New UTHSC Home Page Goes Live

The UT Health Science Center’s home page has a new look. Launched in September, new links now keep readers connected to each college’s home page in the UT System, while interactive photos, a navigation bar offering more choices and several other new features reflect UTHSC’s distinct identity.

UTHSC Chief Information Office Taylor Strickland expressed appreciation to the Health Science Center family for their help in developing the new home page, adding, “Special recognition should be given to our web master, Todd Barber, and all of the dedicated members of the UTHSC Web Page Task Force who devoted many long hours and their creative talents to come up with the final design. Their efforts were greatly enhanced by the students, faculty and staff members who enthusiastically participated in the numerous focus groups that resulted in this truly collaborative final design.

“The initial goal of the UTHSC Web Page Task Force was to create a Web page that would be attractive, informative and easy to use for both internal and external users, regardless of their needs. Everyone involved should be commended for achieving that goal.”

Clark Blatteis, PhD, Featured in American Physiological Society Living History Project

Forget those Indiana Jones action adventure movies of the 80s, where the hero escapes Nazis, ancient curses and giant rolling balls. Clark M. Blatteis, PhD, professor in the Department of Physiology, is adding his own version of the adventurous scientist minus the fedora and bullwhip to the Living History Project, recalling his perilous escape from Europe as a child.

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Sign Up now for Emergency Text Message Service

With the recent fatal shooting at the University of Memphis on September 30, the Campus Police Department is asking all UT Health Science Center faculty, staff and students to sign up for the text messaging notification service, ezCampus.

So far, participation in the new service has been light, with only 678 UTHSC members signing up for the free service. Registration takes less than five minutes to complete and will send users only text messages of UTHSC emergencies.

Officer Reno Greganti, deputy chief of Campus Police, stated, “The protection of lives on campus is our main priority. With the ezCampus emergency notification system in place, we have the ability to warn a large portion of the campus community in a very short time. This allows our officers to respond to the emergency at hand without distraction.”

To sign up, visit the following link: http://www.ezcampus.com/my/utmem/ and choose the link, “Click here to get started and sign up now.”
Three from UTHSC Community Selected as Health Care Heroes

Each year, the Health Care Heroes Awards salute companies, individuals and organizations for their contributions to improve health care in Memphis and the Mid South. The annual awards, organized by the Memphis Business Journal, are presented during a well attended dinner event in early September. This year, three members of the UTHSC community received top honors.

The 2007 Health Care Heroes Lifetime Achievement Award recipient was Ralph Hamilton, MD, Memphis ophthalmologist and former UTHSC faculty member. Pictured from left are Dr. Hamilton with his wife, Barbara Howell Hamilton. The UT Health Science Center’s Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI) was founded by setting the highest standards in honor of three generations of Hamilton ophthalmologists who have served the citizens of Tennessee and the nation by advancing the science and art of medicine and surgery. The staff of HEI offers education programs for medical students and ophthalmology residents and fellows, conducts basic and clinical eye research, and cares for patients. The institute serves as the only university eye center providing an advanced level of vision care within a 200-mile radius of Memphis.

A man of few but well chosen words, Dr. Hamilton said he was “over awed by the evening” and thanked all “those great good friends” who attended the event. He also thanked his wife for her many years of support.

The 2007 Health Care Heroes Community Outreach Award recipient was Gus Ray, MD/FACS, Semmes-Murphey Clinic and Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center. UT Medical Group, Inc.; Robert A. Sanford, MD, and Frederick Boop, MD, both neurosurgeons at Semmes Murphey Clinic and Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center. Today, the Urban Child Institute is a not-for-profit organization that pours millions of dollars into the community. The institute’s goals include educating parents on the importance of such issues as nutrition, prenatal care, child safety and health care, as well as offering grants for research addressing early child hood development. The Urban Child Institute has awarded more than $50 million to programs at Le Bonheur, the University of Memphis and UTHSC for data driven, results oriented programs.

Finalists from UTHSC were nominated not only by UTHSC but also by Le Bonheur, Semmes Murphey Clinic, Methodist and other health care entities.

Administrative Excellence: Charles Handorf, MD, PhD, chair of UT Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; Community Outreach: Alicia McClary, EdD, professor of preventive medicine; Health Care Innovations: Kevin T. Foley, MD, professor of neurosurgery; Health Care Provider, Physician: Susan R. Jacob, RN, MSN, CFNP, professor and executive associate dean, College of Nursing; and Health Care Provider, Physician: Morris Ray, MD/FACS, Semmes Murphey Clinic, Department of Neurosurgery; James C. Fleming, MD/FACS, ophthalmologist, UT Medical Group, Inc.; Robert A. Sanford, MD, and Frederick Boop, MD, both neurosurgeons at Semmes Murphey Clinic and Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center. UT Health Science Center was honored to have so many finalists chosen.

Put Some Green in Your Future

October is National Energy Awareness Month, and UTHSC will celebrate with our own Energy Awareness Day on October 22 in the plaza of the Madison buildings. A MLGW representative will be on campus to talk about savings in the home, and UTHSC employees are encouraged to bring an old incandescent bulb from their office to trade for a free energy-efficient, fluorescent bulb. Energy conservation and recycling information will be available, and door prizes will be given.

Congratulations to Pam Houston, special events coordinator for UTHSC, for her winning slogan, “Put some green in your future.” Look for her slogan on banners, brochures and posters promoting Energy Awareness Day.

Thanks to all UTHSC members for contributing to electrical savings of $82,400 in the month of June. Keep turning off those lights, computers and monitors!
UTHSC Employees Tutor City School Students and Gain Human Resources Training Hours

This fall, tutor a child in reading or math skills while gaining valuable training hours with Human Resources.

UT Health Science Center employees are now being offered the opportunity to tutor students for training hour credit. After completing a tutor training session, volunteers commit to one hour a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays between noon and 2 p.m. Volunteers will receive five hours of credit for half a year of tutoring and 10 hours for a full year.

The UTHSC Office of Medical Education first teamed with Memphis City Schools’ Our Children’s Our Future training program in 2006. Tutors from UTHSC helped struggling math and reading students from Vance Middle School improve their skills. The program has been so successful that this year Our Children’s Our Future will partner with LaRose Elementary School and ask for volunteers from UTHSC.

Tajuana Redmond, program coordinator in the College of Medicine’s Office of Medical Education, who is organizing the tutoring between UTHSC and Memphis City Schools, said, “All you need is a strong commitment and a desire to make a difference in a child’s life and strong basic math or reading skills.”

Sydney Gray, assistant director in the UTHSC Outreach Center, Telehealth Services, has been volunteering since June 2007. “I decided to tutor because I’d been thinking about getting involved as a volunteer for some time but wasn’t sure what type of activity would best suit my strengths, personality and schedule,” said Sydney. “When the tutoring opportunity came up, I felt that it was a good way to use skills I already had.” Sydney, who will continue tutoring this year, said the UTHSC training session does a good job of preparing a person for the challenge. She watched her student grow in the two months that she was a tutor, saying, “My student opened up to me a little bit more each time we met. As we got to know each other better and started to establish trust, the student became more interested in what we were doing. He knew I was interested in his life and his well being, and I believe that made an impact on him.”

Judy Johnson, administrative coordinator in Information Technology Services, also tutored at Vance Middle School last semester. Judy said, “It is one way of giving back to the community and helping a child at the same time.”

Elise Moore, who has been tutoring in reading and math on the elementary level for two semesters, said, “I love children and enjoy working with them in any capacity. I am a true servant. There is no better way to serve than as a tutor.” To learn more about the tutoring program, visit the Web site: https://www.utmem.edu/hrtraining/occof.htm.

