UTHSC has established the Mid-South Center for Biodefense and Security (MSCBS) to coordinate federal, regional and state resources, as well as increase support for activities directly impacting homeland security.

The center will also support the intellectual and scientific foundation necessary to develop advanced medical biotechnology breakthroughs that will help protect the region and country from select potential agents of bioterrorism and emerging biological threats.

In 2003, the university was awarded funding from the National Institutes of Health to support collaborative biodefense research. This award provided the seed for UTHSC’s biodefense program, which is affiliated with the Southeast Regional Center of Excellence for Emerging Infections and Biodefense, representing a consortium of investigators working to develop the next generation of vaccines, drugs and diagnostic devices for treating dangerous infections.

Dean of the College of Medicine, Henry G. Herrod, MD, commented, “The center’s activities will play a key role in attracting biotech and pharmaceutical companies to relocate and/or establish a significant presence in Tennessee. Our aim is to create a hub for industry and manufacturers that will provide the nation with tools to protect against bioterrorism and/or emerging infections.”

Malak Kotb, PhD, the A.C. Mullins Professor in Research, will serve as the director of the center.

The U.S. Defense Department has awarded $750,000 to Greystone Medical Group and UTHSC to complete pre-clinical research of a drug to treat hemorrhagic shock.

Initial research shows the compound invented by Bob Moore, II, PhD, assistant professor at UTHSC, and licensed to Memphis-based biotech company Greystone Medical Group, protects the body’s vital organs during hemorrhage by reversing critically low blood pressure.

More than half of all combat deaths are due to rapid loss of blood within minutes of wounding, and approximately 150,000 Americans bleed to death each year as a result of trauma accidents.

The latest $750,000 DOD grant builds on results from an initial $98,000 DOD research grant.

The awarding of the second grant to UTHSC and Greystone marks the first time a drug development effort in Memphis has received STTR Phase II funding from the DOD.

“We are honored and thrilled to receive these funds that will allow us to continue to confirm that this research is truly revolutionary,” said Bob Palmer, Director of Technology Transfer for the UT Research Foundation. “This is a significant step for us, both in this research and as a university.”

Assuming the successful completion of research and development, Greystone plans to present the technology to regulators and begin the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval process.

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**Neuroscience Institute Holds Brain Awareness Week**

Julie Cleary, PhD, assistant professor at the Speech and Hearing Center at the University of Memphis, speaks at a symposium on autism and related disorders on March 16 as part of the UT Neuroscience Institute’s Annual Brain Awareness Week.
Residency Fair
Sponsored by: American Medical Student Association and Student National Medical Association

Saturday April 23
1 - 4 p.m.
Student Alumni Center

Designed to help upcoming M4s learn more about residency programs and specialties, as well as get advice on how to apply to different programs.

Research Raises Questions About Sunscreen

An article published in the February issue of Melanoma Research, entitled “Sunscreen ingredients inhibit nitric oxide synthase (iNOS): a possible biochemical explanation for the sunscreen melanoma controversy,” concludes that sunscreen usage needs to be reassessed and that appropriate regulatory bodies need to clarify that sunscreen products be used only for what they do well: prevent sunburn.

Researchers at the Memphis VA Medical Center and UTHSC have reported an effect of sunscreen ingredients on the skin that might explain why sunscreens seem less effective than expected in the prevention of melanoma. They found that several sunscreen ingredients can block the development of redness in the skin, as well as absorb some of the sun’s rays. This would allow unwary sunscreen users to inadvertently receive excessive sun exposure without the warning usually afforded by the familiar red nose and pain of sunburn.

“People should not wear sunscreen and assume they’re fully protected from melanoma,” said E. William Rosenberg, MD, UTHSC dermatology researcher, VA physician and co-author of the article with primary investigator, Thomas M. Chiang, PhD, Research and Development Service, Memphis VA Medical Center and UTHSC adjunct professor.

