began to study sickle cell anemia at the UT Health Science Center. He was instrumental in the National Institutes of Health granting UTHSC $1 million and in UT being named one of the 10 national sites for comprehensive research on sickle cell disease.

The Office of Development is accepting donations in the name of Dr. Kraus. All proceeds will be sent to the Diggs Sickle Cell Gift Fund. All Alfred Kraus tributes should be delivered to the Development Office, 62 South Dunlap, Suite 500, Memphis, TN 38163 – Attn: Records.

IN MEMORIAM

'36  Cyrus Johnson Jr., MD, 94, died December 9, 2007, at Hospice Ministries in Ridgeland, Miss. After medical school, he interned at the John Gaston Hospital in Memphis. He served from 1940 to 1945 in the U.S. Army Corps as a flight surgeon, reaching the rank of major. He spent two years, 1942 to 1944, overseas in the China-Burma-India Theater. Following a fellowship in urology at Ochsner Medical Foundation in New Orleans, he practiced urological surgery in Jackson, Miss., from September 1948 until retirement in 1974. For 58 years he was a devoted husband to his wife, Jean Chambless Johnson, who preceded him in death. He is survived by his daughter, son and their families.

'38  James Howard Smith, MD, 94, died September 6. Born in Murfreesboro, Tenn., he was a diplomat of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. He began serving in the Army Medical Corps in 1938, went back to civilian life after World War II and had a private practice in Memphis in the late 1940s and early 1950s. He re-entered the Army, retiring as a colonel in 1966. After 20 years in Denver, he and his wife Elizabeth moved into the Army Residence Community in San Antonio in 1987, and together founded the ARC’s library. He was preceded in death by his wife, a brother and sister. He is survived by his daughters, their husbands, and his grandson.

'39  Nathaniel White Kuykendall Jr., MD, 95, died December 29, 2007, in Nashville. Born in Beverly, West Virginia, he was married to the late Sara Williamson, and he is survived by three children, five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. A graduate of Wesleyan College and UT, Dr. Kuykendall did his residency work at the Methodist Hospital in Memphis. He served in the Army Medical Corps in World War II, then returned to Memphis where he was a general surgeon from 1945 until 1985 at the Methodist Hospital.

'40  John Stephenson Powers Jr., MD, 93, passed away on July 7. At the start of World War II, he enlisted in the Army Medical Corps and saw service in North Africa and Italy. After the war, Dr. Powers and Evelyn Barrett were married in 1945 and settled in Kingsport where he established a private medical group specializing in internal medicine and cardiology. Dr. Powers was among the first physicians introducing modern advances in cardiovascular medicine and cancer chemotherapy in the Kingsport area. He is survived by three sons, two daughters, five granddaughters, and two grandsons.

'42  Joseph Warren Kyle, MD, 90, died July 20 at Kirby Pines Manor. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eleanore W. Kyle, and survived by his three children, all of Memphis. He also leaves his five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Dr. Kyle served his country in France during World War II as an Army captain. He was a fellow in the American College of Physicians and a past associate professor of medicine at UT. Dr. Kyle was an early spokesman regarding the health hazards of tobacco, and he spent much time giving talks about tobacco’s health risks. He practiced
primarily at Baptist Memorial Hospital, served on many committees there, and retired after 50 years of practice.

John Thomas O’Brien Jr., MD, 95, longtime San Jose, Calif., resident, passed away on April 22. He was a beloved husband of 52 years to Rosemary Reilly O’Brien, who preceded him in death, and a loving father of eight children, grandfather of 15 and great-grandfather of nine. He attended Bellarmine, Santa Clara University, Stanford University and medical school at UT. He interned at Santa Clara County Hospital and served during World War II as an Army physician in Greece and Italy. Dr. O’Brien practiced as a physician and surgeon at San Jose Hospital, O’Connor Hospital, Valley Medical Center, and at Willow Glen Medical Center, which he opened in the late ’40s.

Homer R. Rich, MD, 90, Ogden, Utah, passed away May 18, 2007, while doing what he loved – working in his pottery studio. He grew up in Brigham City and attended the University of Utah, where he dated Carolyn Ryan, who he later married. They had six children. His wife passed away in 2003. Dr. Rich was a captain in the U.S. Army and served during World War II as a physician to German POWs. Dr. Rich started his pediatric practice in Ogden in 1948. He practiced for 51 years before retiring at the age of 83. In addition to his children, he is survived by 22 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Edwin Wesley Cocke Jr., MD, 89, Memphis, passed away August 22. Starting his practice in 1950, he served in the Army Medical Corps from January 1945 to December 1946. An otolaryngologist, Dr. Cocke, along with neurologist Dr. Jon Robertson, pioneered a procedure known as extended maxillotomy for removal of skull-based tumors, which was broadcast on the Discovery Channel. He was the only person to receive two presidential citations from the American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery. A clinical professor at UT, he continued to share his knowledge with students at the annual Edwin Cocke Symposium, which is still held in his honor. He is survived by his son.

