The UT Health Science Center recently received $837,000 in funding under the provisions of the Geier Consent Decree for FY 2004-2005. The funds are designated to increase recruitment and support of African-American faculty.

Portions of the funds have been specifically designated for:

- College of Medicine: $307,000
- College of Pharmacy: $180,000
- College of Dentistry: $100,000
- College of Nursing: $50,000
- Col. of Allied Health Sci.: $50,000

Minority Student Summer Programs: $50,000
Minority Student Fellowships: $50,000

Last year, the Health Science Center was able to fund the recruitment of only one minority faculty member from the Geier funds. This year, as a result of Chancellor Rice's efforts, each of the colleges will be able to significantly increase their minority recruitment efforts. This is the most significant allocation of the Geier funding to the UT system.

Jackson Hospital and Allied Health Form Partnership

The Board of Trustees at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital have passed a resolution to donate $300,000 to the College of Allied Health Sciences at UTHSC. The support will go toward helping the college recruit more physical and occupational therapy students, as well as provide renovated lab space for occupational therapy education, research and practice.

Currently, there is a national need for more physical and occupational therapists to serve patients in a variety of healthcare settings. Last year, the UT College of Allied Health Sciences in Memphis graduated 30 physical therapists and 12 occupational therapists. Through the years, UT has been the main source of physical and occupational therapists employed by West Tennessee Healthcare, one of the nation’s largest public, not-for-profit healthcare systems.

The donation will allow UT to renovate existing campus space to accommodate a new occupational therapy lab and purchase equipment. In honor of the donation and the relationship between the two organizations, the lab will be known as The West Tennessee Healthcare Occupational Therapy Research and Practice Lab.

Additionally, General Hospital will work with UT to intensify student recruitment in the West Tennessee area, and West Tennessee Healthcare sites will be designated as preferred training sites for students’ clinical training rotations.

BSA-Sponsored Black History Month Events at UTHSC

February 1
Kickoff Event
Food, Fun, Info.
Noon, SAC

February 12
Citywide Health Fair
9 a.m. - Noon, GEB Lobby

February 17
Health disparities panel discussion featuring local health professionals
Noon, SAC Auditorium

February 24
Finale with keynote speaker Joe Clark, historic principal and subject of the movie, “Lean on Me”
Noon, SAC Auditorium

February 28
Student tour of National Civil Rights Museum
3-5 p.m.
(FREE)
FYI: Mondays, 3 - 5 p.m., free admission

For more information on Black History Month events, contact Chelsey Hunter at chunter1@utmem.edu or Shanea Gethers at sgethers@utmem.edu.
Pediatric Reading Program Awarded 7,000 Books

First Book, a national non-profit in Washington, DC, recently selected the University of Tennessee as the recipient of 7,000 books for its Reach Out and Read (ROR) program. The books were distributed through First Book’s National Book Bank.

Reach Out and Read trains doctors and nurses to advise parents on the importance of reading aloud and to give books to children at pediatric check-ups from six months to five years of age, with a special focus on children growing up in poverty. Pediatric research reveals an association between pediatric literacy promotion and improvements in preschool language.

“We have experimental evidence that this program changes lives,” said Andy Spooner, MD, UT associate professor of pediatrics.

In fact, this program has proven to be so effective that when Lien Russell, MD, ROR medical director and UT assistant professor, learned of the award, she and her husband rented a U-Haul and drove to St. Louis to pick up the much needed donation.

“Our program was fortunate to be selected for such an enormous contribution, and I wanted to get the books here as quickly and as cost effectively as possible,” Dr. Russell said. “This donation allows us to nearly double our efforts to date.”

Dr. Spooner commented, “When the child’s physician encourages parents to read to their children, then hands them a book to read, they do it. This isn’t just a touchy-feely nice thing to do; this program will measurably improve reading readiness.”

Drs. Russell and Spooner, both UTHSC faculty, led the effort to establish a Reach Out and Read program at the UT Medical Group, Inc. pediatric clinic in April 2002. Since then, 4,000 books have been distributed to local children who, for economic reasons, have little or no access to books.

Reach Out and Read is a national program, which began in 1989 as a collaboration between pediatricians and early childhood educators at Boston City Hospital (now Boston Medical Center). First Book is an award-winning, non-profit children’s literacy organization. Since its inception, First Book has provided nearly 30 million new books to children from low-income families. For more information about First Book, visit www.firstbook.org.

