President Petersen Rolls Out Strategic Plan

At midday on Monday, August 14, nearly 100 legislators, local dignitaries and political officials, including Tennessee’s Lt. Governor, gathered at the Freeman Auditorium on the UTHSC campus to hear UT President John Petersen introduce the university’s strategic plan. The visit to the Memphis campus was the final stop on the president’s statewide strategic plan tour of the UT system.

Later that afternoon, UTHSC Chancellor William F. Owen, Jr., MD, introduced the President to a second group — more than 150 members of the Health Science Center’s faculty, students and staff gathered at the SAC. The UTHSC audience received an even more in-depth briefing on the strategic plan with additional presentations from the President’s leadership team: Robert Levy, PhD, vice president for academic affairs and student success; David Millhorn, PhD, vice president for research and economic development, and Jack Britt, PhD, executive vice president.

“You’ve never seen a plan like this put forward in the system before,” observed President Petersen. “It’s a remarkable convergence of thought processes about what the university should be — not focused on one campus or one locale. This plan encompasses what our university can do that is important for the whole state.” He added, “One of the biggest challenges for a multi-faceted, multi-functional organization is driving to achieve shared goals. That’s a central element of this plan. We recognize each campus is unique and needs its own strategy. The UT strategic plan provides a framework for moving forward.”

The strategic plan is built around six points — student access and student success; David Millhorn, PhD, vice president for research and economic development, and Jack Britt, PhD, executive vice president.

President Petersen Rolls Out Strategic Plan...Cont’d on Page 3

Team Captains and Campus Rally for Heart Walk

A walkers rally will be held Thursday, August 31, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the UTHSC Fitness Center Gymnasium.

There’s something about a captain. The title adds an instant air of authority to whoever holds it. Whether it’s Blye, Hook or Crunch, being a captain is something special. On July 25, 17 of UTHSC’s 27 team captains rallied to kick off their leading role in the 15th annual American Heart Association (AHA) Heart Walk. The luncheon served to welcome newcomers to the ranks and salute those commanders returning to the AHA fold. About half of the 2005 UTHSC captains re-enlisted to support this year’s walk.

Thousands of Memphis area residents are expected to saunter the streets of downtown on Saturday, September 16. The urban amble will begin at 9 a.m. from AutoZone Park. For the second consecutive year, the UT Health Science Center is supporting the AHA as a Red Cap sponsor of the Heart Walk. Red Cap Survivors include those who have recovered from the trauma of heart attacks and strokes, as well as anyone who has undergone a preventive surgical procedure such as a bypass, pacemaker or implantable defibrillator. UTHSC will be hosting a Red Cap Tent on the morning of the Heart Walk to distribute the colorful head gear to survivors and provide tasty, heart-healthy snacks.

“Last year’s Heart Walk was the most successful ever,” said La Don Jones, vice chancellor of community affairs. The more than 300 walkers from the UT Health Science Center raised over $33,000 to fight heart disease and stroke. “Those positive results are due directly to the effort each of you and your team members put into this event,” he told the group. “Working together, we can make this year even more successful.” The Health Science Center’s goal for 2006 is $36,000.

Sharon Richardson, UTHSC campaign chair for the Heart Walk, urged Heart Walk...Cont’d on Page 3
Two Executive Appointments Focus on Academic Excellence

Chancellor William F. Owen, Jr., MD, recently announced the appointment of two senior executives to his leadership team. Effective September 1, Cheryl R. Scheid, PhD, will assume the position of vice chancellor for academic, faculty and student affairs. Dianna A. Johnson, PhD, will report to her as the new associate vice chancellor for faculty and student retention.

As vice chancellor, Dr. Scheid will be responsible for identifying and implementing academic process improvements, and the establishment and enforcement of academic policies that affect UTHSC’s students and faculty. Dr. Scheid will work closely with the UTHSC’s college deans, Offices of Research, Equity and Diversity, and Human Resources, as well as the UT system Provost, Dr. Bob Levy. As associate vice chancellor, Dr. Johnson will be responsible for facilitating UTHSC’s processes for recruiting faculty, as well as developing and executing faculty development and retention programs.

“Together, Dr. Scheid and Dr. Johnson will be a dynamic team,” observed Chancellor Owen. “They will play a pivotal role in helping the UT Health Science Center excel in all four tiers of our mission — education, research, patient care and community service. Organizational success is highly dependent on the quality of our talent and their work environment. We have made a major commitment to be at the forefront of faculty mentoring and development, which will help us achieve our goals,” he said.

Prior to joining UTHSC, Dr. Scheid was interim provost and vice chancellor for faculty administration, as well as professor of physiology and surgery for the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, Mass. Dr. Scheid began her academic career as assistant professor of physiology at Tufts University School of Medicine after receiving her doctorate in biology from Boston University. She is internationally recognized in the field of urology and has published extensively in the area.