James H. Hendrix Jr., MD, 88, died on October 20 in Nashville after a long illness. Dr. Hendrix served his internship at the Methodist Hospital in Memphis, just before entering the U.S. Army in 1944. The first plastic surgeon in Mississippi, Dr. Hendrix served as a professor of surgery and head of plastic surgery at the University of Mississippi Medical School, where he established the first plastic surgery residency in 1957. In 1972, he began serving as a professor of surgery and head of plastic surgery at UT in Memphis. He moved to Nashville in 1995 after retiring from practice in 1991. Preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Barbara Corcoran Hendrix, he is survived by three daughters, two grandsons, and a great-grandson.

Estle P. Muncy, MD, 89, passed away at his home in Jefferson City on December 20, 2007. After an internship at Knoxville General Hospital, he did residencies in cardiology and internal medicine at Methodist Hospital in Dallas and Tufts University in Boston. He served two and a half years in the U.S. Army during World War II, 22 months of which were spent in the Pacific Theater. He was in medical practice in Jefferson City for 40 years. He is survived by his wife, Jean Hayter Muncy, his sons, daughters and their families.

W. Price Stepp Sr., MD, 87, Memphis, died on February 9, 2008. He was born in Manchester, Tenn., and was a veteran of World War II with service in the Pacific Theater where he attained the rank of captain. He practiced pediatrics in Memphis for 36 years and helped found Pediatrics East. He retired from that firm in 1985. During his career he was a clinical professor of pediatrics at the UT College of Medicine. He is survived by his two children and four grandchildren.

Lorne E. Brown, MD, 89, died in his home in Loudon, Tenn., after a 10-year struggle with Alzheimer’s. After medical school, he joined the Army during World War II and served in Hawaii. He became a medical missionary in 1950 when the Southern Baptist Convention appointed him and his wife to serve as missionaries in the Middle East. As head of the Baptist Hospital in Ajloun, Jordan, until 1956, he became a beloved friend to the Arab people, and for his service, he was awarded the “Star of Jordan” by His Majesty King Hussein I. In 1958, Dr. Brown was transferred to East Africa where he spent the remainder of his career until he moved to Loudon in 1991. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Martha “Virginia” Brown, four daughters, 11 grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren.

James R. Flautt Jr., MD, 89, an anesthesiologist, died March 3 in Rochester, Minn., of natural causes. Dr. Flautt served in the Army and was assigned overseas in June 1945 to the 31st General Hospital in the Philippines as chief of anesthesia. Following his service, he was accepted as a resident in anesthesiaology at Mayo Clinic. Later in his career, Dr. Flautt became co-founder and co-owner of Surgecenter of Louisville. He pioneered what was the first regional free standing out-patient care center. He was preceded in death by his wife Louise, in 1985, and his brothers. In addition to his second wife, Agnes Osborn, he is survived by a daughter, three sons, four stepchildren, 19 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Bruce King Johnson, MD, 80, Birmingham, Ala., passed away at his home on February 10, 2008, after a valiant battle with a long illness. His devoted wife, Patricia Ashcraft Johnson, was at his side. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his sons, his daughter, and also Mrs. Johnson’s daughter. Dr. Johnson also leaves behind a legacy.
of 16 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Leila Newman Wright, who was the mother of his four children and who passed away in 1957, and by his second wife, Iris Dudley Thomas, who passed away in 1991. During his medical career, he joined the staff of the Birmingham Medical Group in 1959, where he practiced internal medicine until 1968 when he joined the Simon-Williamson Clinic as an internist. In December 1987, he retired from active patient care and assumed medical advisory duties for the administration of Baptist Medical Center Princeton, from which he retired in 1999.

James Marion Stem, MD, 86, the first practicing pediatrician in Clearwater, Fla., died May 22 in Inverness, Fla. Dr. Stem opened his pediatric practice in Clearwater in 1948. After Dr. Stem closed his Clearwater practice in 1979, he and his wife, Aline Mitchell Stem, traveled to the United Arab Emirates, where he served as the director of pediatrics for Tawam Hospital in Al Ain, UAE. Dr. Stem set up the first neonatal intensive care unit in that country. After the arrival of grandchildren, the Stems returned to Florida, and Dr. Stem accepted the position of medical director for Hernando County in Brooksville, Fla. He lived in Floral City, Fla., since 1984. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Aline Mitchell Stem, his children, eight grandchildren and two of his brothers.