According to Dr. Chiang’s laboratory experiments, the ingredients of sunscreen change the body’s natural reaction to sunlight. Dr. Rosenberg explained, “Apparently sunscreens may not prevent sunburn only by blocking sunlight; they also appear to potentially have anti-inflammatory properties. This means that people who stay in the sun for prolonged periods may not realize they’re getting overexposed because they don’t feel sunburned. It raises serious questions about the types of public health messages being sent about sunscreens.”

UTFCU Supports Scholarship Fund

UT Federal Credit Union employees, from left to right, Lynnita West, Terri Gray, Antranette Smith and Tom Adelman, present a check for the General Scholarship Fund to Interim Chancellor Bill Rice as part of the Campus Support Program. This program shares five percent of the interchange income derived from the use of the credit union’s debit and credit cards.

The Record

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Mission Statement
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John W. (Bill) Runyan Jr., MD, University Distinguished Professor Emeritus, has been named the State of Tennessee’s 2005 Distinguished Physician of the Year by the Tennessee Medical Association (TMA). He will be presented the award at the annual TMA meeting at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville this month.

Marshall Elam, MD, PhD, professor in the Department of Pharmacology, was the principle investigator on a recent New England Journal of Medicine article titled, “Intensive Lipid Lowering with Atorvastatin in Patients with Stable Coronary Disease.”

Charles R. Handorf, MD, PhD, interim chair of the Department of Pathology and associate professor, was elected president of the Tennessee Medical Association (TMA) for the 2005-2006 year. He will assume office at the TMA annual meeting at the Opryland Hotel this month.

Jason Sharp, M3, has been appointed to the American Medical Association (AMA) Council of Constitution and Bylaws. He will be installed at the annual AMA meeting in June and will hold the position for one year.

Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD, professor in the Department of Physiology, will be a featured speaker at the upcoming Experimental Biology Meeting in San Diego, where he will present “Lyso-phosphatic Acid: From Mediator to Medicine.” Dr. Tigyi will speak about his research with Drs. Duane Miller, Daniel Baker and Abby Parrill about developing new treatments to alleviate the side effects of chemo therapy and radiation therapy in cancer patients.

On Memoriam

The UTHSC community extends condolences to:

The family and friends of Stacy Hammond Story, IV, a fourth-year oral surgery resident, who died March 20.

Faith B. Barcroft, administrative specialist in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, on the death of her father, O.M. Mack Bailey.

Bobby Thomas, assistant dean in the College of Pharmacy, on the death of his father, Floyd Thomas, on March 15.

UTHSC Students to Participate in Interdisciplinary Competition

Six students from UTHSC have been selected to enter a national competition focusing on improving healthcare quality. Scheduled for Saturday, April 9 at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, this event will promote interprofessional problem solving as a means to improving the quality of healthcare and reducing medical errors.

According to David M. Mirvis, MD, UT Center for Health Services Research director, this is referred to as the Clarion competition, representing a clear and competing call for action. He commented, “The competition centers on the analysis of a realistic, complex, healthcare case involving a medical error. Student teams are expected to analyze the case, determine the underlying issues that led to the incident, and suggest interventions for preventing the same type of error from recurring.”

The UTHSC team and the colleges they represent are: Carolyn Driscoll, Graduate Health Sciences; Jonathan Hoover, Pharmacy; Joshua Hagan, Medicine; and Julie Howard, Social Work. Alternates are: Michael Hooks with Allied Health Sciences and Sattaria Dilks from Nursing.

Service Learning Project Winners

Students presented service learning projects, which include community outreach activities in which they work in interprofessional teams, on March 17. The winners were:

Outstanding Community Outreach by an Intercollegiate Student Group
Team Bellevue Jr. High Service Learning Project

Outstanding Community Outreach by a UTHSC College College of Allied Health Sciences

Outstanding Commitment to Intercollegiate Teaching and Learning College of Medicine