Dr. Johnson has been the assistant dean for faculty affairs at UTHSC since 2002. She has held the Roger L. Hiatt Endowed Professorship and served as director of research in the UTHSC Department of Ophthalmology since 1997. Before coming to Memphis, Dr. Johnson was the Research to Prevent Blindness Stein Professor and director of basic research in the Department of Ophthalmology, as well as assistant dean for Research Training at the University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston Medical School.

Ruffner Appointed College of Medicine Interim Dean in Chattanooga

B. Winfred Ruffner, Jr., MD, an accomplished leader in medical oncology, assumed the interim dean position of the UTHSC College of Medicine (COM), Chattanooga, on August 1 for a one-year period.

Dr. Ruffner, associate professor of medicine at UTHSC, Chattanooga, has been actively involved in determining medical policy for the Erlanger Health Systems, Chattanooga, through his participation on several hospital committees. He replaced Ronald G. Blankenbaker, MD, who stepped down to pursue special projects at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga.

Dr. Ruffner’s impact is felt on the state level as well through his position as a trustee in the Tennessee Medical Association (TMA). He represents the TMA as a member of the TennCare Stakeholder Group and is also an appointee to the Governor’s Safety Net Study Committee.

Prior to his new role, Dr. Ruffner was interim dean of the UTHSC Chattanooga COM from 1997 to 2004. He continues as chairman of UT Physicians, a clinical practice group in Chattanooga. Dr. Ruffner holds a medical degree from Duke University and completed fellowships at the Laboratory of Biochemical Genetics, National Heart Institute and National Institutes of Health.
success, research and economic development, and outreach and globalization. The plan’s intended outcomes will include more students who finish their degrees, research that sparks economic development, and programs that reach across the state and around the world.

“We want to extend our success in the classroom and the clinic and the laboratory,” stated Dr. Britt, “to serving every citizen in every county every day. We envision our faculty will not only have a teaching, research and service component but an outreach component as well.”

President Petersen explained, “We can’t be successful unless everyone buys in and supports the strategic plan. We need and we appreciate your help and we plan to show you that we do.”

(To read more about the UT strategic plan, visit the UTHSC Web site at www.utmem.edu and check the News & Events column, or contact Communications and Marketing for copies of the strategic plan materials.)

‘Building Bridges’ Gets Boost to Help Youth

Building Bridges to Health Science Literacy – a UTHSC community outreach initiative – will now be able to introduce more underserved youth to the study of science and health-related fields thanks to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) granting $8.5 million nationwide for Science Education Partnership Awards (SEPA).

UTHSC was one of seven universities in the United States to receive funding for the SEPA projects, which are designed to stimulate the public’s interest in science. Building Bridges to Health Science Literacy will receive $1.3 million to support the work here at UTHSC.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for the Health Science Center to develop significant community partnerships, as well as add a novel dimension to the promotion of health science literacy throughout Memphis and the Mid-South region,” said Robert Shreve, EdD, assistant dean in the College of Medicine and principal investigator of the grant.

Beginning with established community resources and partnerships, this project will develop innovative approaches to introduce problem-based learning to Memphis schools (K-12). Memphis Science Partners and the Memphis Educational Computer Connectivity Alliance (MECCA) are established partners, which have been instrumental in bringing hands-on science learning to underserved youth. Once problem-based learning has been institutionalized in Memphis schools, this instructional process will be extended to multiple academic and community venues.

The second goal of this project is to develop an educational program to improve the genetic literacy of the general public. Specifically, the project is designed to build on participants’ own experiences to develop an appreciation of the genetic basis of disease and the potential impact of genetics on healthcare. Subsequently, significant efforts will be directed toward expansion and integration of related activities.

Although the initial target audience will be people participating in established clinical research programs at UTHSC, additional venues include traveling “suitcase exhibits” and interactive displays in collaboration with the Memphis Pink Palace Museum and school-based Family Health Nights.

Administered by the National Center for Research Resources (NCRR) — a part of the NIH — SEPA grants provide from two to five years of support. In addition to UTHSC, grants will be presented to Illinois State University, the University of Alabama, the University of Arizona, the University of Maryland, the University of Michigan and the University of Pittsburgh.
On Aug. 3, nearly 60 patients were seen by volunteer doctors and medical students from the UT Hamilton Eye Institute. In a four-hour period, a record number of patients were seen in this nationwide community service project in which free glaucoma screenings were offered with the assistance of The Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation (FCGCF).