Van Middlesworth, MD, PhD, Honored as University Distinguished Professor

Lester Van Middlesworth, MD, PhD, has been named University Distinguished Professor by the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

In addition to his teaching and research activities in the Department of Physiology, Dr. Van Middlesworth will now counsel and assist the chancellor on regional and national issues within his area of expertise, which broadly includes physiology, medicine and biophysics.

Dr. Van Middlesworth has dedicated his 55 year career to the UT Health Science Center and the study of the thyroid.

UTHSC Participates in AHA Heart Walk

Congratulations to the 119 UTHSC Heart Walk participants! Your efforts raised $9,933.15 and counting. The annual event raises funds to save lives from this country’s number one and number three killers: heart disease and stroke. The top three UTHSC Heart Walk teams and captains were Campus Recreation and Student Life, Dan Houlden - $2,364; College of Pharmacy, Kelly Rogers - $1,787.00; and College of Nursing, Louis Hamric - $1,346.15.

Houlden, UTHSC American Heart Walk chair, said, “I would like to thank the UTHSC team captains for their hard work during the 2007 UTHSC AHA campaign. I would also like to thank all of the students who provided the health screenings during the event, my volunteers at the booth and the walkers for their great showing the day of the event. Autozone Park and the route were a bright shade of orange that day.”
More than 200 guests joined University of Tennessee Health Science Center faculty and staff members in late August to witness the opening of the new UTHSC College of Pharmacy (COP) building on the campus of the UT Medical Center in Knoxville. Guests included students, alumni, hospital partners, industry representatives, elected officials and UT President John Petersen.

The new UT Health Science Center option for pharmacy students is designed to help head off the statewide short age of pharmacists while boosting Tennessee’s economy. The 15,000 square foot Knoxville campus for the College of Pharmacy will increase the number of qualified pharmacists entering the job market in East Tennessee.

“This expansion is a vital step for the Health Science Center through the College of Pharmacy in fulfilling its mission for all Tennesseans,” said UT President John Petersen. “By building and expanding upon strong partnerships with hospitals and medical professionals such as the UT Medical Center, we prepare our graduates to meet vital needs across the state.”

Each COP class has 200 students, who all complete the first year of their studies at the UT Health Science Center campus in Memphis. Seventy five students from each class will spend their final three years of pharmacy school on the COP’s Knoxville campus. In addition to the new students, 19 new faculty members have been hired for the Knoxville pharmacy campus.

The Memphis and Knoxville COP operations are connected by a unique videoconferencing link that will allow students in both locations to participate in lectures and classroom discussions. Some classes will be led by professors in Knoxville, while others will be led from Memphis.

“Our goal is to create a truly state wide college,” said Dean Dick Gourley. “This technology allows us to provide a strong educational experience while dramatically increasing our impact across Tennessee.”

Many of the Knoxville based COP students are originally from East Tennessee and plan to remain in this part of the state to practice pharmacy, either in a retail chain or in a hospital setting. This will lead to a direct economic benefit to the region, according to COP officials.

“The UT College of Pharmacy is one of the highest ranked pharmacy programs in the nation,” observed Brittany Dove, P2. “I wanted to go to pharmacy school in the state of Tennessee, primarily because I know I want to continue living and practice in the state,” the Murfreesboro, Tenn., native said. “The UT College of Pharmacy is set apart from all other colleges of pharmacy. When it comes to the clinical aspect, they’re light years ahead primarily because they place you in rotations after two and a half years of classes, and because of the experienced preceptors they have across the state. Your education at the UT College of Pharmacy equips you to work in many areas of practice; such as: clinical, hospital, administration and retail. Our program is one of the few that is truly focused on exposing its students to every possible area of practice.”

“I have classes in the new building right now and it’s really working out well,” stated Clint Melton P3 from Livings ton, Tenn. “This campus is closer to home, more compact and I get a lot of one on one contact with teachers. Plus you feel like pioneers on the Knoxville pharmacy campus. It’s great to be part of the grand opening.”

A recent study showed that the average UT COP graduate made more than $103,000 upon graduation. Additionally, 75 percent of COP graduates stay in the state of Tennessee after they complete their studies.

Other statewide operations for the COP include the UTHSC Memphis campus, as well as clinical rotation sites for students in 37 different counties across the state. In addition, the COP has opened Clinical Education Centers in Nashville and Kingsport, and plans to open Clinical Education Centers in Chattanooga and Jackson.

In 2009, the UTHSC College of Pharmacy in Knoxville expects to reach its full enrollment of 225 students, and will employ 25 faculty and staff. On opening day in Knoxville, there were 125 pharmacy students and 19 faculty members on the East Tennessee campus, and 375 COP students on the main campus in Memphis.
Dr. Blatteis, continued from page 1

his high altitude research in the mountains of Peru, his fever research in newborns and adults, and his upcoming involvement with the new UTHSC Regional Biocontainment Lab. RBL.

Dr. Blatteis’ story will soon be featured on the American Physiological Society APS Living History in Physiology Project Web site: www.the aps.org/livinghistory/index.htm.

“The APS launched the Living History Project because of our desire to capture the memories and experiences of our senior members,” stated Martin Frank, PhD, APS executive director, who interviewed Dr. Blatteis last month on the Memphis campus at UTHSC. Dr. Frank said the society hopes to build an archive for future generations to mine for information about those who shaped the discipline. Each archive consists of a participant overview on the APS Web site with links to articles, publications, research and a link to watch the participant’s interview videotape.

Dr. Blatteis’ story begins in Nazi Germany. German Jews were forcibly expelled from their own country to where they hoped would be a safe haven. His family had to leave Germany in 1939 when he was 7 years old, sailing on the luxury steam liner “St. Louis” to Cuba. Despite the passengers’ landing permits, they were not allowed to disembark in Cuba, and the ship was destined to sail up and down the coast of Florida. The passengers unsuccessfully sought asylum in the United States and elsewhere until, 30 days later, the ship of disheartened travelers returned to Germany. Fortunately, just before their arrival and certain internment, four other European countries agreed to host refugees. The story was reported worldwide then and later popularized in various books and the movie, “Voyage of the Damned.”

Clark’s remaining childhood, first in Brussels, then in southern France after hostilities began on the western front one year later, and, eventually, for eight years in Morocco, gave him the unique opportunity to grow up in diverse environments, quickly learning the lingua franca of the area; he is fluent in English, French, German and Spanish. The Blatteis family made their permanent journey to the United States in 1948, settling in New Jersey. Dr. Blatteis entered Rutgers University, graduated in 1954 and pursued his advanced degrees in physiology at the University of Iowa, where he met his future wife, Yolanda. On graduating, he was drafted into the Army. After his military service, he traveled to his wife’s homeland in Peru to study the effects of high altitude on living organisms.

“I wanted to meet my wife’s family, so I applied for and was awarded a NIH sponsored postdoctoral fellowship to study acclimatization to altitude,” said Dr. Blatteis. “I wanted to know if this was an inborn or an acquired trait.” Comparing various species of neonatal farm animals born in the Peruvian Andes and at sea level, he found that acclimatization to altitude is an inherent characteristic present at both altitudes, probably because the oxygen level of the mother’s womb is low at both altitudes. “Babies born at sea level have, in essence, to ‘de adapt’ to the low altitude,” he commented.

He then continued his fellowship at Oxford University to study the combined effects of altitude and cold exposure on the temperature regulation of neonates. Completing his fellowship, Dr. Blatteis returned to the military this time as a civilian employee, continuing this research in the adult. “I eventually found that the body’s need to protect its blood flow to vital organs is brain, heart, lungs during hypoxic hypoxia; a condition where there is an inadequate supply of oxygen in the blood takes precedence in the cold over shunting it to heat producing organs, allowing body temperature to drop,” he said.

