For the eighth time in the past ten years, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center chapter of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association (SNPhA) has won the Chauncey I. Cooper Chapter Excellence Award. The award was presented at the national organization’s annual convention in Orlando in July.

Well represented with the most attendees of all student chapters at the event, UTHSC pharmacy students brought home several accolades. Kimberly Walker received the Wal-Mart NPhA Future Leaders Scholarship, and Anita Patel and Nikita Wilson received the newly established NPhA Foundation Scholarships.

Carleton Maxwell, a fourth-year UTHSC pharmacy student, is the newly-elected president of the national organization, and three other students, Kimberly Lewis, George Tolbert and Nikita Wilson, were appointed to positions on the executive committee.

“Needless to say, we are quite pleased, and yes, proud of such a tremendous showing on the national level. Through SNPhA, we are able to contribute to the community and obtain real-world experience that will serve us well when we launch our careers,” noted Maxwell.

SNPhA is an educational service association of minority students who are concerned about pharmacy and healthcare related issues and the historically poor minority representation in pharmacy.
Plan Now to Donate Blood

Start the fall semester by really making a difference in a patient’s life. When you donate a unit of blood, you can be sure that every drop will be used within the Memphis area, and it could help up to four different people.

Whether you are faculty, staff or a student, you can mark your calendar for the blood drive kick-off, Thursday, Sept. 1 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Two Lifeblood buses will be on campus: one in front of the Humphreys’ General Education Building (GEB) and the other in front of the 910 Madison building.

In order to give blood, the donor must be at least 17 years old, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds.

UTHSC students are teaming with Lifeblood and organizing the “Volunteer Donors” blood drive, a series of six drives for the upcoming academic year, with a goal of obtaining 150 units of blood per drive.

“Students partnered with Lifeblood because the blood they collect stays in the Memphis area,” said Stephanie Baker, 2005-2006 Pharmacy Student Government Association president. “We have had blood drives with Lifeblood in the past, but the student body has never partnered with one organization until now,” Stephanie explained, of the students’ pioneering efforts to increase donations and campus involvement.

The volunteers, who are from every college on campus, will organize the events as well as donate blood.

Lifeblood’s donors provide about 60 percent of the blood needed by the community. The rest of the blood has to be purchased from other centers.

In conjunction with this partnership, the Student Government Association Executive Council will form a new committee this year and will appoint two students from each college to help coordinate the efforts of the partnership.

With the motto, “With Us, Patient Care Is Personal,” volunteers will schedule five additional blood drives for Lifeblood. For more information or to volunteer, contact Stephanie Baker at sbaker10@utmem.edu.

‘Thank You’ for Helping to Prevent Crime

By Campus Police

Officers with the UT Health Science Center Police Department would like to express appreciation for the support and reaction we have seen from the public over the past few months.

We want all staff, faculty and students to be aware of the accomplishments their support has achieved.

As a direct result of people calling and reporting suspicious activity, suspects were apprehended and three arrests involving theft were made. One of these three suspects is already serving a prison sentence.

In each of these cases, the caller has provided the officer with valuable information, which was instrumental in the detection and ability to properly charge the suspect. This information has also enabled the department to recover stolen property.

When our department receives immediate calls that contain vital information, it increases the potential of detecting and apprehending violators.

This quick and clear response from the public is what makes crime prevention happen.

Crime prevention is defined as “the anticipation, recognition and appraisal of a crime risk and the initiation of some action to resolve or reduce it.” Crime prevention is a proactive strategy designed to eliminate or minimize opportunities before a crime occurs.

Again, thank you for your assistance. Please remember we offer a variety of crime prevention programs, so feel free to contact us anytime.

Investigator Charles Gutelius &
Investigator A. Wayne Timberlake
UT Police 448-4444
Gov. Phil Bredesen recently appointed two UTHSC faculty members to serve on state boards.

Lawrence Pfeffer, PhD, Muirhead Professor of Pathology and vice-chair and director of the graduate program in pathology, was appointed to the UT Board of Trustees, which governs the entire UT system.

Charles R. Handorf, MD, PhD, professor and chair in the Department of Pathology, was asked to serve on the Health Services and Development Agency.