(Top picture, from left) Mary Scott Pearson, regional director for the FCGCF; Bobby White, regional director for Congressman Harold Ford, Jr.; Dan Linn, UTHSC medical student; and Taylor Brownlee, UTHSC medical student; stand by the FCGCF mobile unit which travels the country offering free glaucoma screening.

(Pictured right) Cort Sommerville, UTHSC medical student, examines a patient as part of the free glaucoma screening offered by the UT Hamilton Eye Institute and the FCGCF.

New Mail Metering Process to Save Time and Money

Neither rain nor sleet nor dark of night will keep the campus mail service from meeting UTHSC’s postage needs. A new process for mail metering will help individual colleges and departments save money through the centralization of postage operations on campus.

Currently, numerous meters are located in departments and offices across the UT Health Science Center campus. These postage meters need to be replaced to comply with a government mandated Information Based Indicia Program, which is designed to enhance the security of postage metering.

The cost for replacing the meters is estimated to reach $125,000. Complicating this figure is the fact that the number of meters on campus makes it more difficult to control the cost. The UTHSC Office of Finance and Operations offers a solution to this problem by having all mail metered by Campus Mail Services instead of by individual departments.

“In anticipation of the change by the government, we have had a group of people representing various departments looking into options – including the centralization of metering,” said Tony Ferrara, CPA, vice chancellor for finance and operations. “The good news is that through this centralization, we will not only save departments money (estimated at $75,000 campuswide), we should also be saving staff time since they will no longer have to run items through their meters.”

Ferrara illustrates these savings by explaining the current situation of the College of Allied Health Sciences. Last year the college, which mails about 7,200 items each year, spent $1,208 on postage meter rental and related equipment. Under the new process, the only cost to the College of Allied Health Sciences, other than postage, will be $288, resulting in a savings of $920.

Campus Mail Services will add 4 cents required postage for each letter or package to recover the cost of the equipment and other related costs. This is how the $288 fee to the College of Allied Health Sciences was calculated. Each college will be billed monthly through the IRIS system, ultimately saving each department time and money.

Since the campus mail service has traditionally only gathered mail in the morning, mail stations will be established in each building so that first class mail can also be picked up in the afternoon. For those faculty or staff members who may have last-minute mail that needs to be sent after the pickup times, it is suggested that each department keep a small supply of postage stamps on hand for emergency situations.

Campus postal employees are undergoing training this month, while each department’s individual postage meter contract is being allowed to expire. Campus personnel hope to have this new process of centralized mail metering fully implemented by early September.
Shuttle Driver Strives to Brighten Day of Passengers

This summer Michael Ewing – driver for the new medical center shuttle – has become the new best friend of many employees and students at both the UT Health Science Center and Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare.

“It doesn’t matter which hospital or building I go to, I’m not a stranger to any of them,” said Michael of the increasing popularity of the staff shuttle system.

As the driver of this SUV shuttle, Michael is part of the security department, which is also known as Central Communications, at Methodist University Hospital (MUH). With a balance of safety and speed, he transports medical center associates from one appointment to another, saving them from the heat, as well as the hassle of driving their own vehicles.

Since the pilot program began in May, Michael has been consistently busy. But he has been busy doing what he enjoys.

“I love to drive, always have,” said the affable Michael, who has been working at MUH for five years. Still, according to the soft-spoken transport specialist, the best part of his job is meeting people from different areas of the medical center.

“I’m a very friendly person. I love meeting people,” Michael explained. “I can tell what kind of mood a person is in from the moment they get in the vehicle. Even if they are in a bad mood, I have them laughing before we get to where we’re going. “I like to be a day brightener,” he simply stated.

For those who need a brighter day or a cool ride in the air conditioning, just call “Central Comm” at 516-7500, and Michael will be dispatched immediately.

On-demand Shuttle Is Here to Stay

Medical center employees can still beat the heat with a cool drive on the staff shuttle system. The pilot program, conducted by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare, provided positive feedback and indicated interest in a permanent easy ride.

“The shuttle has been wonderful!” according to Bruce Alpert, MD, professor and director of pediatrics, who has taken advantage of the staff shuttle on many occasions. “I don’t have to waste 10 to 20 minutes each time I want to leave Le Bonheur – it takes that long to find a space in the parking deck when I return,” he observed.

Now Dr. Alpert can accomplish more tasks in less time, he explains, by having the shuttle take him to drop off papers at one stop and then continue to a meeting elsewhere. Dr. Alpert doesn’t hesitate to tell you exactly how he feels about the shuttle system: “We must keep it in service forever.”

But he’s not the only happy passenger. With 130 to 150 people requesting rides each week during the pilot phase, the on-demand service proved successful. The four-passenger SUV will continue to carry UTHSC faculty, staff, fellows, residents, students, Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare associates and medical staff throughout the medical center district. However, the 14-passenger continuous-loop minibus will no longer be available.