In 1966, he came to UTHSC, still working on the research he’d been doing with the military. “In 1972, I began studying the ontogeny of fever,” said Dr. Blatteis. He explained that, while at Oxford, he had learned that infected newborns exhibit poor fever responses during their first two weeks of life. Said Dr. Blatteis, “While conducting this research, the question began to intrigue me: how does the body know it has to develop a fever?” His last two papers on this topic were published in the American Journal of Physiology: Regulatory, Integrative and Comparative Physiology Journal in September, marking the closure of a rewarding 35-year-long career in fever research. Now, at age 75, the next logical move for Dr. Blatteis should be retirement. However, he will soon be starting as core director of one of the projects involved in the new RBL: the Physiogenomics and Histopathology Core. “This will be a different fever research. Now, at age 75, the next logical move for Dr. Blatteis should be retirement. However, he will soon be starting as core director of one of the projects involved in the new RBL: the Physiogenomics and Histopathology Core.

New Graphic Standards and Logo for UT Health Science Center

With the new UTHSC Web site in place, individuals now have more control over creating and managing their college or department Web pages. The UT System has created new graphic standards and a new logo for the Health Science Center, which can be found at http://future.tennessee.edu/book/toolkit.shtml#downloads.

The UT logo may still be used in orange (Pantone 151 only), black or white. The trademark must appear to the bottom of the logo. No drop shadow should be added to the logo, and the UT logo should no longer contain words directly adjacent or directly under the UT.

For questions, contact the Communications and Marketing Department at 448-5544 or communications@utmem.edu.

The Knoxville News Sentinel reported top marks for the University of Tennessee in several major publications:

• Forbes Inc. rates the UT MBA program ninth in the nation among public programs.
• U.S. News and World Report ranks the College of Business Administration’s supply chain management/logistics program eighth nationwide. The university ranked among the top 10 public universities overall.
• Kaplan Publishing placed UT in the top 25 “cutting edge schools” in its guide to colleges.
Kenneth M. Peterson Named New Purchasing Director

Effective August 20, Kenneth M. Peterson was appointed director of Purchasing Services for the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. He has administrative responsibility for the Purchasing Services office, which provides UTHSC with procurement and related support services, including surplus property management. Ken reports to Steve Rowland, assistant vice chancellor for Finance and Operations.

Prior to joining UTHSC, Ken was a career employee of the U.S. government. He brings more than 33 years of procurement and contract management experience to his current role. His previous position was director of the National Acquisition Center for the Customs and Border Protection Service in the Department of Homeland Security.

"We are fortunate to have someone with Ken's background to lead the Purchasing Services office," Steve said. "His procurement leadership experience will serve us well as we seek to enhance services provided to the campus community."

Steve added, "I am grateful to Vic Crutchfield, who served as acting director, and to the entire Purchasing Services staff for their efforts during this transition period."

Ken holds a bachelor's degree in history from Morehead State University in Kentucky and a Master of Science in Management from Indiana Wesleyan University. He is a Distinguished Military Graduate from Army R.O.T.C. and attained the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps.

After retiring from federal employment, he took time to travel, learned to ride a motorcycle and wrote a book based on his travels, titled, "Bureaucrat to Tramp: A Freighter Cruise Adventure."

Mona N. Wicks, PhD, Appointed College of Nursing Associate Dean of Research

Donna Hathaway, PhD, dean of the UT Health Science Center UTHSC College of Nursing, announced the appointment of Mona Newsome Wicks, PhD, as associate dean of Research for the College of Nursing.

“Dr. Wicks established the Office of Research and Grant Support for our college. Under her leadership, we have experienced a renewal of scholarly activity,” said Dean Hathaway. “This appointment will significantly enhance our efforts to strengthen the College of Nursing’s scholarly mission.”

The first African American graduate from the Wayne State University nursing PhD program in 1992, Dr. Wicks has been on the UTHSC faculty for 20 years. Her research interests include minority, family caregiver and women’s health. She is particularly interested in cultural diversity and conducting research to eliminate health disparities.

“Dr. Wicks is a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the honor society of nursing. Dr. Wicks has received institutional, regional and national awards for her teaching and mentoring skills. She is a lifetime member of the Greater Memphis Area Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses and a member of the Tennessee and American Nurses Association, the Council for Advancement of Nursing Science, and the University of Memphis Loewenberg School of Nursing Alumni Board.

Widely published in peer reviewed journals, Dr. Wicks is also a manuscript reviewer for the Southern Nursing Research Society and the Nephrology Nursing Journal. In addition, she reviews grants for the American Nurses Foundation, and serves as a temporary reviewer for the Adult and Older Adult Study Section for the National Institute of Nursing Research.

Ophthalmology Receives Grant

Research to Prevent Blindness RPB has awarded a grant of $110,000 to the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center to support research into the causes, treatment and prevention of blinding diseases. The research will be directed by Barrett G. Haik, MD, chair of the Department of Ophthalmology. RPB is the world’s leading voluntary organization supporting eye research. To date, the organization has awarded grants totaling $1,530,000 to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

“The Hamilton Eye Institute is proud to be a recipient of these funds,” said Dr. Haik. “Beyond the dollars, RPB support is an indication of the strength of our research efforts aimed at developing treatments for retinal diseases, glaucoma and childhood blindness.”

Since it was founded in 1960, RPB has channeled hundreds of millions of dollars to medical institutions throughout the United States for research into all blinding eye diseases. For information on RPB, RPB funded research, eye disorders and the RPB grants program, go to www.rpbusa.org.

Tim Higgins Knows His Campus

Tim Higgins, senior illustrator in the Department of Molecular Sciences, was the winner of the “Do You Know Your Campus?” contest. Stay tuned for future contests.
Rita Geier to Lead UT Knoxville’s Intercultural Initiatives

A civil rights pioneer who 39 years ago sued the state of Tennessee to desegregate its higher education system has returned to help lead diversity efforts at the state’s flagship institution.

Rita Sanders Geier has been named associate to UT Knoxville Chancellor Loren Crabtree, and will help lead intercultural efforts and implement goals of the university’s diversity plan and Ready for the World initiative.

She also will serve as senior fellow at the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy.

“I have accepted the invitation to come to UT because this is an institution that is forward thinking. International and intercultural awareness are institutional imperatives, not options. I’m excited to be part of that level of commitment,” Geier said.

Geier was a 23 year old faculty member at Tennessee State University in 1968 when she filed the lawsuit after the University of Tennessee announced plans to expand in Nashville. She feared that UT Nashville would become a four year, predominantly white school with top notch facilities while historically black TSU would be neglected.

The suit resulted in the 2001 Geier Consent Decree, which provided 77 million in state funds over six years to diversify student populations and faculty of all state higher education institutions. Since then, more than 1,300 black students have benefited from Geier funded scholarships at UT Knoxville. Black enrollment on the Knoxville campus has grown from 6.4 percent in 2001 to 8.2 percent in 2006. About 9 percent of this year’s freshmen are black.

The Geier Consent Decree was dismissed last year.

Crabtree said it’s exciting to know that Geier, who already has had such an impact on higher education in Tennessee, will now help UT navigate the future.

“We are honored to have her join our administration,” he said. “She has been and will continue to be an inspiration in our efforts to ensure access, opportunity and success for every resident of our state.”

Alan Lowe, executive director of the Baker Center, said Geier will be involved in a host of activities for the center, especially in the areas of civil rights and health care disparities. Her work will include public programs and assistance with companion courses, research and outreach to underserved communities with an eye to future Baker Center programs.

“Just by looking at her career you can see that she is going to be a tremendous resource to students, faculty, staff and our community,” Lowe said.

