Students Begin Classes in Revamped Nursing Program

Class begins today for the first 100 plus students entering the newly minted undergraduate nursing degree program offered by UTHSC in affiliation with Methodist Healthcare. Two years ago, UTHSC made the decision to reestablish its bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) program, which had been inactive since 1998. Also at that time, Methodist Healthcare phased out its diploma in nursing program to support the redesigned UTHSC program.

The new program offers three options: (1) traditional BSN, for students with 60 hours of prerequisite courses; (2) second degree, for applicants with a bachelor’s degree or higher in another field; and (3) the RN to BSN option, for registered nurses with a diploma or associate’s degree in nursing.

“We reinstated this program, partially as a response to the national nursing shortage. Our objective is to meet workplace demands for highly skilled nurses with an innovative curriculum that will help us reach our goal for quality patient outcomes,’’ said Donna K. Hathaway, PhD, RN, dean of the College of Nursing. “Of particular note is the fact that 42 percent of the inaugural class is African-American, in contrast to the national average of only 12 percent.”

The program offers a strong science component, coursework in genetics and informatics and hands-on experience in clinical anatomy with cadavers. Students also can easily progress through multiple degree programs with no repetition in coursework.

Get Ready to Walk for Good Cause and Give Back

By Megan Hefner
Communications Intern

Get out your walking shoes; it’s time to warm up and stretch for the Annual American Heart Association (AHA) Heart Walk. Chancellor William F. “Bill” Owen, Jr., MD, has enthusiastically pledged the support of the UTHSC campus to once again participate in this year’s walk.

The three-mile walk around downtown Memphis will begin at AutoZone Park on Saturday, Sept. 10, at 9 a.m. Because this is a family event, other activities such as health screenings, batting practice, a pet corner, face painting and games also will be available.

Many UTHSC faculty, staff and students have participated in the walk over the past few years. Last year the UTHSC family raised $15,350. Efforts are underway to double that amount this year. In order to reach this goal, everyone’s help is needed. So, for those who have not walked before, now is the chance to participate in this good cause.

Money raised from the Heart Walk goes toward the research of heart-related diseases, which is the leading cause of death in the United States. Funds from the walk also are used for education with most of it benefiting Memphis.

The AHA provides an amazing amount of support to UTHSC through various funding venues. Nearly 20 investigators have received almost $3 million through numerous AHA grants. For this reason, the UTHSC family is excited to have this chance to give back.

Nominations Sought: Employee of the Year

Nominations for the 19th Annual Thomas Connell Lichterman Outstanding Employee Award for 2005 are being accepted through Aug. 15 at http://www.utmem.edu/lichterman_award. Any UT or UTMG employee may submit a nomination.

Loved-ones of the late Tommy Lichterman, who was a former UTMG employee, established the award.

Eligible nominations must be non-exempt, full-time employees who have worked with UTHSC for at least three years. Self-nominations, anonymous nominations and previous winners are not eligible. Final candidates will be interviewed by the advisory committee.

The winner will be announced in December and will be presented with a $1,500 check and a plaque. For additional information, please call 448-8026.

Please join the UT family in showing support. To form a team or join an existing one, please contact Sharon Richardson or Bobby Thomas, UTHSC’s co-coordinators of the Heart Walk at srichardson@utmem.edu or bthomas@utmem.edu.

For those who cannot participate in the walk, please consider sending a personal donation. To make a donation, contact Sharon or Bobby. The schedule for the walk is as follows:

• 7 a.m.-Red Cap Breakfast & Early Registration
• 8 a.m.-Registration & Booths and Kids’ Corner Open
• 8:30 a.m.-Music and Pre-walk
• 9 a.m.-Heart Walk Begins
• 10 a.m.-Food and Drinks
• 11 a.m.-Conclusion
Filter to Block Spam

If your e-mail inbox is being filled with unsolicited, wasteful and annoying messages, Computing and Telecommunications has the solution for you.

SpamAssassin, a software that evaluates and rates e-mail with respect to its likelihood of being spam, is now available. Most spam is commercial junk advertising; however, unwanted religious, racial, political, sexual or, even research-oriented messages are considered an act of spamming.

To configure SpamAssassin, which works with the UTHSC e-mail system, go to http://www.utmem.edu/spam.

For assistance call the helpdesk at 448-2222 or e-mail the helpdesk@utmem.edu

Summer Programs Get Students Excited About Science

Getting a summer job took on new meaning for more than 150 undergraduate and high school students who participated in four different health career programs offered by UTHSC.

Putting aside the usual idea of a summer vacation, these students spent two months experimenting in laboratories, studying in classrooms and shadowing professionals in their dream careers. These students celebrated their achievements July 15 in a culminating program at the Student Alumni Center.