On-demand transport is available for point-to-point service from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. by calling 516-7500.

Although the shuttle focuses largely on pick up and drop offs at medical center locations, such as Methodist University Hospital Tower circle, the entrance to the 920/930 Madison Building, Court Street in front of the Coleman Building, The MED Trauma Center and the Le Bonheur main entrance, the on-demand service will pick up and deliver riders to any location within the medical center area.

We’ve Moved

The Office of Academic and Faculty Affairs in the College of Medicine and the dean’s office of the College of Graduate Health Sciences are now located in the 930 Madison Building, Suite 836. These offices recently moved from 62 South Dunlap, Suite 420. The phone numbers remain the same: 448-5506 - Academic Affairs and 448-5538 - College of Graduate Health Sciences.
Rennolds S. Ostrom, PhD, assistant professor of pharmacology in the College of Medicine and the Vascular Biology Center of Excellence, received a five-year $1.4 million National Institutes of Health (NIH) grant to pursue basic research on the organization of pathways inside smooth muscle cells that control muscle contraction. His research mission is to understand how this might impact the treatment of asthma.

Clark M. Blatteis, PhD, professor of physiology, has recently returned from an extended collaboration in a study at the Justus-Liebig University in Giessen, Germany, on the afferent signaling mechanisms of endotoxic fever. While in Europe, he also presented invited seminars at that university, as well as at the Nikolas Kopernicus University in Torun, Poland, and the Charles University in Prague, the Czech Republic.

Martin E. Donaldson, DDS, MS, program director for pediatric dentistry in the College of Dentistry, has been named a fellow in the Leadership Institute of the American Dental Education Association.

This yearlong program selects and guides faculty members through intensive development in leadership, higher education management, team building, and other aspects of personal and professional growth.

Two UT Medical Group rheumatologists were recently recognized by the Tennessee Rheumatology Society for their achievements in medicine.

Stanley Kaplan, MD, professor of medicine, received the first-ever President’s Award. Kristine M. Lohr, MD, also a professor of medicine, was awarded the 2006 International Distinguished Service Award by the Society for Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine.

Janice Zawaski, a student in the Department of Bioimaging working under Dr. M. Waleed Gaber, was recently awarded a predoctoral fellowship from the American Heart Association. The fellowship, which provides $19,000 runs for two years, with the third year being renewable.

Surya Shah, PhD, professor of occupational therapy and neurology, attended the 14th Congress of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists. Some 2,400 delegates from 45 countries participated in this congress, which is held once every four years. This year it was in Sydney, Australia, where Dr. Shah presented “Hypertonic Hand Restitution in Occupational Therapy.”

David Rogers, PharmD, PhD, FCCP, was recently named the First Tennessee Chair of Excellence in Clinical Pharmacy. Dr. Rogers is currently associate professor and vice chair for research for the Department of Clinical Pharmacy. He holds joint appointments in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the College of Pharmacy, as well as the Departments of Molecular Sciences and Pediatrics in the College of Medicine.

What are the factors that cause certain people to develop diabetes and others, with the same background, to remain healthy?

Samuel Dagogo-Jack, MD, professor of medicine, intends to answer that question thanks to a five-year, $2.9 million National Institutes of Health grant. His research will focus on finding information on ethnic and racial differences in diabetes occurrence.

Abbas Kitabchi, MD, PhD, professor and director of the Division of Endocrinology — with co-authors Frankie Stentz, PhD, assistant professor and laboratory director of the Division of Endocrinology, and Aidar Gosmanov, PhD, MD, intern in the Department of Medicine — has recently published two papers. The papers are on oxidative stress in endothelial cells in response to hyperglycemia and high saturated fatty acid, demonstrating adaptive responses of these cells to these toxic agents.

The first paper appeared in the January issue of the American Journal of Physiology. The second paper was published in the June issue of Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications.

Recent Grants
$5,000 or more

Sarah L. Mynatt, EdD
Department of Health and Human Services
“Comprehensive Advance Education Psychiatric Nursing Program”
$806,528

Tiffany N. Seagroves
National Institutes of Health
“Hypoxic Response in Breast Cancer Progression and Metastasis”
$410,749
On July 12, for the fourth time since he arrived on campus in April 2005, William F. Owen, Jr., MD, chancellor, sat down for a chat with UT Health Science Center staff members. Chancellor’s Chats are a quarterly commitment on Dr. Owen’s calendar and an opportunity for randomly selected UTHSC employees to have open and candid dialogue with him.