On December 22, the General Clinical Research Center (GCRC) held a door decorating contest (above) to honor its last days in the Bowld Hospital. On Jan. 27, the GCRC was the last department to move from Bowld. The center moved to Methodist University Hospital. The UT GCRC, one of more than 70 NIH-funded research centers in the nation, reopened in a clinical setting with exam rooms, lab, DEXA, and administrative offices. The center provides support to principal investigators conducting human subject research.
Fleming Elected President of Surgery Society

James C. Fleming, MD, FACS, professor of ophthalmology at UTHSC, is the newly elected president of the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS).

Effective January 1, 2005, Dr. Fleming assumed the reigns of the 500-member international society after spending five years on the ASOPRS executive committee in several capacities. He will be honored by the society and recognized for his leadership at its annual meeting in Chicago in October.

Barbara Beatty, executive director of the ASOPRS, stated, “Dr. Fleming is highly respected and very well liked by the ophthalmic community, both internally with ASOPRS and externally, in the wider spectrum of ophthalmology. His insight and integrity are valuable assets to the society.”

Barrett G. Haik, MD, FACS and chairman of the UTHSC Department of Ophthalmology commented, “This recognition is reflective of Dr. Fleming’s significant contributions to the field of ophthalmic research, as well as his demonstrated leadership ability throughout the medical profession.”

A recognized leader in the field of ophthalmology, Dr. Fleming is past president of several professional organizations including the Memphis Eye Society, the Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology, the Memphis and Shelby County Medical Society, and the Tennessee Medical Association. He is also a delegate to the American Medical Association.

Student Represents McNair Program at TRIO Caucus

Christopher Howell, a member of the Memphis McNair Program (MMP), recently participated in the TRIO Caucus. Howell was one of 10 students from across the country chosen to speak about how his participation in TRIO programs has changed his life, giving him skills and confidence to make his life better and achieve educational and career goals.

The mission of the TRIO Caucus is to facilitate communications between Congressional offices, various organizations, and the U.S. Department of Education; generate letters of support for the TRIO programs; and to help other members of Congress understand the importance of expanding educational opportunities for all Americans. The Caucus showcased the six TRIO programs and will help to ensure that the programs continue to provide educational opportunities to low-income, first-generation college students.

The purpose of MMP is to provide preparation for doctoral study. The MMP has been funded at UTHSC since 1995. The program’s mission is to provide research internships and mentoring to its participants.

Important Dates in Black History for Memphis

September 27, 1905
The first published blues composition, W.C. Handy’s “Memphis Blues,” went on sale in Memphis.

January 12, 1952
The University of Tennessee admitted its first black student. Currently, 269 black students are enrolled at UTHSC.

April 25, 1960
A consent judgment in Memphis federal court ended restrictions barring voters in Fayette County, Tennessee. This was the first voting rights case.

In Memoriam

Russell O. Gilpatrick, DDS, dean of the College of Dentistry, whose mother Carolyn Gilpatrick, died January 23.

David Tipton, DDS, PhD, associate professor in the College of Dentistry, was recently awarded the College of Dentistry Outstanding Faculty Award presented at the Winter Faculty Seminar.
Sexual Harassment Training

Effective January 1, 2005, all UT Health Science Center faculty are required to complete an on-line training course for the prevention of sexual harassment on campus. Initiated by the Faculty Senate professional conduct committee, this course is designed to ensure that all faculty are familiar with the legal and professional responsibilities incumbent on everyone in order to provide students and colleagues with a supportive academic environment free from sexual harassment.

According to Ken Brown, director of equity and diversity, this course will eventually become part of faculty, student and staff orientation. He said, “By starting with the faculty, this is a great way to get the course implemented with one segment of our population, and then we can slowly integrate it in to the other areas.” This is the beginning of the university’s joint training program in partnership with Methodist University Hospital, the Veterans Administration Medical Center, The MED, and UT Medical Group, Inc.

Faculty members who are UT Medical Group employees and who have already been required to complete an on-line course in sexual harassment are exempt from taking this course.

Following are details on how to access the course:
2. Log in to access secure documents (Secure log in area for UTHSC faculty, staff and students).
3. Click on Administration.
4. Click on Sexual Harassment Avoidance Training Course.

If you have any questions, contact Ken Brown or Amy Lewis, EEO compliance specialist at 448-5558.