Nancy Hardt, MD, Methodist Healthcare Professor for Women’s Health, left, presents the award for the College of Medicine to Owen Phillips, MD, chair of the OB/GYN Dept.
Renate Rosenthal, PhD, professor in the Department of Psychiatry, has been an active leader in the creation of the V&E Greenline, a stretch of railroad land that has been converted into a nature trail in the Volantine-Evergreen area in Midtown. The area was recently named Trail of the Month by the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy. More information is available at www.railtrails.org/find/totm/default.asp

**Flexible Benefits Deadline Approaching**

Attention all UTHSC employees who participated in the 2004 Flexible Benefits Plan (Medical Expense Reimbursement and/or Dependent Care Reimbursement): If you currently have an outstanding balance for calendar year 2004, the deadline to file reimbursement claims is April 29. Bring or send all claims to the campus Payroll/Insurance Office, 120 Hyman Building. You may obtain claim forms from http://payroll.tennessee.edu/ or the campus Payroll/Insurance Office.

**Health Science Engineering Alumni Weekend**

Friday April 22
James Gibb Johnson Lecture
1 p.m., Room A102 GEB
Britton Chance, PhD, DSc, MD, will speak on his bioengineering research ranging from identifying enzyme-substrate compounds to demonstrating magnetic resonance spectroscopy.
Annual Appreciation Dinner
6:30 p.m. Memphis Hilton Hotel

Saturday, April 23
Wonders Series Exhibit:
The Art of the Motorcycle

**UT Cancer Institute Opens Seventh Facility in Bartlett**

The UT Cancer Institute announces its newest, state-of-the-art, cancer treatment facility at 2996 Kate Bond Road, Bartlett, with an Open House from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 6.
Offering the latest in clinical research discoveries and new cancer drugs, which are sponsored and funded by the National Cancer Institute, this full-service location brings cutting edge treatment closer to its patients. The Bartlett facility joins the UT Cancer Institute’s network of cancer treatment centers located in Midtown Memphis, East Memphis, Somerville, Forrest City (Ark.), Southaven (Miss.) and Grenada (Miss.).

At the Bartlett facility, cancer patients can receive full-service chemotherapy and comprehensive laboratory services, as well as radiation therapy with new Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) which can deliver higher radiation doses, killing cancer and destroying tumors with fewer side effects, among other services.

**Emergency Team Seeks Volunteers**

The Memphis and Shelby County Health Department is currently recruiting volunteers to increase its Public Health Reserve Corps.
The Emergency Preparedness Team needs volunteers with the following skills/credentials: physicians, nurses, data entry/medical records personnel, pharmacists/pharmacy technicians, individuals for traffic control and parking, individuals for crowd control, translators, EMT skills, information technology, mental health professionals, clergy, clinical professionals and/or students willing to be trained and assist with immunizations, and general volunteers to assist with directing patients, registration, filling out forms, answering phones, etc.

For more information or to sign up to volunteer, visit www.shelbybtvolunteers.com or call 544-6845.

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**Computer repair**
**Microscope repair**
**Lab Equipment repair**
**Mechanical design & repair**
**Rehab Engineering services**
**Compliance Corner**

By: Carolyn Moffitt
Billing Compliance/Privacy Officer

The federal government has provided a source to answer your questions about HIPAA Privacy; this source currently has 236 questions and answers and can be accessed on the web at www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa/privacy.html. Following are examples of information that you need to know to protect both the university and yourself from violating HIPAA Privacy regulations. Future publications of The Record will contain additional examples for your review.

**Question:** Generally, what does the HIPAA Privacy Rule require the average provider or health plan to do?

**Answer:** For the average health care provider or health plan, the Privacy Rule requires activities, such as:

- Notifying patients about their privacy rights and how their information can be used.
- Adopting and implementing privacy procedures for its practice, hospital, or health plan.
- Training employees so that they understand the privacy procedures.
- Designating an individual to be responsible for seeing that the privacy procedures are adopted and followed.
- Securing patient records containing individually identifiable health information so that they are not readily available to those who do not need them.

UT has adopted policies and procedures to ensure privacy of patient records. Signs of Privacy Practices have been posted at all patient care facilities, and patients have been given a notice to explain their rights to privacy in accordance with HIPAA Privacy regulations.