As Dr. Owen explained, “We had no robust mechanism for percolating information up the organization. I wanted to create a forum for our people to raise their concerns and let me know what’s working and what’s not. I’m going to meet regularly with a different group of employees and do the best I can to let everybody know how we’re trying to be responsive to their concerns.”

Following are highlights of Chancellor Owen’s July chat.

Q. I have two positions open and can’t fill them because I can’t offer competitive salaries, particularly for the professional staff. What do we do?

Chancellor Owen: This is an issue traditionally faced by the public sector. Talent retention is of similar concern. However, if you look at the entire package we offer, the disparity narrows. Research shows that salary usually isn’t the determining factor in attracting and retaining the best people. It’s the work environment; the intangibles, like job satisfaction. If we can’t get salaries up because of the state’s budgetary challenges, then we have to create a better work environment.

This is the first year that Tennessee has had a budget excess, so I am planning to start working on several salary issues. My goals are to raise the salaries of the lowest-paid employees first; and second, to raise the pay of non-exempt staff, then to focus on disparities among the professional staff.

Q. What can you tell us about the recent (computer system) hacking issue?

Chancellor Owen: Let me turn that over to Sandra Mays, our new vice chancellor of public relations, who was on the front line of this issue.

Sandra Mays: The hackers had access to the information of any UT employee who received a paycheck since October 2005. However, our internal investigation revealed that the hackers’ purpose had nothing to do with locating this information. It just happened to be on the site. They apparently wanted to use the UT site for distributing films to offshore locations.

If you are concerned that your information has been compromised, you can go to security.utk.edu and click on identity theft. The communications and information technology (IT) teams have gathered extensive information and direction for how to proceed.

Q. Did non-UT employees, for example, Distinguished Visiting Professors or consultants, who were paid by UT during that time period, receive a letter notifying them of the incident?

Sandra Mays: Most people who were placed in the system on or before August 5, 2005, did receive a letter. If questions arise about a specific person, please call Amy Blakely at (865) 974-5034.

Q. Can medical records sent by e-mail be encrypted?

Sandra Mays: Everyone should be discouraged from sending patient information via e-mail. If users need to send patient information electronically, the IT department will be happy to work with them and select a secure method for transmitting the data that will be in compliance with HIPAA guidelines.

Q. Can you update us on the student information system?

Chancellor Owen: A systemwide task force is working to identify a platform for a new student information system. We have asked that UTHSC be included in the Alpha test, so we can be among the first to try the system when it is launched.

Q. What does the Equity and Diversity Office do?

Chancellor Owen: Since Michael Alston, director of the Office of Equity and Diversity is here, I’ll ask him to take this question.

Michael Alston: Our basic job is to ensure that the UT Health Science Center is in compliance with policy and procedure, and workplace laws as federal contractors under Title VI.

Specifically, we address issues of sexual harassment, discrimination, and we have a human resources function that involves consultation on how to address employee disciplinary issues. With our new employee relations specialist, we are now able to offer more diversity training and provide more information on the Americans with Disabilities Act as it becomes coupled with Family Medical Leave.

The Office of Equity and Diversity is also involved with many positive activities on campus like planning and organizing the annual employee appreciation event, employee service awards, the service recognition luncheon, and the Employee Assistance Program. We are also responsible for monitoring the upper level search process under the Geier Consent Decree* and for managing the employee grievance process.

*The Geier Consent Decree - Geier positions are conducted in accordance with court ordered requirements and involve extraordinary efforts to identify candidate pools in which African-Americans are represented. The director of equity and diversity has administrative oversight responsibility for Geier searches at the Health Science Center. These positions are recruited and appointed by the hiring unit after prior approval of the director of equity and diversity, the chancellor and the UT vice president of equity and diversity.
1961 — It was the year President Kennedy created the Peace Corps and urged every “prudent family” to have a bomb shelter: the year West Side Story won the Oscar for Best Picture. In ’61, Russian astronaut Yuri Gayarin opened a new frontier as the first man in space to circle the globe. While on earth, the Berlin Wall went up, ushering in the chill of the Cold War. Jaswant Khanna, PhD, professor in the Department of Psychiatry, remembers 1961 well. It’s the year he started working on the UT Memphis campus, a campus that grew into the UT Health Science Center (UTHSC).

“I never guessed I would be here 45 years,” Dr. Khanna mused during the July 27 Employee Service Recognition Program luncheon held at the Student Alumni Center. “I’ve seen a lot of changes over the years but from the beginning this has been an outstanding organization. The talent and intelligence of my colleagues has kept my work challenging and fun.” Dr. Khanna’s statements seem to capture the spirit of the other 30 honorees who were celebrating between 25 and 45 years of service.