Jeffreys Harrison. Survivors include wife, Elizabeth Reddy Harrison, four daughters, three sons, 12 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Roy Donathan “Don” Ivey, MD, 86, Crossville, Tenn., passed away on February 4, 2008, at Cumberland Medical Center. After graduation from medical school, Dr. Ivey began his residency at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis. In June 1946 he served in the United States Army Medical Corps. In 1951 he met with 21 other neurosurgeons in St. Louis and was one of the founders of the Congress of Neurological Surgery. He continued to practice surgery until he retired in 1993. Dr. Ivey is survived by his wife of 61 years, Betty Jean (Miles) Ivey, daughter, sons and two granddaughters.

Virgil D. Matthews Jr., MD, 89, longtime Muskogee, Okla., physician, died May 19. After graduating from UT, he served three years as a physician in the United States Army. He married the love of his life, Carolyn Herring, on June 10, 1944. Dr. Matthews worked as a family physician in private practice until 1994, delivering more than 8,000 babies during his career. Until recently, he assisted in operating the largest medical clinic for those that needed assistance at Muskogee County Health Department. Survivors include his wife, two sons and a daughter and their families, a daughter-in-law, seven grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, sisters and one of his sons.

Robert Munger O’Neal, MD, 85, died May 27 at his home in Stone County, Mississippi. Dr. O’Neal interned at Gorgas Hospital in the Canal Zone and returned to Memphis in 1947. He was a tuberculosis patient at Mississippi StateSanatorium in Magee, and after recovering, remained as a resident in chest disease until 1952. Dr. O’Neal had an academic career in pathology at Washington University in St. Louis, where he participated in early research on cholesterol and specialized in atherosclerosis. In 1961, he became chairman of the Department of Pathology at Baylor in Houston. Later, he was chairman at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, where he retired as professor emeritus in 1988. He is survived by his wife and three of his four children. He had four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Milton D. Deneke, MD, passed away on February 7, 2008, in Fort Smith, Ark. He received his BS from the University of Missouri and his medical degree from UT. He was a family practitioner in West Memphis, active in the Crittenden County Health Department and retired from the Department of Family Medicine at UTHSC. He was the former medical director of UTHSC University
Robert W. Jessee, MD, 84, Richmond, Va., died peacefully on October 25. Born in Cleveland, Va., he was preceded in death by his son, Robert W. Jessee Jr., and is survived by his wife of 63 years, Betty Counts Jessee; son, Allen W. Jessee and wife Vicki, of Richmond; and sister, Peggy Jessee Adams of Crestview, Fla. He served as a Naval physician before setting up practice in Southwestern Virginia, where he later joined the Virginia Department of Public Health. After transferring to Richmond in 1960 to become a regional health director, he joined the Medical College of Virginia, where he later retired from the Department of Preventive Medicine as professor emeritus.

Stephen Allen Pridgen, MD, 83, a retired surgeon, died February 2 of complications from Alzheimer’s disease. Dr. Pridgen was born in Greenwood, Miss. He attended Southwestern at Memphis and then UT. He was predeceased by his brother and three grandsons. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Sally Lundy Pridgen, three daughters, one son, a sister and her husband.

James T. Duncan Jr., MD, 84, died at Baptist Memorial Hospital Memphis following a recent illness. Preceded in death by his wife, Mary; brother, Eugene; and grandson, Duncan. He is survived by his son and daughter and their spouses, two brothers and sister, and grandchildren. An Army veteran of World War II, J.T. was retired from the practice of general surgery. He was a clinical associate professor in surgery at UT and in charge of the teaching program for surgical students at Baptist Memorial Hospital during that time. J.T. was also the plant physician for International Harvester and Sharp Manufacturing Co. A true gentleman, fine southern cook, lover of opera and poetry, J.T. will be missed for his devotion to family.

Marcus M. Marble Jr., MD, 80, Sun City West, Ariz., died Sept. 27, 2007. Dr. Marble formerly had a medical practice in Buckeye. Dr. Marble was born and raised in Memphis.
'53 Chalmer Chastain Jr., MD, 83, died at his residence in December 2007. He practiced medicine in Cleveland for 51 years, retiring two years ago. A graduate of Grove High School in Paris and UT in Memphis, he was the son of the late Elma Fitch Chastain and Chalmer Chastain Sr., Paris. He was the author of two novels, “The Revenge of Coil Collins” and “Coil Collins Returns.” He is survived by his wife, Margaret, two daughters and two sons.