Need a Computer for Your Home?

UTHSC faculty, staff and students can take advantage of reduced prices and other benefits on Dell computers.

Visit www.dell.com/dellu/uthmemphis for more information on this opportunity.

Time to be Part of the Downtown Renaissance.

Time to Find Your Place in Uptown.

The newest community by downtown developers Jack Belz and Henry Turley features 2, 3 & 4 bedroom homes in nearly 20 different floor plans. With a nod to the historic homes here in Memphis’ first suburb, Uptown homes are designed by award-winning architects Looney Ricks Kiss and Bottletree Design Group. Built to EcoBUILD construction guidelines, Uptown homes are 30% more energy efficient than standard homes. This innovative development of 400 quality homes will be built by Chamberlain & McCreery, FaxonGil-lis, Populace Homes, Patton & Taylor, Hyman Building Supply and Salton Fox. Loaded with washer/dryer, range and refrigerator for your convenience. Close to UT, St. Jude and other downtown work centers, sports, entertainment and fun. Ask about special subsidies for those who qualify. Visit our new sales center at 534 N. Second Street or our web site at www.uptownmemphis.org, call (901) 527-7001 or inquire at homes@uptownmemphis.org.
All NetID Account Passwords Must be Changed by March 1.

It is imperative that all users at all University of Tennessee campuses change their passwords as soon as possible. All passwords must be changed by March 1 or the password will reset to the default value. (For the default value protocol go to http://www.utmem.edu/helpdesk/email/NetID_info.htm) The password must then be changed before access to the NetID systems is allowed.

New passwords must be at least eight characters and include at least three of the following four characteristics:

- At least one numeric character (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0)
- At least one special character (/,-,=,+,#, $, etc.),
- At least one lowercase character (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, etc.)
- At least one uppercase character (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, etc.)

Password expiration is every 180 days. For details about changing your NetID password, go to http://www.utmem.edu/helpdesk/email/changepw.htm.

To change your password, go to https://directory.utk.edu and click the change password button. For assistance contact the UTHSC helpdesk at 448-2222 or e-mail helpdesk@utmem.edu.

Celebrating Black History

In the Spotlight
Kenneth Robinson, MD

Kenneth S. Robinson, MD, former assistant dean for admissions and student affairs in the UTHSC College of Medicine, has served as the commissioner of health for the state of Tennessee for the past two years. He is an ardent champion of holistic and comprehensive approaches to public health and individual well-being.

Dr. Robinson holds a bachelor’s degree, cum laude, from Harvard University; a medical degree from Harvard Medical School; and a Masters of Divinity from Vanderbilt Divinity School. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine, formerly practicing and teaching general internal medicine as a faculty member for a decade at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. For 12 years, he served exclusively as an academic physician, including his time at UTHSC. He has also served as vice-chairman of the Department of Health’s Minority Advisory Council and chairman of the department’s Black Health Care Task Force. Since 1991, Dr. Robinson has served as Pastor and chief executive of the progressive St. Andrew AME Church in Memphis, Tenn. He founded and is the immediate past president and CEO of The Works, Inc., an associated, faith-based Community Housing Development Organization.

Black History Month Featured Speaker

Joe Clark

February 24
Noon - SAC

Joe Clark is an educator and lecturer whose story became famous with Morgan Freeman’s portrayal of him in the 1989 film, “Lean on Me.” In 1982, Clark, a former Army drill instructor, took the job as principal of Eastside High School in Paterson, N.J. On his first day, he expelled 300 students for a variety of disruptive or criminal behavior and established his principles of discipline and his high expectations in academics. After two years, Clark changed Eastside from a notoriously unruly institution into a model school. He is now a lecturer and the director of Essex County Youth House, a juvenile detention center in Newark, N.J.
1. **“Synaptic Transmission and Gap Junctions Synchronize the Bursting Activity of Olfactory Bulb Neurons”**  
   Dr. Abdallah Hayar  
   Noon, Link Auditorium  
   More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu  
   Black History Month Kickoff Event  
   Food, Fun, Info  
   Noon, SAC  
   More info: chunter1@utmem.edu or sgethers@utmem.edu

2. **“The Collapse of the Coxibs: Lessons in Drug Development from the Arachidonic Acid Cascade”**  
   Dr. Garret A. FitzGerald  
   12:30 p.m., Link Auditorium  
   jfountain@utmem.edu