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

Abdallah Mtanios Hayar, PhD, assistant professor of anatomy and neurobiology at UTHSC, was recently awarded a $1,460,000, five-year National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant to study olfactory functioning (sense of smell). The current grant will explore the fundamental network mechanisms responsible for encoding and processing odor information.

Peggy Ingram Veeser, EdD, APRN, professor in the College of Nursing at UTHSC and director of the UTHSC University Health Services, has been inducted as a fellow by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). She is one of 23 new fellows for 2005.

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

Students Receive Travel Awards
Three students — Shen Li, Felix Vazquez and Lai Wei — in the College of Graduate Health Sciences have been awarded travel grants for the fall 2005 semester.

In 2000, Dr. John Autian, dean emeritus, established a student enrichment fund in the College of Graduate Health Sciences to be used to fund travel for students to national meetings.

To be eligible for the award, students must be registered full-time, have been admitted to PhD or MS candidacy and have been accepted to present a paper, abstract or poster.

Through Dr. Autian’s generosity and that of others who have contributed to the fund in past years, 12 travel grants were awarded in the 2004-2005 academic year. Applications are due by the 15th of the first month of each semester for consideration of the award.

Recent Grants

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Jennings, PhD</td>
<td>American Heart Association</td>
<td>$21,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Health Science Fellowships in Vascular Biology”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prabodh Sadana</td>
<td>American Heart Association</td>
<td>$36,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Role of PGC-1 Coactivators in Thyroid Hormone Action and Gene Transactivation”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jufang Shan</td>
<td>American Heart Association</td>
<td>$38,000</td>
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<td>“NMR-Assisted Virtual Ligand Screening of PDZ Domain Inhibitors”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tamotsu Tsukahara, PhD</td>
<td>American Heart Association</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Characterization of Ligand Binding Pocket in the Human Endothelial Gene Receptor S1P1”</td>
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Performance Evaluation Trainings
Trainings are available to help both the employee and the supervisor get the most out of performance evaluations, which are being implemented campus-wide. Information about trainings can be found at www.utmem.edu.oed/Training.htm.
UTHSC has consistently demonstrated a strong and abiding commitment to ensure compliance with all applicable laws affecting healthcare billing and patient privacy in an academic medical practice setting.

The compliance program for UTHSC can be found on the web at www.utmem.edu/compliance.

One of the requirements of this program provides for regular reviews of overall compliance efforts, including unit-specific plans, to ensure that appropriate billing practices are maintained. It is important to ensure that no violations of the False Claims Act transpire.

**False Claims Act**

There are numerous actions that cause violations of the False Claims Act. The government does not have to prove that an individual intended to defraud the government, but it has to provide evidence of careless and reckless disregard of the rules.

Careless and reckless disregard occurs when billings are submitted for:
- A level of medical service greater than that, which was provided. This is also known as upcoding.
- Using the beneficiary (patient’s) health identification number of someone other than the patient.
- Medical services provided by an individual included on the List of Excluded Individuals. The List of Excluded Individuals contains names of people who have been charged with a criminal violation.
- Medical services provided, but not documented by the provider in the medical record.
- Making a false record or statement to get a false or fraudulent claim paid by the government.
- When a provider wants to perform a procedure that is not medically necessary and conjures up a diagnosis to justify payment for the service.
- Conspiring to have a false or fraudulent claim paid by the government.
- Failing to refund money to the government that was received in error.

**Qui Tam Provision of the False Claims Act**

What is Qui Tam? Qui Tam (pronounced “kwee tam”) in Latin means “he who brings action for the King as well as for himself.”

In our culture qui tam is synonymous with whistle-blower (a third party who brings actions with the federal government to recover money wrongly paid by the government).

The False Claims Act allows an individual, often referred to as a whistle-blower, who knows about a person or entity that is submitting false claims to bring a suit on behalf of the government and to share in the damages recovered as a result of the suit.

The act provides for a 15-25 percent award of the recovered amount to anyone who identifies a claim that the federal government may have against a government contractor.

A provider who violates this act may be required to repay three times the amount of damages suffered by the government plus a mandatory civil penalty of $10,000 per incident.