Rufus E. Craven, MD

Oscar L. Dalton Jr., MD

Edward D. Snyder, MD, 77, Knoxville, formerly of Memphis and Sweetwater passed away April 12. Dr. Snyder was a member of St. Elizabeth’s Episcopal Church. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict. He enjoyed the outdoors, golfing and his work. Survivors include his wife of 33 years, Jean Snyder, daughters and their spouses, grandchildren, mother, sister and several nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

Thomas V. Stanley Jr., MD, 78, Memphis, passed away April 28 in Grapevine, Texas. A native Memphian, Dr. Stanley had been a staff member at Methodist University Hospital since 1961 and was recognized as one of the medical stalwarts who made Methodist what it is today. He has served as chairman of the Department of Surgery and as the medical director of the Surgical Training Program. He was preceded in death by his wife of 38 years, Emma Claire Stanley, and is survived by his children, step-daughter, and grandchildren.

'54 Terry P. Cruthirds, MD

Stanley B. Kaplan, MD, professor of rheumatology in the UT College of Medicine, passed away in May. In 2006, Dr. Kaplan was presented the Health Care Provider Physician Award at the annual Memphis Business Journal Health Care Heroes Awards because of his devotion to patients, many of whom travelled across the country to be treated for crippling arthritis. More than 95 percent of those patients rated their experience with him as “exceptional.” In 2008, he received the Tennessee Rheumatology Society’s very first President’s Award.

James A. Gwaltney Jr., MD, 75, died February 17, 2008, in the Illinois Veterans Home. Born in Osceola, Ark., he graduated in 1950 from Kentucky Military School as cadet major, the highest honor in the graduating class. He graduated from Vanderbilt in 1952 and then UT. Dr. Gwaltney served a rotating internship and general surgery residency in 1958 at the University of Chicago, an orthopaedic residency at the V. A. Hospital in St. Louis, and worked at the University of Missouri Children’s Orthopaedic Hospital. He married Jewel Smith in 1961 in St. Louis, and she survives. In 1973, the Gwaltneys moved to Quincy, Ill., and he joined Dr. Lucius Hollister in practice, and was then in private practice until 1996. Survivors also include three children, five grandchildren, and two sisters.

Floyd Edward Nicley, MD, 78, Bristol, Tenn., died June 4 at Bristol Regional Medical Center. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army from May 1957 to April 1959 with the 12th Engineering Battalion in Germany. Dr. Nicley practiced medicine at Bristol Memorial Hospital/Bristol Regional Medical Center from 1959 to 1999. He was a director at BMH from 1976 to 1979 and served as chief of staff in 1979. He was the physician for Electrolux for 30 years. He maintained a private practice in conventional and holistic medicine from 2004 until his recent illness. Survivors include his sons, brother, and grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Doris Griffin Nicley, and his second wife, Lavena Honaker Nicley.

Durward L. Harrison Jr., MD, 75, died August 4 at Grenada Lake Medical Center. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Grenada, Miss. Dr. Harrison practiced in Calhoun City, Miss., for seven years before he served his surgery residency at Harlan Appalachian Region Hospital in Kentucky. In 1969, he began practicing general surgery and family medicine in Grenada. He is survived by his wife, Ann Krahwinkel Harrison, two daughters and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son.

E. Ann Hallet Sylvester, MD, 88, Inverness, Fla., died February 20, 2008, at the Hospice Care Unit at Citrus Memorial Hospital in Inverness. She moved to Inverness in 1976 from Soddy Daisy, Tenn. Dr. Sylvester served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II. She served as a family doctor at the Soddy Daisy Clinic for 20 years and was on staff at the Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga, Tenn. Dr. Sylvester was a member of St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church in Inverness and the Inverness Golf and Country Club. Her enjoyment in life was to play golf. Her husband, William H. “Bud” Sylvester, preceded her in death April 23, 1987. Survivors include three nieces.

Joe Pat Anderson, MD, 79, beloved family physician, died February 25, 2008, surrounded by his family at Saint Francis Hospital Park
after a long battle with cancer. Born in Murray, Ky., he graduated from the UT College of Pharmacy, served in the Army during the Korean War and afterward graduated from UT’s College of Medicine. He practiced family medicine in Memphis for 48 years. During his career, he served as the president of the Memphis Medical Society, chief of staff at Saint Francis for seven years, and as president of the Tennessee Academy of Family Practice. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Dorothy Wilson Anderson, a sister, two sons, granddaughters and nieces.

Joseph Thomas Hamrick, MD, 74, passed away on August 8 in Houston, Texas, at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center after a courageous battle with cancer. Dr. Hamrick was an emeritus professor of the Tulane University School of Medicine and the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. During his 40-year career at Tulane, Dr. Hamrick served in a variety of capacities, including founding chairman of the Program in Community Medicine. He also founded and directed Tulane’s MD/MPH joint-degree program, the first program of its kind in the nation. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years, Nina S. Hamrick, their children and grandchildren and his brother.

Catherine “Cathy” Taylor, MD, 79, died at her home on October 26 after a long battle with cancer. Cathy was reared in East Tennessee. After an internship, she practiced medicine as a general practitioner in Harlan County, Ky., for two years. She returned to Memphis and completed a residency in pediatrics and then went back to Kentucky. In 1965, she moved to Chapel Hill, N.C., where she completed a psychiatry fellowship at the University of North Carolina. She then served on the faculty there for 27 years with joint appointments in the Departments of Psychiatry and Pediatrics. She is survived by a brother, sister-in-law, five nieces and nephews, 15 great-nieces and nephews and two great-great-nieces and one great-great-nephew.

Eugene E. Tibbs, MD, 73, died February 2, 2008, at his home with family present. Dr. Tibbs was born in Hushpuckena, Miss. He specialized in surgery and completed his residency at UT, where he was chief surgical resident. He returned to the Delta and practiced surgery and general medicine in Cleveland, Miss. He practiced medicine for 45 years before retiring. Dr. Tibbs enjoyed hunting, historical documentaries and political discourse. Survivors include his wife, Martha Jane Pullen Tibbs; his son, who is an attorney; his daughter, who is a physician; and five grandchildren.

Donald S. Greene, MD, 78, a neurologist who worked at several hospitals, died of Alzheimer’s disease – the disease he was an expert at treating – on March 25 at the Armenian Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Jamaica Plain. He lived in Boston, previously in Brookline. While studying medicine at UT, he worked odd jobs to finance school. One of those jobs was to use a Geiger counter to measure radiation levels in cow glands, working with noted researcher Dr. Lester VanMiddlesworth. Their work helped verify that the Soviet Union had detonated a nuclear bomb. Dr. Greene leaves his wife of 49 years, Bette (Evensky), a daughter, a son, one grandson and three granddaughters.

Joe Louis Luna, MD, 73, passed away March 16. Joe was a “country boy” and proud of it. He was “best all-round athlete” in Parsons High for two years and worked on the farm until he left to attend UT Knoxville. After medical school and six months of residency in orthopedics at the UT Hospital in Knoxville, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. After he returned, he joined Blount Orthopedics at East Tennessee Baptist Hospital where he practiced for 35 years. He leaves his wife of more than 50 years, Julia Anderson Luna, his sons, grandson, granddaughters, his sister, and many other family members and friends.

William Bruce Sanders, MD, 74, passed away October 11 at his home. He was married to Elsa Thames for more than 50 years. He interned at Nashville General and did his residency at St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville and Scott and White Hospital in Temple. He served as a flight surgeon in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1968. In 1967 and 1968, he was a flight surgeon with an assault helicopter company in Phuoc Vin and Phu Loi, Vietnam. He was awarded the Bronze Star with V and Oak Leaf Clusters, an Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and an Army Commendation Medal. Dr. Sanders came to Waco, Texas, in 1971 to continue his medical practice. He was a diplomate of the American Board of Ob/Gyn, and fellow of the American College of Ob/Gyn. Survivors include his wife, daughters, sons, and several grandchildren.

Martin R. Baker Jr., MD, 74, Knoxville, died August 15. Dr. Baker was a graduate of Woodberry Forest preparatory school, Vanderbilt University, and UT. He practiced orthopedic surgery at Fort Sanders Presbyterian Hospital for more than 30 years and, upon retirement, served as a medical consultant in the Knoxville community. He was a founding member of the Fort Loudon Yacht Club. Survivors include a sister and brother-in-law, children and their spouses, grandchildren, and nephews and nieces.

Robert L. Bowe, PhD, 83, died August 11 at his home in Henrico County, Va. Bob’s devoted wife of 51 years, Mary Ellen Bowe, was by his side. Bob attended Boston Latin School and graduated from Boston College where he received his BS and MS degrees in physiology. He earned his PhD in clinical physiology from UT. He taught pharmacology and pathophysiology at the then Medical College of South Carolina and 27 years at the Medical College of Virginia, retiring in 1991. Bob was an Army veteran, having served in World War II. In addition to his wife, Dr. Bowe is also survived by their four children.
Roy Lee Seals Jr., MD, 71, Knoxville, died November 18, 2007. He was a member of the Knoxville Academy of Medicine.

Bruce Edwin Walker, MD, 72, Knoxville, passed away at home on September 19 after an extended illness. Survivors include wife of 46 years, Thelma, sons, daughter, grandchildren, and sisters. Dr. Walker was a graduate of Fulton High School, UT Knoxville, and UT medical school. Professional accomplishments include chief of staff at UT Hospital, founding director of UT Women’s Center, and chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, UT Knoxville. He was the first person seen by tens of thousands and will be sorely missed by those he healed, and those he left behind.

Jimmy Franklin Webb, MD, 69, died May 21 at his residence. A champion for women’s health, Dr. Webb was a partner in the Woman’s Clinic from 1971 to 2004, he served as chief of staff of Jackson-Madison County General Hospital from 1992 to 1993. Dr. Webb was an avid golfer, loved his patients, his family and his many friends. He was a member of First United Methodist Church. Dr. Webb is survived by his wife Nelda Webb of Jackson, Tenn., one son, two daughters, two sisters, and nine grandchildren.

John E. Barnes, MD, 77, passed away February 3, 2008. John spent four years in the Navy during the Korean Conflict. After his service, he earned a bachelor’s in chemistry from Huntington College in Montgomery, Ala. Graduating from medical school at UT, he practiced in Wadley, Ala., before returning to Memphis for a surgical residency. In 1970, he moved his family to Orange, Texas, and practiced for 14 years before closing his office to practice industrial medicine. As the DuPont doctor, he moved to Charleston, W. Va., but later back to Texas, serving as medical superintendent for the Beaumont and Sabine River Works plants. Dr. Barnes took a medical retirement in 1994. He is survived by his wife, Lois Faulkner Barnes of Beaumont, a daughter and son and two grandsons, as well as a brother and sister.

Cecil Emerson Russell Jr., MD, 78, Knoxville, passed away July 14 at St. Mary’s Medical Center. He was a member of Arlington Baptist Church and taught the Disciples of Christ Sunday School Class. He had a private practice in Powell and served as a missionary doctor in several foreign countries. Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Joy and William Bush of Gainesville, Va.; son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Cathy Russell of Maryville; grandson Billy Bush of Gainesville, Va.; sister and brother-in-law, Paulette and Robert Monroe of Warner-Robins, Ga.; and aunt, Louise Chase of Marietta, Ga.

J. Robert Johnson, MD, 72, Madison, Ala., died in February. Born in Oxford, Miss., he enlisted in the Air Force after graduating from high school. In 1959, he began classes at Memphis State University and then went on to UT medical school. Dr. Johnson began his career as a family practitioner in Decatur in 1967 before moving his practice to Madison in 1975. There, he owned and operated Occupational Health Center until he retired in 2006. Survivors include his daughter, son, three sisters, two brothers and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one son.

Hubert (Hugh) Wesley Ratliff Jr., MD, 68, Plano, Texas, passed away unexpectedly in October of a massive heart attack. He is survived by his wife of 17 years, Laurie Ratliff, and daughter, Aimee Ratliff. After medical school, he served his internship in Virginia. His studies were interrupted due to being drafted in the Army during the Vietnam War. He served as a captain in the Medical Corps with the Wolf Hounds as a field surgeon. He was a recipient of the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Upon his return, he continued his medical residency at Parkland Memorial Hospital in Dallas, specializing in orthopedic surgery. In 1973, he set up his practice in Plano, becoming the city’s first orthopedic surgeon.

Eddie N. Duncan, MD, 64, Cleveland, Tenn., passed away February 8, 2008, at the family residence. After medical school, Dr. Duncan served his internship with the U.S. Air Force Medical Center at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss. He did his residency in ophthalmology at Emory University and Grady Hospital in Atlanta. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force where he served as a captain and flight surgeon at Maxwell Air Force Base. Dr. Duncan started his medical practice in Cleveland, Tenn., in 1975. Survivors include his wife, Ann Tucker Duncan, a son and daughter and their spouses, grandchildren, his mother, brother and sisters, as well as additional extended family members.