"Of course you think about what job you can get to make money," said Marcus Jennings, 20, when he thought of returning home to Memphis for the summer. "We still make money, but at the same time we are gaining something bigger," he continued.

Marcus, a senior at Xavier College in New Orleans, spends the day in a research laboratory testing cells for a protein that helps cancer cells get oxygen.

He is one of 20 participants in the Memphis McNair Program, which is designed to provide undergraduates with effective preparation for doctoral study. The Memphis McNair Program offers a nine-week guided research internship with workshops and GRE (graduate school entrance exam) preparation for first-generation, low-income students.

Growing up in a single-parent home where his mother had to work three jobs, Marcus said he learned early on that if he was ever going to get anywhere he was going to have do a lot of work.

Now with dreams of pursuing a PhD in physiology, he said he is receiving the kind of positive feedback from his summer efforts that is inspiring him to make things happen.

In addition to the Memphis McNair Program, students also are participating in the Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP), the Tennessee Institutes for Pre-Professionals (TIP) and the Memphis Challenge Program. These programs are made available through the Office of Health Career Programs at UTHSC.

Noel Moore, 20, who is a participant in HCOP, described her experience as "priceless" as she gains a head start in classes she will take at the University of Memphis this fall. Much of her first four weeks have been spent in the classroom studying subjects such as biotechnology, chemistry and physics. She will continue learning by shadowing a UTHSC professional for the last four weeks.

"This is like my dream job," said Noel, who wants to become a cardiologist. "I’ve been thinking about this since I was 10."

"I am so psyched for med school," she continued. "Just being here at UT has confirmed my dreams of becoming a physician."

Noel is one of 37 students to participate in HCOP, which is designed to provide enrichment and preparation for underprivileged students in the Shelby County area who are interested in careers in the health profession.
Mitchell A. Watsky, PhD, associate professor of physiology, has been awarded a two-year grant totaling $150,000 by the Scleroderma Foundation. His proposal received the 2005 Marta Marx Eradication of Scleroderma Award.

Dr. Watsky’s research is focusing on preventing the formation of specialized cells that are activated during the disease and which cause much of the fibrosis that occurs in scleroderma.

The Phillip Morris External Research Program awarded a $744,765 three-year grant to Susan E. Senogles, PhD, associate professor of molecular sciences. Dr. Senogles’ research is focused on small-cell lung cancer, which comprises about 25 percent of all lung cancer, and is the type most closely associated with tobacco smoking. Specifically, she is exploring the growth-inhibiting effects of D2 dopamine receptors which are found on small-cell lung cancer cells.

Dominic M. Desiderio, PhD, professor of neurology and molecular science, presented a plenary lecture titled “The Human Pituitary Proteome” at the 7th Polish Conference on Analytical Chemistry at the Nicholas Copernicus University in Torun, Poland on July 4.

Surya Shah, PhD, professor of occupational therapy and neurology, has had his modification of the Barthel Index for measuring dependency in self and burden of care selected by Merck & Co Inc. for its multinational study on “Treatment of Sarcopenia in Patients Recovering from Hip Fracture.”

The study will be conducted in nine countries. To facilitate implementation in various countries, Dr. Shah is helping the MAPI Research Institute in Lyon, France with the linguistic concepts validation.

Tune the radio dial to 1210AM on Sunday, July 24 to hear Donna Przepiórka, MD, PhD, professor of medicine and medical director of the UT Blood & Marrow Transplant Center, join The Group Room, a national radio support group program for cancer patients.

Dr. Przepiórka will discuss the role of stem cell transplant in the treatment of cancer. The show airs from 3-5 p.m.

Susan Jacob, PhD, professor in the College of Nursing, served as a delegate from Tennessee in the American Nurses Association House of Delegates session held in Washington, D.C., June 17-19, 2005.

Peggy Veeser, EdD, professor and director of the primary/public health department in the College of Nursing, has been selected to serve on the advisory board for Harbor of Health, a new primary care and wellness center in Harbor Town which is scheduled to open to the public in September 2005.

Bobby Bellflower, DNSc, NNP, graduate teaching assistant in the College of Nursing, is featured on the cover of the July 2005 American Journal of Nursing.

Nadeem Zafar, MD, associate professor in pathology, was recently appointed to serve on the City of Germantown’s Education Commission by its board of aldermen and mayor.

Hosein Shokouh-Amiri, MD, PhD, a transplant surgeon and professor of surgery, was featured in Le Bonheur magazine for successfully completing a living-related liver transplant — one of the most complicated surgeries now being performed. Through a 14-hour process that required him to perform surgeries at both Methodist Healthcare University Hospital and Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center, Dr. Amiri saved the life of 13-year-old Devan Freeman.