Here at UTHSC if you have knowledge of false claim activity, you can report the violation to Carolyn Moffitt, compliance/privacy officer, by e-mail at cmoffitt@utmem.edu or call 448-1672.

If you wish to anonymously report a violation, you may complete a form that can be found at www.utmem.edu/compliance or you can call the hotline at 448-4900.

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**Airport Health Expo in the Works**

In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Dorothy L. Bobbitt Health Station at the Memphis International Airport, a health and safety expo will be held Friday, Oct. 7.

As co-sponsors with the Memphis Shelby County Airport Authority, the UTHSC College of Nursing is inviting all campus entities and organizations to participate in the event.

“Better Health Flying Well: Health and Safety Expo of 2005” will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the mezzanine level of the Memphis International Airport.

By providing booths for health education and screenings as well as research, organizers hope to enhance travel and improve community health and public safety.

The Bobbitt Health Station, which began in 1975, is staffed by nurse practitioners from the UTHSC College of Nursing. This site provides care to airport passengers, visitors and employees who injure themselves or suffer from such ailments as airsickness and migraine headaches. UTHSC employees at the station are helping to facilitate the health expo and invite all to participate.

For more information or to sign up as a vendor, contact June Reed, airport clinic coordinator, at 922-8026, jreed32@utmem.edu.

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**Art of the Motorcycle Tickets on Sale**

The Office of Equity and Diversity is selling tickets for the Art of the Motorcycle exhibit presented by Wonders of Memphis.

Vouchers are being sold in the 920 Madison building on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The price is $10 for adults and $4 for children.
By Laura Moore
Communications Intern

Staying in shape is no longer inconvenient or unexciting thanks to the William C. Robinson Student Recreational Center.

Better known as the Student Rec Center, this facility comes well-equipped with a variety of activities and programs. Plus, with its location at 800 Madison Ave., it is also widely accessible to students, faculty, staff and others who live and work in the downtown area.

“The Student Rec center has everything,” said Center Director Dan Houlden. A five-lane swimming pool, pilates classes and intramural sports during the school year are just a few of the many features of the Rec Center. In addition to group fitness classes such as body sculpting and kickboxing, personal trainers are available for one-on-one instruction. Also, the Rec Center’s Outdoor Adventure Program with its full-scale climbing wall gives it a unique feature that is hard to match.

For those who like to get an early start on their workout, the Rec Center opens at 6 a.m. Monday through Friday. It is available for use until 8 p.m. in the summer and 9 p.m. during the fall and spring school sessions. On Saturdays, the Rec Center is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Sundays from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

In addition to its emphasis on physical fitness, the Rec Center also shows concern for an individual’s emotional well-being. The Rec Center offers a myriad of handouts on topics such as body image, the effects of stress and exercise addiction.

The Student Rec Center also appoints an Advisory Committee, composed of students and faculty, to offer counsel and support for members.

Access to the Rec Center is free for students, and its services are available to anyone at a reasonable fee.

For more information about fees and other aspects of the Student Rec Center visit its website at http://www.utmem.edu/campusrec or call its general information line at 448-5612.

Young Investigator Award Applications Available

Don’t forget applications for the Leonard Share Young Investigator Award are available through Sept. 15, 2005.

The award recognizes a UTHSC student or graduate student and a postdoctoral fellow or resident for their basic science and clinical research in the cardiovascular-renal field.

Each award will consist of a plaque and a stipend of $1,000.

For more information contact:
Easter Jenkins
(901) 448-5822
ejenkins@physio1.utmem.edu

Interested in helping to plan the 2005 UT Employee & Family Appreciation Day to be held Oct. 29?