“In an era in which employees’ time on the job is often recognized by years, it is pretty amazing that we can fill a room with so many people for whom employment is measured by decades,” noted William F. Owen, Jr., MD, UTHSC chancellor. “Each one of you is to be admired and lauded for a real commitment, a real dedication to service,” Chancellor Owen told the honorees.

This summer’s Employee Service Recognition Program luncheon is the first of its kind; however, there are so many UTHSC colleagues reaching long-time service marks that the Office of Equity and Diversity plans to host service recognition luncheons twice each year, in July and December. Previously, employee longevity was recognized at a December dinner event held in conjunction with the Lichterman Employee of the Year Award.

In addition to acknowledgements and certificates presented by the special guests at the luncheon, including Chief of Staff Ken Brown, JD; Michael Caudle, MD, vice chancellor for health systems affairs; Pam Vaughn, assistant vice chancellor in finance and operations; Russell Gilpatrick, dean of the College of Dentistry; and Tom Singarella, PhD, professor and director of the library; each honoree was recognized in a short, personalized video presentation. Peers, supervisors and other colleagues showered the service award recipients with kind words, best wishes and plenty of thanks for jobs well done.

“It’s not bricks and mortar that make an institution,” stated Richard D. Peppler, PhD, dean of the College of Graduate Health Sciences. “It’s the staff, faculty and students.”

The honorees at the recent Employee Service Recognition Program luncheon were:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Position/Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Glenn Bailey</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Police Lieutenant, Campus Police</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debra Blaylock</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Administrative Support Assistant, Radiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harry Brewer</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Director, Administration, College of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anne Bunting</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Associate Professor, Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deborah Chambers</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Patient Accounts Specialist, Billing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jane Clay</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Business Manager, Clinical Education - Chattanooga</td>
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<td>David Coburn</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Paint Shop Supervisor, Building Maintenance</td>
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<td>Andrea Crisler</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Senior Research Assistant, Endocrinology</td>
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<td>Gracie Cunningham</td>
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<td>Senior Data Integrity Clerk, Endocrinology</td>
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<td>Ronald Davis</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Manager, Educational Development</td>
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<td>Raza Dilawari</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Professor, Surgery-General</td>
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<td>Patricia Felix</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Executive Secretary, Radiology</td>
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<td>Mary Finn</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Director, Administration, College of Medicine</td>
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<td>Eva Gray</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Coordinator, Human Resources</td>
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<td>Charles Gutelius</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Police Investigator, Campus Police</td>
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Another Successful Summer

The 2006 season of summer enrichment programs has successfully come to a close.

Over a two-month period, the UT Health Science Center campus hosted 10 programs serving approximately 165 secondary and undergraduate students. The students had various experiences and exposure while here including: research, learning skills development, academic enrichment and health careers awareness.

As the speaker during the closing program, La Don Jones, PhD, vice chancellor of community affairs, provided the departing students with “Tools for a Successful Life”:

• Pay attention to your life
• Keep your agreements
• Be accountable for your own experience
• Speak the truth
• Ask for what you want.

Students representing three programs also offered their perspectives of how they benefited from their experience on campus this summer.

The programs’ staff thanks the many faculty and staff who contributed their time and effort as instructors, preceptors and mentors. Thanks UTHSC for your support!

One-to-One Retirement Counseling Sessions

When: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (30-minute increments)  
September 12, 13 and 14, 2006

Where: Human Resources Office  
910 Madison, Suite 727

The Office of Human Resources (UTHSC) is pleased to announce that once again, the staff from the Benefits and Retirement Services Office (UT-Knoxville) will be on our campus providing one-to-one retirement counseling sessions (AIG-VALIC/ING-AETNA/TCRS/JCRS/TIAA-CREF) to employees.

This is an excellent time to discuss any questions you may have concerning your retirement or to discuss the ORP to TCRS “roll over” opportunity.

Please contact Sue Scates (Management Specialist I) at 448-8481 or e-mail at suescates@utmem.edu or call Chandra Alston (Team Leader) at 448-1955 to arrange a date and time. Individual counseling sessions will be held in 30-minute increments, and an appointment must be made.

Also, note that space is limited and is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Long-Time Employees Continued...