Devan, whose liver was attacked by a mysterious virus, was given 55 percent of his 19-year-old brother’s liver after his brother was identified as a possible donor. During the transplant, Dr. Amiri was assisted by other UTHSC surgeons, Dr. Osama Gaber and Dr. Nosratollah Nezakatgoo.

Thank You

We want to thank our family at UT for a wonderful retirement. All the cards, calls, e-mails, gifts and donations to the money tree meant so much.

The friendships we made will always be remembered. All of you are in our hearts forever.

Sonny and Sue Beasley
(Both retired on June 30 after many years of service to UTHSC.)

Hats Off To...

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ronald Adkins, PhD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Correlation of Birth Weight with Leptin and Adiponectin”</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
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<td>Edsel Arce-Hernandez, MD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Identification of Markers of Disease Activity in SLE”</td>
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<td>Ronnie Collins, MD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Non-Invasive Assessment of Arterial Compliance in Pediatric Patients at Risk for Cardiovascular Disease”</td>
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<td>Catherine Crill, PharmD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“In Vitro Evaluation of Albumin Addition to Parenteral Nutrition Solutions: Effect on Multivalent Cations and Filter Stability”</td>
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<td>Robert Danish, MD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Water and Metabolic Changes in Severe Diabetic Acidosis”</td>
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<td>Lama Elbahlawan, MD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Association of a Genetic Polymorphism in ILG Promoter Region in Children with Community Acquired Pneumonia”</td>
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<td>Ana Karabell, MD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Regulation of Human Pyruvate Dehydrogenase Gene Expression”</td>
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<td>Hae Jong Kim, PhD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Effects of TLR Ligands on Cholangiocytic Activation”</td>
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<td>Narendra Kumar, PhD</td>
<td>Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of America</td>
<td>“Role of JAK3-villin Interaction in the Restitution of Intestinal Epithelial Cell”</td>
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<td>Keith Lau, MD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Prenatal Programming of Urine Concentration in Quail”</td>
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<td>Jeffrey Lehman, MD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Immunomodulatory Effects of Saccharomyces Cerevisiae Mannan in Murine Model of Allergic Asthma”</td>
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<td>Lindsay Lester, PharmD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Early Use of Vasopressin in Neonates after Cardiopulmonary Bypass”</td>
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<td>Marian Levy, DrPH, RD</td>
<td>March of Dimes</td>
<td>“Comenzando Bien: A Healthy Start for Latino Babies”</td>
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<td>Isao Miyairi, MD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Mouse Model of Chronic Chlamydial Lung Infection”</td>
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<td>Tracie Overbeck, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Allergy Asthma Model”</td>
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<td>Jay Pershad, MD</td>
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<td>“Propofol versus Pentobarbital for Sedation during Magnetic Resonance Imaging in Children”</td>
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<td>Michael Quasney, MD, PhD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“The S-B+ 1580 Polymorphism in Pediatric Lung Injury”</td>
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<td>P. David Rogers, PharmD, PhD</td>
<td>Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center</td>
<td>“Stress Responses to Sterol Biosynthesis Inhibition”</td>
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<td>Robert Schoumacher, MD</td>
<td>Cystic Fibrosis Foundation</td>
<td>“Multicenter Epidemiologic Registry of Cystic Fibrosis: A Longitudinal Follow-up Study”</td>
<td>$52,000</td>
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</tbody>
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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.
Compliance is acting according to certain accepted standards. Compliance with federal billing and privacy laws is important because violation of federal laws carries monetary repercussions. This means the university could have to pay money to the federal government if a violation occurs.

It is the responsibility of UTHSC faculty, staff and students to embrace, endorse and promote the compliance program. Failure to adhere to the federal, state and local laws and regulations can expose the university to prosecution or administrative actions.

**UTHSC Billing and Privacy Compliance Program Purpose**

The purpose of this compliance program is to:
- Prevent violations of the law.
- Detect violations of the law.
- Document the provider’s efforts in the event violations are not detected.
- Inform faculty, students and staff about the federal billing and privacy regulations that impact them.

**UT Health Science Center Billing and Privacy Compliance Program:**
- Establishes a structure to disseminate legal and policy changes quickly.
- Improves the speed and quality of responses to lawsuits, investigations and other emergencies.
- Reduces the likelihood of civil and criminal wrongdoing.
- Documents the organization’s good intentions to comply with federal regulations. It improves its position to negotiate reduced penalties if violations occur.
- Reduces the risk of prosecution and conviction.
- Reduces the risk of a government-imposed compliance program.
- Establishes practice standards and procedures.
- Designates a compliance officer.
- Conducts training and education.
- Develops open lines of communication.
- Conducts internal auditing and monitoring.
- Enforces disciplinary standards.
- Responds to detected offenses.