Geier said she’s looking forward to the work she’ll do at UT.

“UT’s goal, through Ready for the World and the diversity plan, is to prepare globally aware students who are equipped to succeed in the 21st century,” she said. “As Tennesseans, as Americans and as citizens of the world, it is in our national self interest to become a cohesive and inclusive society. As recent Supreme Court decisions have shown, laws and court rulings may define the permissible means to achieve equality, but we must build a foundation for social justice based on knowledge and understanding.

We must realize that it is not in the best interest of America or the world for us to waste any of our most vital resource, our human capital.” Geier has a law degree from Vanderbilt University, a master’s degree from the University of Chicago and a bachelor’s degree from Fisk University.

Prior to joining UT, Geier worked at the Social Security Administration in Washington, D.C., as executive counselor to the commissioner for special initiatives, serving as principal adviser on Medicare appeals, identity theft and other initiatives. She has had a long career in federal government as a trial attorney and administrator working with the Department of Justice and the Appalachian Regional Commission in Washington, D.C.

For more about Ready for the World, see http://www.utk.edu/readyfortheworld/. For more about the Baker Center, see http://bakercenter.utk.edu/.

Benefits Fair 2007

On Thursday, November 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Human Resource Benefits Office will hold a Benefits Fair. The fair will be held in the Plaza buildings lobby. Faculty and staff will be able to speak with representatives from BlueCross BlueShield, CIGNA, Assurant Dental, Delta Dental and AFLAC.

Also in attendance will be representatives from TIAA-CREF, ING, AIG Valic and Great West Retirement Services. UT Health Services and Human Resource staff will also be on hand to answer your questions. Please come and enjoy refreshments and pick up goodies as you visit the vendors!

UTNAA ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2008 PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2008 University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Public Service Award. The award recognizes a full-time faculty or professional-exempt staff member who has made significant contributions to the university’s public service role and includes a $2,000 stipend.

Submission Deadline: January 31, 2008

Notify: UT Office of Alumni Affairs 520 Hyman
Or e-mail: bmcadams@utmem.edu
For more information, contact: Barbara McAdams
448-5516
The chancellor and deans are not eligible.
On Wednesday, November 14, from 8 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., the Cardiovascular-Renal Center will present the Muirhead Hypertension Research Day in the north auditorium of the Coleman Building. Hypertension Research Day started in 1987 as a symposium honoring Dr. E. Eric Muirhead to commemorate his numerous contributions to hypertension research and the medical community. It has now grown into an annual special event.

The program provides leading information in cardiovascular research, stimulates collaboration between laboratories at UTHSC and the institutions of the guest speakers and leads to new ideas for research, treatment and drug design. This year, four outstanding speakers will present the cutting-edge clinical and basic science lectures. Hypertension Research Day has been approved for continuing medical education credit and is open to all health science professionals and students.

The Leonard Share Young Investigator awards will also be presented during the symposium, one to a clinical fellow MD engaged in either clinical or basic science research and the other to a basic science fellow PhD with a maximum of two years' postdoctoral research.

For more information contact Michelle Lester in the Department of Physiology at 448-5822 or mlester@physio1.utmem.edu. The Hypertension Research Day Web site can be found at: http://hrd.utmem.edu.

 Speakers and Topics

- **8 a.m.**  “Role of Aldosterone in Clinical Hypertension” presented by David A. Calhoun, MD, associate professor of medicine, Division of Cardiovascular Disease, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- **9 a.m.**  “Clinical and Experimental Hypertension: Role of Development” presented by Julie R. Ingelfinger, MD, professor of pediatrics, Harvard Medical School
- **10:15 a.m.**  “Hypertension as a Risk Factor for Stroke” presented by Constantino Iadecola, MD, George C. Cotzias Distinguished Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience, Weill Medical College of Cornell University
- **11:25 a.m.**  “Molecular Mechanisms by which Insulin Enhances Lipogenesis via Sterol Regulatory Element Binding Protein 1c: Regulation of the Regulator” presented by Marshall B. Elam, MD, PhD, professor, departments of pharmacy and medicine, University of Tennessee Health Science Center

The Cancer Research Building, which houses labs for three UTHSC colleges to focus on different types of cancer research, was officially opened in late September. Cutting the ribbon left to right; Leonard R. Johnson, PhD, vice chancellor for research; Vicki Antwine, cancer survivor and accounting assistant in the UTHSC Office of Finance and Operations; Lawrence M. Pfeffer, PhD, scientific director of the Cancer Research Building; John Petersen, PhD, president of the University of Tennessee; Hershel P. Wall, MD, interim chancellor of the UT Health Science Center; and Tiffany Sea groves, PhD, a cancer researcher from the College of Medicine.
Giraldo Answers Readers’ Headache Questions on Commercial Appeal ‘Healthy Memphis’ Blog

Elias A. Giraldo, MD, a board certified neurologist at Semmes Murphey Clinic and assistant professor of neurology and neurosurgery at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, is also a headache specialist. Director of the Stroke, Neurological Critical Care and Headache Medicine programs at UTHSC, Dr. Giraldo is one of several faculty members to be featured as an expert on The Commercial Appeal “Healthy Memphis” blog in the last year.

In response to the September Commercial Appeal article, readers’ question focused mainly on the migraine headache, which Dr. Giraldo referred to as a "vascular headache." Readers were also interested in medications that could be used to treat and prevent headaches. Dr. Giraldo discussed rebound headaches, which he called "medication overuse headaches," adding, "They are caused by the frequent use of medications, such as Advil."

To read more of the blog, see http://commercialappealweb.com/health/2007/09/17/ headaches causes and cures/.

Memphis BiImaging Symposium Draws Internationally Recognized Experts

World renowned experts in the major fields of medical imaging will gather at the Fogelman Executive Conference Center for the Fourth Annual Memphis BioImaging Symposium on Thursday evening, November 1. The two day event kicks off at 6 p.m. with an introduction to the Cancer Biomedical Informatics Grid by Eliot Siegel, MD, professor of radiology at the University of Maryland and the VA Maryland Health Care System, followed by a reception featuring research posters and commercial exhibits.

Experts from Johns Hopkins University, the University of Toronto, Northwestern University and Harvard Medical School will present on the latest in high-tech bioimaging.

Highlighting Friday's all day symposium will be presentations on imaging informatics trends from Steven Horii, MD, professor of radiology and clinical director of Medical Informatics at the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, as well as Paul Chang, MD, professor and vice chairman, Radiology Informatics and medical director Pathology Informatics at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine.

Memphis Mental Health Institute Opens Adjacent to UTHSC Campus

In case you’ve been wondering about the brand new building at the apex of Court Street, where the UT Bowld Hospital and Dobbs building used to be, it’s the Memphis Mental Health Institute MMHI. The official opening was September 24, and the first patients were admitted October 1.

The new 100,000 square foot, three story building is state of the art, featuring a layout with 75 beds divided among three units along with an ad ditional unit specifically dedicated to psychosocial rehabilitation program ming. A corridor connects the MED and the MMHI, and the entire facility meets new building and earthquake codes.

The project is the result of collaboration among the State of Tennessee/ Memphis Mental Health Institute, Methodist Healthcare System, the Regional Medical Center in Memphis the MED, University of Tennessee Health Science Center UTHSC and Shelby County government.

MMHI is the training facility for many types of students. For example, nearly 150 student nurses receive their introduction to psychiatric nursing at MMHI. Nearly all Memphis nursing programs will send their students to MMHI, including UTHSC undergradu ate nursing students.

“The MMHI experience is one of a kind opportunity to see and experience under one roof the complexity of care related to mental health,” said Pat Cunningham, DNSc, psychiatric/mental health nursing graduate option coordina tor for the UTHSC College of Nursing.