Training has been made available through face-to-face instruction, and an on-line program designed to explain compliance and patient privacy. All employees of UTHSC are required to complete the training. If you have not participated in the educational opportunity made available through one of these sources, you must access the on-line training at www.educode.com/uthsc/

**5 Steps to Protect Personal Health Information**

April 10–16 is National Health Information Privacy and Security Week

Personal health information is a valuable resource. Not only to you, but the doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals who provide your treatment and care. Health information management (HIM) professionals are constantly working with your healthcare provider(s) to make sure your information is kept private, secure, and in accordance with federal and state laws. As National Health Information Privacy and Security Week (April 10–16) approaches, the HIM professionals at the UTHSC Health Information Management program offer five steps you can take to ensure the protection and confidentiality of your personal health information:

1. **Read your healthcare provider’s and health plan’s Notice of Privacy Practices.** This notice informs you about your rights and how they may use your personal health information. Remember that you can request restrictions on the use and disclosure of your health information for treatment, payment or notification purposes.

2. **Talk to your healthcare provider and health plan if you have any concerns about the confidentiality of your health information.**

3. **Read the fine print before you authorize release of information.** The authorization should specify who is to receive your health information and the purpose of its use.

4. **Know what health information is being collected about you and by whom.** Find out what safeguards are used to keep it confidential.

5. **Be cautious before giving your information on Web sites, phone surveys or in health screening questionnaires.** Know how the information may be used or disclosed.
1. “Exploiting Electrochemistry for Analysis in and Control of Microscopic Systems”
   Ingrid Fritsh
   3:30 p.m., U of M Engineering Auditorium
   More info: 678-3733

4. Title TBA
   Dr. John Altman
   4 p.m., Link Auditorium
   More info: mradic@utmem.edu

5. “Constructing a Model of How the Cerebellum May Contribute to Adaptive Timing and Sequence Learning”
   Dr. Daniel Bullock
   Noon, Link Auditorium
   More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

6. Title TBA
   Dr. Daniel Kilpatrick
   12:30, Link Auditorium
   More info: jfountain@utmem.edu

11. “An Odyssey From Transcription to Muscle”
    Dr. Harry Jarrett
    4 p.m., Link Auditorium
    More info: mradic@utmem.edu

12. “GABAergic Regulation of Substantia Nigra Dopaminergic Neurons”
    Dr. Jim Tepper
    Noon, Link Auditorium
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

14. “Neuroprotection from Ischemic Damage”
    Dr. Raymond C. Koehler
    3:30 p.m., 526 Nash
    More info: mlester@physio1.utmem.edu

15. “Image Analysis of Cardiovascular MR Data”
    Amir A. Amini
    3:30 p.m., U of M Engineering Auditorium
    More info: 678-3733

    Dr. Susan R. Ross
    4 p.m., Link Auditorium
    More info: labrittton@utmem.edu

    Dr. Carlos Feleder
    3:30 p.m., 526 Nash
    More info: mlester@physio1.utmem.edu

22. “Multianalyte Monitoring of Cell Metabolic Responses to CBW and Environmental Toxins”
    David E. Cliffl
    3:30 p.m., U of M Engineering Auditorium
    More info: 678-3733

23. College of Nursing Alumni Weekend
    Holiday Inn Select, Memphis East
    More info: utalumni@utmem.edu

25. “Myocardial Remodeling Following Infarction: The Regulatory Role of Cardiac Angiotensin and Oxidative Stress”
    Dr. Yao Sun
    4 p.m., Link Auditorium
    More info: snishimoto@utmem.edu

28. “Neuroimmune Communication at the Blood Brain Barrier”
    Dr. Ning Quan
    3:30 p.m., 526 Nash
    More info: mlester@physio1.utmem.edu

“Retinoblastoma: From Bench to Bedside”
St. Jude Auditorium
Register at: www.cure4kids.org/cme/home/reg/?events_id=12