Diane Harris - 25 years  
Administrative Assistant  
College of Medicine - Admissions

Johnnie Hart - 40 years  
Administrative Aide  
Administration - College of Dentistry

Katherine Jones -35 years  
Administrative Specialist I  
Family Practice Resident Program

Jon Katze, PhD - 30 years  
Professor  
Molecular Sciences

Jaswant Khanna, PhD - 45 years  
Professor  
Psychiatry

Robert Kores, PhD - 25 years  
Associate Professor  
Psychiatry

Ruth Martin - 25 years  
Administrative Specialist III  
Department of Medical Genetics

Geraldine Moore - 25 years  
Laboratory Aide  
Dental Research Center

Gloria Peete - 25 years  
Medical Records Administrator  
Pediatrics

Janice Perkins - 25 years  
Senior Laboratory Aide  
Anatomy and Neurobiology

Arnold Postlethwaite, MD - 30 years  
Professor  
Medicine - Rheumatology

Alan Solomon, MD - 40 years  
Professor  
Human Immunology

Atha Suggs - 25 years  
Senior Budget Assistant  
Clinical Research CE

Earl Terrell - 30 years  
Conference Specialist  
Educational Development

Sherrill Wolf - 40 years  
Director  
General Stores

Mattie Wright - 25 years  
Accounting Assistant  
Finance and Operations - Accounting
The library recently posted to its website a list of the top 40 research papers of 2005. Visitors to the website at http://library.utmem.edu/top40 can access the full text of 39 of the 40 papers. The articles were selected by Thomson Scientific, based on the number of citations each paper received within Web of Science.

Leading the list with 124 citations is “C-reactive Protein Levels and Outcomes After Statin Therapy” by Paul M. Ridker, Harvard University, and published in the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM) in January 2005.

The NEJM was the leading publication in the ranking with 13 of the top 40 articles. The library collaborated with UT-Knoxville and the UT Graduate School of Medicine, which is part of UTHSC, in establishing a joint subscription to this title so that faculty, staff, and students at all three campuses could benefit from online access.

Next on the list is Lancet with six articles. The library provides current online access to this title, with content dating back to 1990. The third ranking journal is Science. Online access to this title was restricted to the library until the library successfully negotiated with UTK for shared access to their subscription. Nature has four articles on the list and is accessible online from 1997 to the present. Rounding out the top five is Nucleic Acids Research, Oxford University Press’ flagship open access journal, no doubt benefiting from the improved accessibility and publicity received when it moved to an open-access model in January 2005.

The majority of the articles on the top 40 list were on the health sciences, with several others in related fields, such as molecular biology. Subjects covered by these articles include cardiology, cholesterol, nucleic acids, proteins, oncology, and Parkinson’s disease. Only one of the articles, on materials science, is not available through the library.

**Leonard Share Young Investigator Award**

Applications for the 2006 Leonard Share Young Investigator Award (YIA) are being accepted through Monday, Oct. 2. The award, which will be presented at the E. Eric Muirhead Hypertension Research Day meeting on Nov. 8, recognizes outstanding research in the cardiovascular-renal field by trainees.

Two awards will be presented: (1) to a clinical fellow (MD) engaged in either clinical or basic science research, and (2) to a basic science fellow (PhD) with no more than two years of postdoctoral research. The award includes a plaque and a $1,000 stipend. For more information, contact Easter Jenkins at 448-7088.

**UTHSC Recognized for Coaching Academics**

The UT Health Science Center recently received a certificate of appreciation from the Arkansas Delta Service Corps on July 27 at the Delta Service Corps Graduation Program.

UTHSC was recognized for its contribution in enhancing the academic and science skills of Memphis City School students. Under the direction of Eldridge F. Johnson, PhD, professor of anatomy and neurobiology, UTHSC’s efforts to tutor children are helping many students with diverse backgrounds, training and experiences. College professors and undergraduate college students were among those who volunteered. In addition to the certificate of appreciation, each volunteer received a $10,000 per year living expense and a college loan forgiveness award to defray the cost of college education.
Researchers in the Department of Preventive Medicine are looking for 275 smokers to participate in a new approach to smoking cessation called Step. A total of 400 adult smokers will be enrolled in the study. The study commenced at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., where approximately 136 participants were recruited. Recruitment ceased at the Mayo Clinic when the study moved to UTHSC; however, participants will continue to be followed for two years.

Cigarette smokers who are 18 years of age or older, in relatively good health, who smoke at least 10 cigarettes each day, and who are willing to accept random assignment are eligible to participate. One of the major problems in achieving long-term behavior change with smoking cessation is that smoking relapse rates are alarmingly high. Of those who make a serious attempt to quit, over half (58 percent) resume smoking within a two-week period.

The current study will investigate a common medical “stepped care” approach to smoking cessation. There will be two different comparisons in this study. Both comparisons start with an effective behavioral stop-smoking program. All participants will also be given the nicotine patch at no charge. After six months, if participants have either not quit smoking or have relapsed, participants in one condition will get the interventions repeated, while others will receive more aggressive behavioral and pharmacologic intervention.