UTHSC also uses the facility to train about 50 medical students and approxi mately 12 psychiatric residents each year. MMHI’s relationship and affiliation with UTHSC has continued to grow over the years. Two of MMHI’s attending psychiatrists are on faculty at the UTHSC Department of Psychiatry and are directly involved in the training and clinical practice of psychiatry residents and medical students. “UT Health Science Center residents and medical students will be trained in the latest methods of psychiatric diagnosis and treatment in the beautiful new facility,” noted Dr. James A. Greene, interim chairman of the UTHSC Department of Psychiatry.

Memphis Mental Health Institute is one of five state psychiatric hospitals in Tennessee and serves the Memphis community. MMHI admits almost exclusively patients who cannot be admitted to area private hospitals.
Make a Difference in the Mid-South: Donate to United Way

The 2007 United Way Campaign is under way, and UTHSC needs your support. What sets United Way apart is that local volunteers not only raise the money but also determine how contributions will be used to the community’s best advantage. The gifts that you give to the local chapter of United Way stay in the Mid-South, partnering with nonprofit organizations in your community such as the Boy Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Memphis, Porter Leath Children’s Center and the Salvation Army. With more than 90 cents of every dollar going to the local agencies and programs United Way helps, by giving through United Way you are making the Mid-South an even better place to work and live.

Please take time to complete the pledge form when distributed by your area representative in the next few weeks. You may designate your gift to a specific agency if you like. Payroll deduction is the easiest way to make a gift, with funds taken out of your paycheck each pay period, or you may make a one time donation. No donation is too small. To increase excitement around the campaign, prizes will be given away weekly. A drawing for a free, roundtrip airline ticket restrictions apply will be held in December for those who have made a donation to United Way. Campaign progress can be viewed online at www.utmem.edu/unitedway, and contains weekly campaign updates and donation totals.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Richardson, campaign coordinator, at 448-4939.

Employee Appreciation Day in Photos

Medical Students Train as Tour Guides

International Affairs Announcement

The 2009 Diversity Visa Program “green card lottery” opened at noon, EDT, October 3, and ends at noon, EST, December 2. For more information and instructions on how to apply, see: http://travel.state.gov/visa/immigrants/types/types_1318.html. Persons born in the following countries are *not* eligible to apply but see instructions on how you may be able to qualify via a spouse or parents not born in these countries:

- Brazil
- Canada
- China (mainland-born)
- Colombia
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- India
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Pakistan
- Philippines
- Peru
- Poland
- Russia
- South Korea
- United Kingdom except Northern Ireland and its dependent territories, and Vietnam.

Persons born in Hong Kong SAR, Macau SAR and Taiwan are eligible.

(For more photos, visit the UTHSC News Center Web page: http://www.utmem.edu/news/newscenter.php.)

Occupational Therapy Students Celebrate Backpack Awareness Day

The UTHSC College of Allied Health Sciences Department of Occupational Therapy OT students participated in National Back pack Awareness Day on September 19. The American Occupational Therapy Association AOTA student representative, Meg Coleman, coordinated the event in the GEB. The OT students displayed a poster, weighed backpacks and passed out informative flyers. The AOTA recommends that backpacks weigh no more than 15 percent of a person’s body weight, that the heaviest items be loaded first and that the person always wear both shoulder straps. They also recommend the use of a rolling backpack. Following these tips will help prevent the neck and back pain frequently associated with wearing a backpack.

Kim Cherry and Anna Alexander, OT students, show off the Backpack Awareness display.

Senior design technician Neal Smith learns how to load a backpack properly.

Dianne Harris, admissions coordinator in the College of Medicine Admissions Office, held a meet and greet in September to train students from the College of Medicine who have volunteered to act as tour guides for prospective medical students.

Andrew Nickels, M3, one of this year’s volunteers, said, “Current medical students provide unique insight into the experience and education UT provides. I am pleased to spend a little time with the applicants to share what I think UT has to offer and help them decide if UT is a good fit.”

Beginning this October and continuing through the middle of April 2008, medical students are invited to sign up to assist in tours of the UTHSC campus. Registration forms can be found at http://www.utmem.edu/Medicine/Admissions/TOUR_GUIDE.htm.

Angela Brooks and Ruby Foster, both senior budget clerks in the Department of Physiology, enjoy free barbecue chicken nachos.

Cotton candy floated through the air as Elise Moore and Chandra Alston spun and bagged cotton candy for employees to enjoy.
Wireless Access Policy to be Enforced

Wireless access points not installed and maintained by Information Technol ogy IT Services on the UTHSC campus must be removed by December 1. IT Services will enforce the UT acceptable use of information technology resources policy 0110, which states, “Users will not connect devices e.g., switches, rout ers, hubs, computer systems and wireless access points to the network that are not approved by the central IT organization at the campus or institution.”

Why?
Wireless access points not included in the UTHSC Information Technology Services network infrastructure bypass UTHSC authentication security policies and place all computers on the network at risk for virus based attacks. All com puters are exposed to the possibility of computer hackers, which can increase the chance of identity theft.

How can I request installation?
Departments may request installation of UTHSC network services provided wireless access points to replace any existing user installed wireless access points by contacting Roger Schwartz, Network Services WiFi specialist, at 448-2236 or via e mail at rschwart@utmem.edu. The department requesting the wireless access points will be responsible for the cost of installing the approved devices. The cost is approximately $800 per access point.

In order to reduce or avoid any interruptions in your wireless service, please reserve your new UTHSC-owned access point as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support of the UTHSC IT network services as we continue to make our campus network a user-friendly, safe and secure means of accessing intranet and Internet services.

Parking Fee Increase
A parking fee increase for the Health Science Center was recently approved by the UT Board of Trustees. The fee increase is 10 percent above the current rate and applies to all UTHSC parking lots.

The change for faculty and staff will be implemented October 1 and will be deducted automatically from users’ paychecks. Students will see an adjustment in January 2008; the cost for parking is included in the students’ regular fee payments.

UTHSC Stepped Out to Fight Diabetes in October

Nearly 21 million children and adults nationwide suffer from diabetes. While an estimated 14.6 million have been diagnosed with diabetes, 6.2 million people are still unaware that they have the disease. If the present trends continue, one out of every three Americans born today will develop diabetes in their lifetime. Diabetes also leads to other health complications, with more than 80,000 people with diabetes undergoing amputation each year. Diabetes is the fifth deadliest disease in the United States, killing more people than AIDS or breast cancer.

The facts are overwhelming, but the American Diabetes Association ADA is fighting diabetes with research, information and advocacy. This October, the ADA is asking individuals to join the STEP OUT TO FIGHT DI ABETES premier fund raising walk. All funds raised from STEP OUT TO FIGHT DIABETES are used in support of the association's mission: to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of people affected by diabetes.

“We don’t have a day to waste,” stated Beverly Williams Cleaves, MD, at UT Medical Group. She is president of the local ADA Leadership Council and chief of Endocrinology and Diabetes at the Regional Medical Center the MED and Endo MedPlex clinics. Dr. Williams Cleaves strongly encouraged UTHSC and the MED family to help make a difference in the growing epidemic by supporting the ADA.

Cyber Security Awareness Month
Be aware of these three areas where you can improve your computer security:

1. Make security a routine:
   • Turn on your personal firewall if you have XP or OS X, you already have one!
   • Regularly run your anti-spyware programs – you can download several from the UTHSC Helpdesk Web site.
   • Automate updates for your operating system and antivirus – call the Helpdesk if you need assistance with this.