The university must have established compliance standards and procedures to be followed by its faculty, students, staff and other agents that are reasonably capable of reducing the prospect of criminal conduct.

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**Accepting Young Investigator Award Applications**

*By Laura Moore*  
*Communications Intern*

The E. Eric Muirhead Hypertension Research Day Program at UTHSC is accepting applications for the 2005 Leonard Share Young Investigator Award (YIA).

The award, which consists of a plaque and a $1,000 stipend, recognizes a UTHSC student or graduate student and a postdoctoral fellow or resident for work in basic science and clinical research in the cardiovascular-renal field.

The Young Investigator Award will be presented during the 2005 E. Eric Muirhead Hypertension Research Day Meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 2, at the North Auditorium of the Coleman Building, located at 956 Court Avenue.

The deadline for the award application is Sept. 15. For application instructions or more information, contact:

Easter Jenkins  
Department of Physiology  
894 Union Ave., Nash Room 426  
Memphis, TN 38163  
(901) 448-5822  
ejenkins@physio1.utmem.edu

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**New Student Insurance Coverage Now Available**

UTHSC, in partnership with the Chickering Group, an Aetna company, is excited to announce the availability of the 2005-2006 Student Injury and Sickness Plan.

The health insurance plan protects students at school, at home and while traveling or studying abroad.


To speak with a representative, call the Chickering Group Customer Service Department at 1-877-373-2708.
The eight-week summer institute is designed to strengthen basic science competencies, provide standardized test preparation and offer a preview of professional school curriculum.

TIP is a program that offers black residents in Tennessee an opportunity to also learn for life by offering year-round support, advice and activities for those who want to pursue health careers.

Michael Wiggins, 38, is just one of 42 students to participate in the TIP program this summer.

“I am the first one in my family to try to pursue any college degree,” said Michael, who is assisting with research in such topics as health disparities and health policy issues.

Michael, who attempted college in the 1980s but said he was immature and had to learn life’s lessons the hard way, has never lost his interest in science. Falling in love with the microscope, Michael wanted to know more.

Now as a senior at the University of Memphis, Michael wants to say “thank you” for his summer experience.

Kenetra Hix, 23, also a TIP participant, has a bachelor’s degree in biology from Tennessee State University. She is spending her summer preparing for the MCAT (medical school entrance exam), which she will take in August. Kenetra, who wants to focus on primary care in her career, said the professors have taught the summer participants such things as how to think more critically, read faster and set-up a study schedule.

“I’m ecstatic,” Kenetra said. “It has opened me up to so much I didn’t know but needed to know.” Not only has her summer class helped in preparation for the MCAT, but it also has been motivational as well, especially as she has talked with medical students and looked at M-4s and thought, “I’m going to be there someday.”

The Memphis Challenge Program is the final summer program that offered 14 students an opportunity to develop as future community leaders from among Memphis’ brightest graduating high school seniors. All of these programs are designed to increase the awareness of students to the exciting career opportunities available within the biomedical science community and are enhanced by the willingness of UTHSC faculty to mentor these young scholars.
19 “National Telehealth Grand Rounds: Statewide and Interstate Collaboration in Telehealth”
Dale C. Alverson, MD, medical director, University of New Mexico HSC, Center for Telehealth
2:30 - 3:30 p.m., Location TBA
More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu or call 448-1474

20 “Advances in Adjuvant Systemic Therapy of Breast Cancer”
Medicine Grand Rounds
Mohammad Jahanzeb, MD
8 a.m., Coleman North Auditorium
More info: bedman@utmem.edu

21 “Confronting Elder Abuse and Neglect”
Elinor F. Reed Distinguished Visiting Professorship
Linda Phillips, PhD, RN, FAAN
10 - 11:30 a.m., A102 GEB
More info: mmrobinson@utmem.edu

22 “2nd Annual Forensic Nursing Conference: How Communities Address Elder Abuse”
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., A102 GEB
More info: http://nursingnet.utmem.edu/forensicconference/

28 “CDC Satellite Conference: Immunization Update”
Various speakers
11a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Location TBA
More info: jtidwel8@utmem.edu or call 448-1474

29 “Domestic Violence and Children: Ideology, Impact and Treatment Approaches”
10 a.m. - Noon,
Memphis Public Library, 3030 Poplar
Free to general public, $5 registration fee for attorneys.
To register: cmills8@utmem.edu or call 448-1845