3. **“Redefining Readiness: Terrorism Planning Through the Eyes of the Public”**  
   Dr. Roz D. Lasker  
   8 a.m., GEB A312  
   More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu  
   “TITAN: Dentistry’s Role in a Bioterrorism Event”  
   Dr. Ocie Lee Wilson III  
   11:30 a.m., GEB A304  
   More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu

4. **“Improving the Biocompatibility of Subcutaneous Glucose Sensors Via Nitric Oxide Release”**  
   Mark Schoenfisch  
   3:30 p.m., U of M Engineering Auditorium  
   More info: 678-3733

5. **“Simple Computer-Aided Technology for Studies of Zebrafish Motility Mutants and Oocyte Maturation.”**  
   Dr. Charles R. Lessmann  
   4 p.m., Link Auditorium  
   More info: wlang@utmem.edu

6. **“Midbrain Modulation of Motivation”**  
   Dr. Charles Blaha  
   Noon, Link Auditorium  
   More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

7. **“Genetic Modulation of Transcripts, Cells, and Yes, Even Behavior or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Complexity”**  
   Dr. Robert W. Williams  
   12:30 p.m., Link Auditorium  
   jfountain@utmem.edu

8. **The Certified Professional Secretary (CPS) Information Session**  
   UTHSC Training & Development  
   Noon, SAC 313  
   More info: 448-2112

9. **“TITAN: Topic-Chemical and Nerve Agents”**  
   Dr. Lynda Park  
   Noon, Coleman North Auditorium  
   More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu  
   “Human Pulmonary Circulation Studied as an Engineering System”  
   Qinlian Zhou  
   3:30 p.m., U of M Engineering Auditorium  
   More info: 678-3733

10. **Citywide Health Fair**  
    9 a.m. - noon, GEB Lobby  
    More info: chunter1@utmem.edu or sgethers@utmem.edu

11. **“Neuronal Death in Huntington’s Disease”**  
    Dr. Cynthia T. McMurray  
    4 p.m., Link Auditorium  
    More info: wlang@utmem.edu

12. **“Directed Differentiation of Embryonic Stem Cells for Transplantation Therapy of Parkinson’s Disease: Hope and Hype”**  
    Dr. Kwang-Soo Kim  
    Noon, Link Auditorium  
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

13. **National Telehealth Grand Rounds: Topic TBA**  
    TBA  
    2:30 p.m., Call for location 448-1474

14. **“Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases: Part 1 of 4”**  
    Various Speakers  
    11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., GEB A312  
    More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu

15. **“Microdialysis Studies of the Molecular Mechanism of Foreign Body Response to Implanted Biomaterials”**  
    Julie A. Stenken  
    3:30 p.m., U of M Engineering Auditorium  
    More info: 678-3733

16. **“Nontypeable Haemophilus Influenzae and Airway Sialic Acids: Possible Role in Colonization and Airway Infection”**  
    Dr. Michael A. Apicella  
    4 p.m., Link Auditorium  
    More info: gbyrne@utmem.edu

17. **“Neurogenic Radial Glia, Patterns of Neurogenesis and Migration”**  
    Dr. Arnold Kriegstein  
    Noon, Link Auditorium  
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

18. **Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine Preventable Diseases: Part 2 of 4**  
    Various Speakers  
    11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., GEB A312  
    More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu

19. **Black History Month Finale with Keynote Speaker Joe Clark, Historic Principal and Subject of the Movie, “Lean on Me”**  
    Noon, SAC Auditorium  
    More info: chunter1@utmem.edu or sgethers@utmem.edu

20. **“Functional Biomaterial Coatings: Where Do I Go from Here?”**  
    Gary Bledsoe  
    3:30 p.m., U of M Engineering Auditorium  
    More info: 678-3733

21. **“Directed Differentiation of Embryonic Stem Cells for Transplantation Therapy of Parkinson’s Disease: Hope and Hype”**  
    Dr. Kwang-Soo Kim  
    Noon, Link Auditorium  
    More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

22. **“Human Pulmonary Circulation Studied as an Engineering System”**  
    Qinlian Zhou  
    3:30 p.m., U of M Engineering Auditorium  
    More info: 678-3733

23. **Student Tour of National Civil Rights Museum**  
    3 - 5 p.m.  
    Admission free  
    More info: chunter1@utmem.edu or sgethers@utmem.edu