2. Be prepared for system failures and infections:
   • Back up your data files regularly – daily to weekly depending on how many significant new files and changes you make.
   • Keep your backup in a separate and secure location – UTHSC domain members can backup to a secure network VolShare.
   • Locate your installation CDs for your operating system and other software – and be sure that you also have the keys.

3. Don’t be fooled:
   • Avoid unexpected attachments in e-mails and URLs in the body of e-mails – they are really saying “click here to infect your system.”
   • Do not download unknown programs from the Web or trade unknown files with peer-to-peer programs – you can be in violation of university policy, too.
   • Be skeptical of unlikely stories and amazing offers.

Every 24 Hours in the United States:
(courtesy, the Center for Disease Control, Atlanta)

• 2,200 new diabetics are diagnosed
• 512 diabetics will die
• 77 diabetics start kidney dialysis
• 66 diabetics lose their sight

The UTHSC team poses for a photo at last year’s American Diabetes Association Walk.
Postdoctoral Fellows Form Local Association

While postdoctoral fellows are key players in the research enterprise at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and elsewhere, they have historically had little representation outside of their home departments and/or labs.

This issue has been addressed nationally with the establishment of the National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) in 2002, and locally with the establishment of the UTHSC Postdoc Office and the UTHSC Postdoc Association in 2007. The UTHSC Postdoc Association, as well as similar organizations at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Vanderbilt, University of Alabama, Emory University and elsewhere around the country, are run by and for postdoctoral fellows, and they are committed to work with faculty to enhance the quality of the postdoctoral experience.

Dr. Dianna Johnson, director of the Postdoc Office and associate vice chancellor of Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs, has been impressed with the energy and insight of the postdocs who spearheaded the association. Dr. Johnson stated, "The UTHSC Postdoc Association, in collaboration with other local chapters, the NPA, and the UTHSC faculty and administration, can play a pivotal role in assuring that we train outstanding researchers who will become part of the ‘future of UTHSC.’” More information about the UTHSC Postdoc Office and the UTHSC Postdoc Association can be found at the Web site: utmem.edu/postdoc.

Alzheimer’s 5K Memory Walk Scheduled for November 3 in Autozone Park

Alzheimer’s disease, which affects the brain, is the most common form of dementia, robbing those affected of memories, thoughts, and personality, as well as bringing heartache to their loved ones. But for some people in the early stages of the disease, the opportunity to participate in research into its causes and treatments can offer hope: both for them and for family members, who may be at increased risk for the disease.

While Alzheimer’s disease continues to be the major cause of disabling memory loss in older adults, major advances have been made in understanding the disease. The Mid South Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association offers support groups, education and multilingual information on the disease.

Since 1989, the Alzheimer’s Association 5K Memory Walk has raised more than 2.5 million to help those battling Alzheimer’s disease. The Alzheimer’s Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer research, care and support. Dedicated to finding prevention methods, treatments and an eventual cure for Alzheimer’s, the organization provides support for all those affected by the disease.

Sign up as a team with your friends, family, organization or register as an individual participant to walk on Saturday, November 3, at Autozone Park. Create your own Web site and personalize it with pictures and stories. Set a fund raising goal and send e-mails to everyone you know to ask them to join and support you. Walk and celebrate the difference you are making in the cause to end Alzheimer’s disease. Visit the Memory Walk Web site at: http://www.kintera.org/FAF/home/default.asp?ievent=230815.

UT Medical Researcher’s Grant Sets Longevity Records

University of Tennessee Graduate School of Medicine researcher, Alan Solomon, MD, professor of medicine and director of the Human Immunology and Cancer/Alzheimer’s Disease and Amyloid Related Disorders Research Program, was recently awarded a five year renewal on a grant from the National Institutes of Health’s NIH National Cancer Institute that now is one of the longest active NIH grants in NIH history and is the longest running NIH grant in UT history.

The grant, originally awarded to Dr. Solomon in 1965, has been renewed continually for the past 42 years and has provided more than 12 million to fund Dr. Solomon’s work at UT.

Dr. Solomon has devoted these 42 years to the study, diagnosis and treatment of cancer and for the past 10 years on amyloidosis, a protein folding disorder associated with rheumatoid arthritis, Alzheimer’s disease, adult onset type 2 diabetes and an illness related to multiple myeloma called primary or AL amyloidosis.

“The length of the NIH grant and the total amount of money associated with it reflect strong support of the pre eminent research program at the UT Graduate School of Medicine, an undertaking that has gained national and international attention,” said James J. Neutens, PhD, dean, UT Graduate School of Medicine.

“I am very appreciative and grateful for the initial and the continuing NIH grant, which will make it possible for us to achieve our ultimate goal, to improve the outcome of patients with these medically devastating amyloid associated diseases,” said Dr. Solomon.

“I am thankful to receive this award particularly because so few NIH research grants are being funded at this time due to imposed limitations in governmental support for medical research.”

In 1992, Dr. Solomon, who received his MD degree from Duke University, was named one of the American Cancer Society Clinical Research Professors and is Scientific Advisor to the International Myeloma Foundation and the Amyloidosis Research Foundation. He has published more than 250 articles in scientific and medical journals on his research.
College of Dentistry Clinic Offers Discount for Services

The College of Dentistry clinic offers a 20 percent discount on services to UTHSC employees, their spouses and dependents. In addition to faculty-supervised diagnosis and treatment of patients, the clinic also provides specialty programs such as orthodontics, oral surgery, pediatric dentistry, periodontics and prosthodontics.

Patients must be screened for the undergraduate program to determine whether the patient can be treated by beginning dental practitioners. If the patients' treatment needs are too difficult for the undergraduate student, they may be referred to one of the postgraduate programs. A faculty practice is also available, where all treatment is provided by faculty members in a private practice setting. All services provided are fee for service in the dental school.

Screening for the undergraduate program: (901) 448-6241
Faculty practice: (901) 448-6476
Location: 875 Union Avenue
Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Clinic hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Grant Proposals Now Accepted

Methodist Healthcare Foundation is now accepting research grant proposals for biannual review. Proposals (with requisite copies) must be delivered to the Foundation office at 1211 Union Avenue, Suite 450, Memphis, TN 38104 by November 1 to be considered in this grant review cycle.

To be eligible for a grant, the research must focus on clinical research or health outcomes related to the mission, goals and strategic plan of Methodist Healthcare. Priority will be given to projects that support areas of most interest to Methodist Healthcare (neuroscience, transplantation, cancer, patient safety, quality of care and nursing excellence and education). Applicants must be a member of the Methodist Healthcare medical staff or associate in good standing with Methodist Healthcare. For more questions, please contact the Foundation at (901) 516-0501.

Career Development Seminars for Faculty and Postdocs Co-Sponsored by the UTHSC Office of Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs

During a three-day period from September 19 to 21, a series of four seminars covering different aspects of career development were presented to UTHSC faculty and postdocs. Janet Bickel, Career and Leadership Development coach and consultant, gave presentations on “The Art of Constructive Politics” for all UTHSC faculty, “Goal Setting and Time Management” for new faculty during the first UTHSC Faculty Orientation program, and “Turning Intellectual Capital into Career Capital” for UTHSC postdoctoral research trainees. Allan Carrington, educational specialist from Australia, gave a presentation on “Teaching the Millennium Generation” for all UTHSC faculty members. Various groups within the College of Nursing and the College of Medicine sponsored these presentations along with the UTHSC.

Two UTHSC faculty groups, the Faculty Development Committee and the Education Task Force, were recently constituted to help organize these presentations and to generate a comprehensive plan for a continuing series of events that will help faculty members to develop careers that support the four elements of the university mission. Jeddie Maxwell from the Office of Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs; and Dan Houlden, Elizabeth Roemer and Emily Barnes from the Student Life and Rec Center Office comprise the support staff that will continue to be essential for these events. Announcements regarding future faculty development events this fall will be made soon. Please contact Jeddie Maxwell for additional information at 448-8484 or e-mail jmaxwell@uthem.edu.