The principal investigator for the study at UTHSC is Robert C. Klesges, PhD. Co-Investigators on the Step-Care study are Mark Vander Weg, PhD, Georgeta Vaidean, MD, MPH, PhD, Grant Somes, PhD, and Kathy Ryder, MD. Other key study personnel include, Neysa Rhoads, RN, BS, CCRC, and Darrell Jackson, RN. The study sponsor is the National Cancer Institute.

Anyone interested in participating in the Step research study should call 448-8400 to determine eligibility.

Protected Health Information (PHI) of Family Members is a Problem

One example of a problem is when employees improperly access the medical records of their family members, or otherwise cross the line, privacy-wise, when family members are a patient of the provider.

When an employee has access to PHI of a family member or close friend, they want to be involved in their care, and curiosity sometimes gets the best of them. They access that information out of curiosity and concern. Employees must restrict activities of access to PHI as if the family member or friend were the patient of an unrelated employer.

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) Reports on Complaints

OCR is the government entity responsible for resolving formal complaints from individuals about possible HIPAA privacy violations. OCR has received and initiated reviews of 18,912 complaints. A complaint can be filed by anyone who believes that an organization is not complying with a requirement of the Privacy Rule. The most frequent allegations are:

- Impermisssible use or disclosure of an individual’s PHI.
- Lack of adequate safeguards to protect PHI.
- Failure to provide the individual with access to or a copy of his or her records.
- Disclosure of more information than is minimally necessary to satisfy a particular request.
- Failure to have the individual’s valid authorization for a disclosure that requires one.

The OCR usually sends a letter directly to the facility where the alleged incident occurred to notify them of the complaint. The person or department to whom the letters have been addressed varies.

Since it is difficult to anticipate to whom the letter will be addressed, it is important for staff to watch for these letters to ensure that they are forwarded immediately to the privacy officer of the university.

Anyone receiving such a letter should immediately contact Carolyn Moffitt at (901) 448-1672 to advise that the letter is being forwarded through campus mail. Please keep a copy of the letter until Moffitt advises you of receipt of the letter. Then the copy should be destroyed.

The Pediatric Red Eye

Tuesday, September 19
5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Freeman Auditorium
Hamilton Eye Institute
930 Madison Avenue

Attendance is free
Fee for CME Credit (1.5 hours) $10

Program:
5:30 p.m. - Registration and Reception
6 p.m. - Tour of Hamilton Eye Institute
6:30 p.m. - Infectious Conjunctivitis

Robert W. Enzenauer, MD, MPH
Course Director
Professor of Ophthalmology

Allergic Conjunctivitis
Mary Ellen Hoehn, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

Other Causes of Pediatric Red Eye
Natalie C. Kerr, MD, FACS
Professor of Ophthalmology

7:45 p.m. - Questions and Discussion

To register: Contact Annie Lewis,
Continuing Education
448-5547 or alewis@utmem.edu
**August - September 2006**

**August**

26  “Live at the Garden with Kenny Loggins”
Shelby County UT Alumni Chapter
Memphis Botanic Gardens, 750 Cherry Road
Cost is $32.00 per person.
RSVP: (901) 847-3732

29  “Watching Memories Form: Multiple Olfactory Memory Traces in Drosophila”
Ronald L. Davis, PhD, Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas
Noon, Link Auditorium
More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

12  “The Cortex in Context: Locus Coeruleus, Optimal Performance, and Maximal Utility”
Gary Aston-Jones, Department of Psychiatry
University of Pennsylvania, School of Medicine
Noon, Link Auditorium
More info: bjsmith@utmem.edu

Obesity Seminar: Surgical Options for Obesity
Atul Madan, MD, and David Tichansky, MD
6:30 p.m., UTMG Germantown Office,
7945 Wolf River Blvd.
RSVP: (901) 448-6635

18  “Chlamydia”
Catherine O’Connell, PhD,
University of Arkansas Medical Center
4 p.m., Link Auditorium
More info: thatch@utmem.edu

25  “Title TBA”
Marko Radic, PhD, associate professor
UTHSC Department of Molecular Sciences
4 p.m., Link Auditorium
More info: hjernigan@utmem.edu

**September**

11  “Title TBA”
K-T Chung, PhD, professor,
Department of Microbiology and Molecular Toxicology, University of Memphis
4 p.m., Link Auditorium
More info: drnelson1@gmail.com

**Come Be Part of UT History**

10 a.m. - Tuesday, September 19
Freeman Auditorium, Hamilton Eye Institute, Third Floor

A first-time-ever event will bring together employees of the University of Tennessee, statewide, all at one time — every campus, institute and unit — for a State of the University Celebration.

- President John Petersen will discuss UT’s new strategic plan via a two-way simulcast.
- The new UT Branding Campaign will be launched.
- Free gifts, refreshments and door prizes.
- Drawings for athletic tickets, parking passes and more.