Contact Human Resources at 448-5600 or send an e-mail to hr@utmem.edu.
UTHSC Welcomes New Employees Hired in July

Faculty
Janyne Althaus, MD
Assistant Professor
Clinical Education-Chattanooga

Robert Brandt, DDS
Professor
Restorative Dentistry

Jacqueline Burchum, DNSc, MSN
Assistant Professor
Nursing-Academic Programs

Jahanzeb Chaudhry, DDS
Assistant Professor
Dentistry-Biologic & Diagnostic

Ithaar Derweesh, MD
Assistant Professor
Urology

Cheryl Dewood, DDS
Assistant Professor
Orthodontics

Ira Ellis
Instructor
Family Practice Clinic-Jackson

Marcelo Fiszman
Assistant Professor
Dean’s Office
Graduate School of Medicine

Margaret Harvey, PhD, MSN
Assistant Professor
Nursing-Academic Programs

Burton Hayes, MD
Assistant Professor
General Internal Medicine

Paula Herring, MD
Assistant Professor
Medicine-Rheumatology

Mounir Kharchaf, DDS
Assistant Professor
Restorative Dentistry

George Maish, MD
Assistant Professor
Surgery-General

Vincente Mejia, MD
Assistant Professor
Clinical Education-Chattanooga

Harry Papadopoulos, DDS
Associate Professor
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Yeshwant Rawal, MDS, BDS
Assistant Professor
Dentistry-Biologic & Diagnostic

Allison Thompson, MD
Assistant Professor
Pediatrics

Frecedes Letcher
Research Technician
Preventive Medicine

Alley Montague, Jr.
Sr. Animal Caretaker
Comparative Medicine

Kimberlee Norwood
Specialist
Administration-College of Medicine

Taylor Aaron
Sr. Animal Caretaker
Comparative Medicine

Barry Thomas
Sr. Animal Caretaker
Comparative Medicine

Dee Dee Warrack
Sr. Nursing Technician
Family Practice - St. Francis

Henry Washington
Assistant Lab Animal Technician
Comparative Medicine

Kellie Williams
Administrative Secretary
College of Dentistry

Queenetta Wilson
Research Technician
Preventive Medicine

Nona Wood
Clinical Dental Assistant
College of Dentistry

Courtney Yates
Lab Animal Technician
Comparative Medicine
August - September 2005

August

17  “Colorectal Cancer Screening in 2005: Why, Who and How”
    Medicine Grand Rounds
    Christopher Marino, MD
    8 a.m., Coleman North Auditorium
    More info: bedman@utmem.edu

    “Emergencies, Stress Management and Care for First Responders”
    Speaker TBA
    2-4 p.m., GEB A304
    More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu or call 448-1474

18  “Chemical and Radiation Threats for the Healthcare Provider”
    Speaker TBA
    2-3 p.m., GEB A304
    More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu or call 448-1474

23  “Emerging Infections for the Healthcare Provider”
    Speaker TBA
    2-3 p.m., GEB A304
    More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu or call 448-1474

    “Neurotrophic Factors in the Mouth, Ten Years Later”
    Christopher Nosrat, DDS
    Noon, Link Auditorium
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

24  “Cardiovascular Manifestations of Thyroid Dysfunction”
    Medicine Grand Rounds
    Paul W. Ladenson, MD
    8 a.m., Coleman North Auditorium
    More info: bedman@utmem.edu

25  “Lighting the Way: Planning and Prevention in Nursing Care”
    Presented by: UT Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities & UTHSC College of Nursing
    Mary Kay Moore, president DDNA
    8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Holiday Inn, University of Memphis
    More info: ljones41@utmem.edu

    “Biological Dark Matter: Involvement of miRNAs in Human Cancer”
    Hosted by: Ambion, Inc., The RNA Company
    Christina Buchanan, PhD
    2 p.m., Link Auditorium
    More info: seminars@ambion.com

26  “TTAN- First Alert: Recognizing the Diseases of Bioterrorism”
    Robert Morrison, MD
    12-1 p.m., Coleman North Auditorium
    More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu or call 448-1474

30  “The Role of Presenilin-1 and Intracellular Calcium Homeostasis in Regulating Glutamate Uptake”
    David G. Cook, PhD
    Noon, Link Auditorium
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

September

13  “Using D. Melanogaster to Study the Human Neurological Disease Angelman Syndrome and Autism”
    Lawrence Reiter, PhD
    Noon, Link Auditorium
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

20  “Dopamine: Myliple Signaling Mechanisms in Rat Neocortex”
    John Hablitz, PhD
    Noon, Link Auditorium
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

27  “Deconstructing Memories of a Fly”
    Josh Dubnau, PhD
    Noon, Link Auditorium
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu