On Monday, May 10 the University of Tennessee Health Science Center celebrated the grand opening of a dream—the first phase of the Hamilton Eye Institute.

Located in the 930 Madison Avenue Building, the first phase includes completion of ten state-of-the art research laboratories and the highly technological administrative suite equipped for providing telemedicine services. The dedication ceremony was part of the Chancellor’s Roundtable, where participants were also given a tour of the new facilities.

Keynote speaker for the event was Claude A. Allen, Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. As Deputy Secretary, Allen serves as the department’s chief operating officer, working closely with HHS Secretary Tommy G. Thompson on all major policy and management issues. HHS is the federal government’s principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.

Other speakers included: UT Interim President Joe Johnson; UTHSC Interim Chancellor Bill Rice; Barrett Haik, MD, the UT Hamilton Professor and chair of ophthalmology; Robert B. Carter, CIO/executive vice president of FedEx Corporation and chairman of the “Giving Vision to Vision” campaign; Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, philanthropist, Memphis ophthalmologist and UT faculty member; and Kim Lovelace, MD, trainee.

Ranked eighth in the nation for clinical care, the Hamilton Eye Institute is the only university eye center providing an advanced level of vision care within a 200-mile radius of Memphis. Named in honor of Dr. Hamilton and his wife, Barbara Howell Hamilton, the eye institute brings to fruition Dr. Hamilton’s life work of bringing together caring professionals to provide the finest educational program for medical students and ophthalmology residents and fellows; to conduct the foremost basic and clinical eye research; and to heal and restore optimum vision to all patients.

The Hamilton Eye Institute’s mission is to provide advanced treatments for the management of ocular diseases and complex vision problems. Upon completion in 2005, the facility will encompass 60,000 square feet. The final phase of construction will be the clinical facilities on the second, third and fourth floors.

During the grand opening event, Barrett Haik, MD expressed gratitude to everyone who contributed toward making the Hamilton Eye Institute dream become a reality.
The Record

Mission Statement
The mission of The University of Tennessee Health Science Center is to improve human health through education, research and public service, with an emphasis on improving the health of Tennesseans.

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UT Federal Credit Union Opening
Official Opening
May 18
Grand Opening Celebration
May 21
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Refreshments and prizes
910 Madison Ave, Suite 100
448-3600

Karen Fox, assistant dean of the College of Medicine, gives a presentation on UT's telehealth capabilities at the FedEx Institute at the University of Memphis.

Healthcare Leaders Discuss Quality Improvement at May 10 Event

On Monday, May 10 more than 100 healthcare leaders converged at the FedEx Institute on the University of Memphis campus to discuss healthcare quality improvement. The event was co-sponsored by QSource Center for Healthcare Research and Quality, and Claude Allen, Deputy Secretary for the Department for Health and Human Services.

The event kicked off with sessions by Dr. Carolyn Clancy, Director of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, and Claude Allen, Deputy Secretary for the Department for Health and Human Services.

Karen Fox, UT assistant dean of the College of Medicine, guided participants through a mock medical consultation by pediatrician Andy Spooner, MD, who was working with a patient in Martin, Tennessee using telemedicine capabilities. Fox also provided an overview of the university’s telehealth program.

Mohammed Jahanzeb, MD, division chief of hematology/oncology with the College of Medicine, provided an overview of the UT Cancer Institute including background, a progress report on building the new facility and future plans. Also, he discussed the quality initiative as it pertains to improving quality of care in oncology.

Jim Bailey, MD, UT’s Callison Associate Professor and chairman of the Healthy Memphis Common Table, led a discussion on the local initiatives to reduce obesity and the rate of diabetes in West Tennessee.

UT Researcher Presented VA’s Highest Award in Biomedical Research

In celebration of National Healthcare and Hospital Week, May 10-14, the Memphis VA Medical Center set aside Friday, May 14 as “Dr. Kang Honor Day” to recognize the accomplishments of researcher Andrew H. Kang, MD.

A staff physician and researcher with the Memphis Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center and Goodman Professor and director of the University of Tennessee Center of Excellence for Diseases of Connective Tissue, Dr. Kang was presented with the William S. Middleton Award, the Department of Veterans Affairs’ most prestigious award for scientific achievement in biomedical research.
Kristin Beizai, MD, assistant professor in the Department of Psychiatry, has been named secretary/treasurer of the West Tennessee Chapter of the Tennessee Psychiatric Association.

Dr. Beizai also started a newsletter for local psychiatrists with the help of psychiatry residents Drs. Guru Shankar, Carmen Vicencio and Bhavesh Patel. The newsletter will be published quarterly and will contain stories on local psychiatrists, research efforts, programs, volunteerism, patient advocacy and educational opportunities.

Ron Elliot Briggs, nephew of Nellie Abston, budget assistant in the Department of Psychiatry, recently received his bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Mississippi.

Hershel P. Wall, MD, professor and associate dean in the College of Medicine, was presented with the Lenore S. Creson Board Volunteer of the Year Award at Volunteer Memphis’ Spirit of Giving Awards and Volunteer Recognition luncheon at The Peabody Hotel on April 29. He received the award in recognition of the work he has done with the Church Health Center.

At the recent “Strolling Through the Match” workshop for medical students, Jay Ethridge (M3) proposed to fellow classmate Kellye Hoffman (M3) during the noon student panel session. “Strolling Through the Match” is an all-day workshop designed to orient junior medical students on the residency application process.

Alejandro M. Dopico, MD, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacology, recently received grant funding for two research projects: “Ethanol Actions on SLO Channels from Arteries vs. Brain” from the NIH NIAAA, and “Nongenomic Bile Acid on Smooth Muscle BK Channels” from the NIH NHLBI.

Donna Przepiorka, MD, PhD, professor in the College of Medicine, was named president of the International Society for Cellular Therapy. The International Society for Cellular Therapy represents individuals involved in the preclinical research and clinical cell processing for stem cell transplantation. The major initiatives of the society are international harmonization of quality standards for transplant graft engineering and education in regulatory affairs for laboratory practitioners in emerging fields of cellular therapy, such as cellular cardiomyoplasty.

Dr. Przepiorka has served on the Legal and Regulatory Affairs Committee of the Society for more than ten years before being elected president by the society membership.

Hiroko Nishimura, MD, DMSc, professor in the department of physiology, received a competitive renewal grant from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for $1,022,000 for her project “Avian Vascular Function.”

Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD, professor in the Department of Physiology, is one of thirty invited speakers and featured experts at the Federation of European Biochemical Societies Cell Signaling Conference and Lecture Course in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

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Bossier Named Safety Officer for UTHSC

John A. Bossier has been named Safety Officer for the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC). Bossier will be the primary person responsible for the campus’ safety operations, which include developing, maintaining and promoting policies, procedures and programs necessary to promote a safe and healthy campus environment.

Previously, Bossier was environmental and quality control manager for PCS Nitrogen in Millington for eight years where he managed the facility’s environmental activities. Overall, he has more than twenty years of experience addressing environmental, health and safety issues.

Bossier has a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Dillard University in New Orleans. Professionally, he is affiliated with the Memphis & Shelby County Emergency Planning Committee, the Memphis Chemical Association and the Memphis Regional Chamber of Commerce. In his spare time, he volunteers with Habitat for Humanity and local schools as a tutor and mentor.

The U.S. National Library of Medicine is looking for anyone from UTHSC who will try a search tool in development and give impressions and feedback. This tool, PubMed/MEDLINE via PICO, is designed for handheld devices (Palms, iPAQs, etc.), although it can also be used on a personal computer. It is a Web-based PubMed searching tool and uses a fill-in-the-blank and menu format. PICO stands for Patient/Problem, Intervention, Compared to, and Outcome and is a concept used for structuring questions to locate information.

If you are interested in participating or have questions, please send an e-mail to pubmeddh @nlm.nih.gov, Subject: PICO test.

HAMilton and Haik receive TMA Award for Distinguished Service

Two University of Tennessee professors, Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, and Barrett G. Haik, MD, were recently recognized by the Tennessee Medical Association (TMA) with its Distinguished Service Award during the TMA’s 169th Annual Meeting in Franklin, Tenn.

The Distinguished Service Award has been presented annually since 1963 to exemplary members for their notable achievements during the previous calendar year. Recipients are physician members who deserve recognition of outstanding service or contribution to the advancement of medical science, the association, or to the public welfare, whether of a civic or scientific nature.

Drs. Hamilton and Haik were nominated by the Memphis Medical Society for their work in ophthalmology research and education. Dr. Hamilton established the university’s Hamilton Professorship in Ophthalmology and has devoted his career to the ophthalmology training program at UT. He and Dr. Haik have had a shared vision of establishing a facility that will encompass research laboratories, specialized clinical services and academic areas. Thanks to their leadership and support, the first phase of the new Hamilton Eye Institute opened in May. Currently Dr. Haik is the UT Hamilton Professor and chair of ophthalmology.

Want to STOP SMOKING?

IF YOU:
• are Age 18 or above
• Smoke on average 10 cigarettes a day
• Want to quit smoking and
• are in Good Health

CALL: 901-448-8400 or 1-800-916-2606 to see if you are eligible to participate in a study, at our Germantown clinic, to determine if a research medication will aid you in smoking cessation.

ASK ABOUT “STOP”

 Eligible participants will receive $25 per visit.

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center is an EEO/AA/TitleVI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA employer
UT/St. Jude Conference
Noon, Coleman G312
More info: lpitts@utmem.edu

“Organization of the T Cell Response to Histoplasma capsulatum”
Dr. George M. Deepe
4 p.m., Link Auditorium
More info: gbyrne@utmem.edu

PharmForum
GEB
More info: anarang@utmem.edu

Research Symposium for Senior Medical Technology Students
10 a.m. - noon and 1 - 3 p.m., GEB A303
More info: lpifer@utmem.edu or mhall@utmem.edu

“Diabetes and Cardiovascular Risk: Affecting Change in Communities to Increase Physical Activity”
Dr. Jack Hataway, Dr. William Sims, Dr. Thomas Ellison, Donald Stone, Stacey Palmer
2 - 4 p.m., GEB A304
More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu

“Tobacco Prevention and Control”
Dr. William Roper, Rosemarie Henson, Dr. Jonathan Fielding, Dr. Barbara Rimer, Dr. Hugh Tilson
1 p.m., GEB A304
More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu

Coagulation Conference
Noon, Coleman G312
More info: lpitts@utmem.edu

“Role of rho-GTPases in Wound Closure of Airway Epithelial Cells”
Dr. Leena Desai
3:30 p.m., 516 Nash
More info: mlester@physio1.utmem.edu

Proposal deadline for 2004 Beyond Access Conference
More info: ebishop@utmem.edu

Forensic Nursing: Challenges, Choices, and Strategies
Dr. Lynda Doll, Keynote Address
Memphis Marriott Downtown.
Continuing education contact hours will be given for nurses
More info: 448-6407.