George S. Walker III, MD, 61, Eastman, Ga., died June 3 in Dodge County Hospital. A doctor of internal medicine, Dr. Walker became one of the most prominent physicians at Dodge County Hospital, where he practiced for 33 years. He established the ICU-CCU Unit there in 1974 and developed the Telemedicine Unit in 1992. Dr. Walker was active in the community and served as a board member for the Bank of Eastman and was a Hospital Authority board member. Survivors include his wife, Angela Bryant Walker, four sons, six grandchildren and two sisters.

Jerome F. Eastham Sr., MD, 83, Knoxville, died August 22 at the UT Hospital of complications from Parkinson’s. He served in the U.S. infantry during World War II before graduating from the University of Kentucky in 1948. After marrying Pauline Dunklin in 1949, he went on to graduate studies in organic chemistry at UC Berkeley, where he earned a
PhD. In 1953, he accepted a position as assistant professor of chemistry at UT, where he would rise to full professor and teach for 39 years. After a divorce, he married Laura Dean in 1969, and with her encouragement, he earned a medical degree. A residency in internal medicine led to a new career at the UT Research Hospital where he served in the Department of Internal Medicine from its founding until he retired in 1995. He is survived by his devoted wife Laura, his sister, children and 15 grandchildren. In keeping with his wishes, his body has been donated to UTHSC.

John Hilliard Gilliam, MD, 58, passed away on February 2, 2008. Dr. Gilliam completed his residency in psychiatry at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. During his career, he served as an assistant professor at UTHSC and the Medical College of Virginia, Richmond. He established the first psychopharmacology laboratory. He was an honorary guest speaker at Columbia University and the American Psychiatric Association on the uses of SPECT in psychiatry. In addition, he served as medical director at Charter Westbrook Hospital in Richmond for 10 years, and functioned as the principal investigator for clinical research studies for more than 30 years. He also had an extensive psychiatric private practice, with his partner Padmini Atri, MD. He was a loving partner, a devoted father, and wonderful physician.

Joseph Landrum Butler, MD, 57, Vestavia Hills, Ala., passed away at home on October 8. Following a fellowship at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, he began practice at the University of Alabama at Birmingham until leaving to begin his private practice in allergy and asthma. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Carol Hollingsworth Butler; two children, three grandchildren, his mother and sister.

Robert Wouters Leyen, MD, (aka “Dr. Bob” and “Dr. Avalanche”) 56, died April 14 in Gig Harbor, Washington. Robert graduated from Webb School in Knoxville, Tenn., in 1969 where he was All Mid-South Football and Basketball. He earned his BA in psychology in 1973 from Yale University. As defensive tackle, Robert was All Ivy for two consecutive years. Following graduation, he was drafted by the Dallas Cowboys. When he was traded to the Detroit Lions, Robert pursued a degree in medicine from UT. He completed an internal medicine internship at the University of Alabama Birmingham in 1978. He later spent seven years at Duke University completing general surgery and orthopedic surgery residencies and a sports medicine fellowship. He practiced as an orthopedic surgeon in Tacoma and Olympia, Washington, for the past 18 years. He will be missed by his beloved wife, Jennifer Albright, his loving daughter, Elizabeth, the Albright family and his cousins.

Rebecca Crowe Simmons, MD, 55, Knoxville, Tenn., died September 8. She received her bachelor’s degree and master’s degree from Memphis State University and her medical degree from UT. Dr. Simmons practiced psychiatry for more than 25 years. She leaves her husband, Christopher Namovicz; her daughter, Jennifer Simmons of Memphis; one grandchild, James Hall of Memphis; her mother, Rose E. Crowe of Blytheville; two sisters; mother-in-law and father-in-law; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; and nephews.

Jerry L. Roberts, MD, 50, Decatur, Ala., died at his home May 30, after a courageous battle with cancer. He and his wife, Tammy, enjoyed 22 wonderful years together and are the parents of two children, Nicholas, 15, and Megan, 11. A native of Memphis, Dr. Roberts was a graduate of Treadwell High School, Union University in Jackson, Tenn, and the UT College of Medicine. He completed a general surgery residency at East Tennessee State University in July 1993 and a cardiac thoracic surgery residency at UT in 1995. Dr. Roberts served as a captain in the United States Army Medical Corps and was recognized with the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Achievement Medal and the Army Commendation Medal. He joined the medical staff at Decatur General Hospital in 2004, practicing cardiothoracic surgery.

Robert L. Lindsay, MD, DDS, 56, Knoxville, passed away April 9 at Parkwest Hospital from complications of a stroke. He was a graduate of Jefferson High School, Carson-Newman College with a BA and BS degrees, and the UT Health Science Center with degrees in dentistry, oral surgery, general medicine, and radiology. He served as an officer in the Navy and retired with 20 years of service. He is survived by his mother, two brothers, sisters, nieces, a nephew, and a loving companion, Cindy Spence.