Lions Support Low-Vision Service at UTHSC Hamilton Eye Institute

In August, the Mid South Lions Sight and Hearing Service, the Memphis Downtown Lions Club and the Lions Club International Foundation donated $150,000 to fund a Low Vision Center at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center UTHSC Hamilton Eye Institute.

The Lions Low Vision Service Center will expand care to the underserved and uninsured in the metropolitan Memphis area, Arkansas, Mississippi and Missouri and will improve the available ability of affordable low vision aids and devices, as well as raise awareness about low vision services.

“Our goal for the first three years of the service is 7,500 patient visits per year for low vision care,” said Barrett G. Haik, MD, UTHSC Hamilton Eye Institute professor and chair of the Department of Ophthalmology. “Our strong relationship with both St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and Le Bonheur Children’s Medical Center, makes Hamilton Eye Institute a resource for children with serious visual impairment. We are grateful to the Lions Club for the support that allows us to reach out to these children who require assistance coping with the consequences of visual loss.”

“Most of the people who will be served at the Lions Low Vision Center have no other medical or financial alternative. They have no resources to acquire this type of care,” remarked Mid South Lions CEO, Brad Baker. “Our collaboration on the Low Vision Center with area Lions Clubs, Lions Clubs International Foundation, and the UT Health Science Center Hamilton Eye Institute will bring the gift of sight to hundreds of those in need.”

Low vision results from many causes. The leading eye diseases among adults in the United States are macular degeneration and glaucoma. In children, congenital eye disease is a primary cause of low vision. Once a portion of sight is permanently lost, the goal of the Lions Low Vision Center is to provide patients with aids and instruction that will allow them to function with their remaining vision.

Barrett G. Haik, MD, chair of the UTHSC Hamilton Eye Institute (left) and Thomas O’Donnell, MD, director of the Lions Low Vision Center (right), accept a donation for $150,000 from Mid-South Lions CEO, Brad Baker (center).
Janice “Jan” M. Shier, MD, PharmD, has joined the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at UT Medical Group Inc. and been named assistant professor of OB/GYN at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Shier has a doctorate in pharmacy from the University of Texas Health Science Center and a medical degree from the University of Michigan Medical School, where she most recently served as clinical instructor of obstetrics and gynecology. She cares for patients at UT Medical Group’s Germantown office, 7945 Wolf River Boulevard.

Malak Kotb, PhD, A.C. Mullins Professor in the department of Surgery and Molecular Sciences, and director of the Immunology and Immunogenetics Program and the Translational Research Program at UTHSC College of Medicine, was invited earlier this year by the University of Florida, Gainesville, to be a distinguished speaker in their Emerging Pathogens Initiative.

In addition, Dr. Kotb was invited by Tennessee Governor Phil Bredesen to join a delegation to China in October aimed at promoting greater economic, political and cultural ties between Tennessee and China. A successful mission will promote Tennessee products and services and educate potential Chinese investors about locating businesses in Tennessee. Dr. Kotb was also appointed to the National Steering Committee for ATCC’s Standards Developing Organization, Consensus Standards Partnership. Members of this committee include leaders from industry, government and three representatives from academia.

Dr. Kotb and Dr. John D. Fraser also edited Superantigens: Molecular Basis for Their Role in Human Diseases, which was published in July.

Stated Dr. Kotb, “Superantigens is the first comprehensive examination of these fascinating proteins ever published. A team of internationally respected researchers covers the basic molecular mechanisms of superantigen action, their structure and function and their role in human diseases. Ad ditionally, Superantigens explains the clinical consequences of superantigen intoxication and the latest therapeutic interventions to combat superantigen toxicity.”

Atul K. Madan, MD, associate professor and chief, Section of Minimally Invasive Surgery in the Department of Surgery has been named to the Editorial Board of Obesity Surgery, the official journal of the American Society for Bariatric Surgery.

Amy S. Paganelli, CPA, MBA, CGFM, has been named assistant dean for UT Finance and Administration in Knoxville. Paganelli is responsible for all financial and budgeting aspects of the Graduate School of Medicine as well as administrative operations. She joined the graduate school in 1999 and most recently served as director of Business Administration.

Paganelli earned her CGFM certified government financial manager designation in 1999 and CPA certified public accountant designation in 1989. She serves on the board of directors of the local chapter of the Association of Government Accountants.

Lawrence Madlock, MD, became the new medical director and physician for the University Health Services in September. Phillip Smith, MD, will be leaving UTHSC for another position.

“We look forward to continuing to provide excellent health care for the UTHSC community,” stated Peggy Ingram Veeser EdD, APRN, BC FAANP, director, University Health Services.

Surya Shah OTD, PhD, Med, OTR, FAOTA, professor in the Occupational Therapy and Neurology Department, participated September in the workshop on “Concepts and Controversies in Persons with Stroke Induced Hemiplegia” and presented an invited paper on “Occupational Therapy for Sensory Motor Reeducation in Persons with Parkinson’s Disease” at the Kentucky Occupational Therapy Association’s Annual Conference.

April Cantrell, BS, COA, research manager at the UTHSC Hamilton Eye Institute, was recently awarded the 2007 Harold Stein Prize for Best Scientific Paper by the Joint Commission of Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology JCAHPO. Her paper, “Paranepithelial Syndromes and relevant Diagnostic Tests Correlated with a Clinical Case Study,” stemmed from an increasingly large number of cases with autoimmune retinal and optic nerve diseases that have been seen in the past few years at the Retinal Degeneration and Ophthalmic Genetics Service at the Hamilton Eye Institute. Alessandro Iannaccone, MD, MS, associate professor in the UTHSC College of Medicine Department of Ophthalmology and director at the Hamilton Eye Institute, heads the clinical research and trials. Said Dr. Iannaccone, “I am absolutely delighted with April’s remarkable accomplishment. This was a nationwide competition open to all ophthalmic technical personnel, and she was the sole winner. The case that April reported was an especially difficult one to understand and characterize.” The $2,000 prize will be presented to Cantrell at the JCAHPO’s Annual Meeting in New Orleans on November 11.

Kathleen Kenwright, MS, MT(ASCP), SI, MP, assistant professor in the College of Allied Health Sciences was recently elected to serve on the Program Review Committee for the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences NAACLS as the diagnostic molecular science educator. Kenwright was appointed to the Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences in September 2006 after having worked for 10 years in molecular diagnostics. Her knowledge coupled with practical experience provide valuable expertise to NAACLS and the UTHSC Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences.
**GRANTS**

Congratulations to the following UTHSC team members who have recently received grants totaling more than $5,000.

**Ann Cashion, PhD, RN**  
National Institutes of Health  
“Genetics, Environment and Weight Gain Post transplant”  
$1,739,042

**Sarah Mynatt, EdD, APRN, BC**  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
“Comprehensive Advanced Education Psych Nursing Program”  
$811,010

**Cynthia Russell, PhD, RN, ANP**  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
“Individualized Information Literacy Skills Improvement”  
973,406

**Susan Patton, DNSc, APRN, BC, SANE-A**  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
“UT Comprehensive Advanced Education Forensic Program”  
516,320

**Carolyn Graff, PhD, RN, FAAIDD**  
The H. W. Durham Foundation  
“Exploring Strategies to Improve the Health of Custodial Grandparents”  
6,300

**Ivan Gerling, PhD**  
National Institutes of Health  
“Molecular Phenotyping of NOD Mice”  
54,810

**Leslie McKeon, PhD, RN, CNAAN**  
BC and Tommie Norris, DNS, RN  
Quality and Safety Education for Nurses QSEN  
“Practice Based Learning and Improvement to Develop Quality and Safety Competencies Among Pre-Licensure Nursing Students”  
25,000

**Zoila Sánchez, PhD, RN**  
State of Tennessee Center for Diabetes Prevention and Health Improvement  
“Improving Health Care Delivery for Hispanic Patients with Diabetes in Tennessee”  
48,964

**James M. Pruett, PhD**  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
Advanced Education Nursing Grant  
263,884

**Jill S. Detty Oswaks, CRNA, DNSc, APN**  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
Nurse Anesthetist Training  
16,448

**Belinda Mandrell, RN**  
American Cancer Society  
“Molecular Profile of a Secondary Breast Cancer”  
20,772

**Eldon Geisert, PhD**  
National Eye Institute  
“Modulators of Retinal Injury”  
365,000

**Belinda Mandrell, RN**  
Ruth L. Kirchstein National Research Service Award  
“Molecular Profile of a Secondary Breast Cancer”  
58,972

**Leonard Johnson, PhD**  
National Institutes of Health  
“Polyamines and Early GI Mucosal Restitution”  
299,300

**Brien Neudeck, PharmD**  
National Institutes of Health  
“Role of ATP Binding Cassette Transporters in Innate Intestinal”  
219,000

**Fu-ming Zhou, PhD**  
National Institutes of Health  
“Non Transporter Cocaine Mechanisms in Dopamine System”  
276,462

**Gabor Tigyi, MD, PhD**  
National Institutes of Health  
“Development of a Novel Gastrointestinal Radiomimotizer”  
1,000,000

**Ronald Adkins, PhD**  
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development  
“Maternal Fetal Conflict: The Effect of Imprinted Genes on Fetal Growth”  
183,150

**Edward Chaum, MD, PhD**  
Plough Foundation  
“Automated Diagnosis of Diabetic Retinopathy in Underserved Patients in Shelby County”  
332,118

**Lawrence Faulkner, PhD, OTR**  
H. W. Durham Foundation  
“Efficacy of a Sitting Tai Chi Program for Assisted Living Residents”  
14,996

**Robert Klesges, PhD**  
National Cancer Institute  
“Prolonged Smoking Cessation Using Prescription Step Care”  
50,056

**Suba Nookala, PhD**  
Knights Templar Eye Foundation  
“Purification and Identification of the Retinal Glycan Receptor”  
30,000

**Jena Steinle, PhD**  
National Institute of Aging  
“Effects of Loss of Sympathetic Nerve Activity on Normal Ocular Aging”  
135,176

**Fabio Re, PhD**  
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases  
The NLR Inflammasome as mediator of Alum’s adjuvanticity  
219,000

**Kirk Heneve, PharmD**  
American Foundation for Pharmaceutical Education  
“The Structure Based Design of Novel Antimicrobial Agents”  
6,000

**Wen Lin Sun, PhD, MD**  
National Institute of Drug Abuse  
“Neural Mechanisms of Cocaine Addiction”  
213,000

**Barbara Rawls**, senior administrative services assistant in the Department of Physiology, was interviewed on Eyewitness News with her son in law, Clifford DeBerry, who will be bicycling 100 miles at 100 miles a day to Nashville to promote adoption awareness. Barbara’s grandson, David Ernest DeBerry, was born in December 2005, and his adoption was finalized in September 2007.

Barbara said her grandson’s time before the camera went well, adding, “My grandson does a robust ‘If you’re happy and you know it, shout Hurray!’ and a pretty good tiger’s growl. They have all that on camera. The children really promote adoption. David has brought so much into our lives.”

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**FAMILY NOTES**

Lachristopher V. Lewis, son of Patricia “Trish” Hill of Medicine Endocrinology graduated from the University of Alabama in August 2007, with a bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies in mathematics technology. He is presently working on his master’s degree at Mississippi State University in Starkville, Miss.

David Ernest DeBerry

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**EVENT CALENDAR**

**13th Annual Update on Parkinson's Disease Symposium**
Oct. 20 Check in is at the Memphis Botanic Garden, at 8:30 a.m., and the program is from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Mary Edna Parish, RN, at 448-1850 or at meparish@utmem.edu for registration information. Faculty and staff may attend free of charge. The event is sponsored by Ronald F. Pfeiffer, MD, professor and vice chair in the Department of Neurology.

**Physiology Seminar Schedule**

**Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m. in 516 Nash**

**Oct. 25**
Dr. Ioannis Dragatsis, assistant professor, Department of Physiology, UTHSC, “Huntingtin and Huntingtin Associated Protein 1 Hap1”

**Nov. 1**
Dr. Steven White, associate professor, Department of Medicine, Pulmonary and Critical Care, University of Chicago Hospitals, “Apoptosis and Repair of Airway Epithelium,” host, Dr. Chris Waters, Department of Physiology, UTHSC

**Nov. 8**
Dr. Charles Mansbach, professor, departments of Medicine and Physiology, College of Medicine, UTHSC, “The Regulation of Vesiculation of the Pre chylomicron Transport Vesicle”

**Nov. 14**
No seminar today; Hypertension Research Day Wednesday, 8 a.m. noon; Coleman North Auditorium

**Nov. 29**
Dr. Zofia Zukowska, professor, Department of Physiology and Biophysics, Georgetown University School of Medicine, “Pivotal Role of Neuropeptide Y NPY in Vascular Remodeling, Response to Stress, and Obesity,” host, G.N. Rao, Department of Physiology, UTHSC

**Dec. 6**
Dr. Steven White, associate professor, Department of Cell and Molecular Physiology, University of North Carolina, “Epithelial Tight Junctions,” host, Dr. R.K. Rao, Department of Physiology, UTHSC

**Dec. 13**
Dr. Lawrence T. Reiter, assistant professor, Department of Neurology, College of Medicine, UTHSC, “Advantages of the Fruit Fly Model and of Using UT’s Core Fruit Fly Facility”

**Dec. 20**
No seminar today

**Pharmacology Seminar Schedule**

**Link Auditorium from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.**

**Oct. 23**
Dr. Adron Harris, University of Texas Austin, “Brain Targets of Alcohol and Anesthetics: Ion Channels and More”

**Oct. 31**
Dr. Asrar Malik, University of Illinois at Chicago, “Signaling Pathways that Regulate the Barrier Properties of Endothelia and Epithelial Cells”

**Nov. 7**
Dr. Junming Yue, UT Health Science Center, “New Viral Vector Core Provides Lentiviral and Adenoviral Vector Production for Faculty at UT Campus”

**Nov. 14**
Dr. Thomas Rich, University of South Alabama, “Toward a Quantitative Understanding of Cyclic Nucleotide Signaling”

**William T. Cashdollar DVP Lecture: Lecturer to Promote Integration of Quality Palliative Care**

Christ United Methodist Church at 9 a.m.

**Nov. 2**
The College of Nursing will host the William T. Cashdollar Distinguished Visiting Professor DVP Lectureship, a lecture series endowed by Kathy Cashdollar after her husband’s death from cancer in 1980. The lectureship is an annual educational event designed to help healthcare professionals meet the needs of dying persons and their families.

The 2007 Cashdollar DVP is Javier Kane, MD, an associate member in the Department of Oncology and director of Palliative and End of Life Care at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and a faculty member in the Department of Pediatrics at UTHSC. Dr. Kane’s presentation is entitled “Integration of Quality Palliative Care into the Continuum of Care of Seriously Ill Children.”

The Cashdollar Lectureship will be held at Continuing education contact hours will be awarded to nurses who attend. For more information, contact Tammy Vaughn at 448 6407 or visit www.utmem.edu/nursing.