Zachary Thornton Maxwell, MD, 32, passed away October 26 at home. He was a member of First United Methodist Church Covington, a graduate of Christian Brothers University and University of Tennessee College of Medicine. He leaves his wife Melanie Booker Maxwell; a daughter, Mia Claire Maxwell; two brothers, Jeremy Lee Maxwell of Nashville and Dabney Steven Maxwell of Covington; parents Charles and Annette Maxwell, of Covington; grandparents Martha Thornton of Covington and Dillon Maxwell of Covington.
The University of Tennessee officially launched its $1 billion fundraising campaign last spring to enhance programs of excellence at all of the university’s campuses and institutes. The Campaign for Tennessee — the most ambitious effort in the university’s 214-year history — places UT among the ranks of the nation’s largest public and private institutions that have sought this level of private support.

According to Hershel P. Wall, MD, chancellor, the UT Health Science Center’s goal within the UT Systemwide Campaign is $180 million. “We are a little more than half-way to our goal, and our faculty and staff have given more than $10 million of the total through the Family Campaign,” he said.

Accompanied by Board of Trustees Vice Chair Andrea Loughry, UT President John Petersen announced that $704,007,696 has been raised. He made the announcement at a gathering of campaign volunteers held at Pratt Pavilion on the Knoxville campus.

Since this kick-off event, giving has continued. Systemwide more than $773 million has been raised, bringing UT to 77 percent of its goal.

“This is a historic day for the University of Tennessee and a time to celebrate the university’s successes. We extend our thanks to the many volunteers and supporters who’ve helped us achieve this unprecedented amount,” said Petersen. “We also look forward to a continued momentum to further engage alumni and friends in achieving the university’s goals.”

The campaign seeks support for initiatives that impact student access and success, research, economic development, outreach and goals for globalization.

Jim Haslam, along with his wife, Natalie, and Brenda Lawson of Chattanooga serve as co-chairs of the Campaign for Tennessee.

“We have the distinct honor to be part of a powerful effort that will have an enormous impact on the state and its residents for many years to come,” said Jim Haslam, founder of Pilot Oil Corp. “Each day we have been reminded that the University of Tennessee family is a large one that extends all over the world. We have especially enjoyed meeting with supporters and learning more about the enduring connection that compels them to invest in the university’s future.”

Funds are raised through outright gifts and pledges, planned gifts and private grants for research. For more information about the Campaign for Tennessee, please visit http://development.tennessee.edu/campaign/.

To make a gift, contact the Office of Development, UT Health Science Center, 62 South Dunlap, Suite 500, Memphis, TN 38163, or call (901) 448-5516.
Dr. Wall’s Devotion Honored by Legacy Society

On Monday, September 22, UT President John Petersen arrived in Memphis to lead a very special event — the inaugural dinner of the Hershel P. Wall, M.D., Legacy Society. Eighty-five Legacy Society members, the Memphis-area UT trustees, and UTHSC leaders joined the celebration at The University Club.

“You all represent a special organization of supporters who have demonstrated your vision and commitment to the future of education and health care by including UTHSC in your estate plans,” stated Dr. Petersen. Legacy gifts can be made by naming UT as a beneficiary of a will, charitable trust, gift annuity, insurance policy, or retirement plan.

“These types of gift commitments have an inherently special meaning because you are equating UT to a family member,” he observed. “Your gifts will help us sustain the proud tradition of teaching, research, patient care and public service, all of which make a tremendous, positive difference in the lives of so many throughout Tennessee and across the region.”

Dr. Petersen noted that naming the society for Chancellor Wall was a natural decision. “Pat sets a wonderful example for others, demonstrating true leadership and exemplary service to the Health Science Center. He truly embodies the spirit and ideals of the Legacy Society.”

Accepting this recognition and a commemorative gift from the university, Chancellor Wall stated, “In honoring me in this lasting and meaningful way, you also challenge me as well. When one receives recognition such as this — which seems undeserved — one has to earn it so I will have to work hard to do just that.

“I have been blessed to have served this place for half a century in one capacity or another. The wonderful students, residents, physician peers in the College of Medicine and now my superb colleagues here and across the state in our flagship health science institution have greatly enriched my professional life. To all of them, I am grateful.”

For information on how you can become a founding member of the Hershel P. Wall, M.D., Legacy Society, contact Bethany Goolsby at (901) 448-4941 or bgoolsby@utmem.edu.
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: uthscalumni@utmem.edu; fax: (901) 448-5906.