MISSION STATEMENT

The Health Science Center aims to improve human health through education, research, clinical care and public service. The UT Health Science Center campuses include colleges of Allied Health Sciences, Dentistry, Graduate Health Sciences, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy.

INTERIM TITLES REMOVED FOR TOP UTHSC LEADERS

On January 17, UT President John Petersen announced plans to immediately remove the interim title designation for both Hershel “Pat” Wall, MD, and Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD. Since mid-April 2007, Dr. Wall has served as interim chancellor and vice president for health affairs, while Dr. Brown has served as chief of staff and interim executive vice chancellor for the UT Health Science Center.

“Both Pat and Ken have done excellent jobs in carrying out their responsibilities, and we appreciate their willingness to provide leadership going forward.” President Petersen noted. “In December, we suspended the chancellor search while we explored issues we felt were important to our ability to conduct the search with maximum effectiveness.”

On January 31, the executive compensation committee granted approval for Dr. Wall to carry the title of chancellor and its full responsibilities until a new permanent chancellor is hired.

“We will not resume the chancellor search process until we have enhanced the appeal of the position through the joint efforts of campus leadership and our community partners,” President Petersen stated. “We hope the search can be re-started within the next year, and we expect to attract an exceptional leader.”

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UT President and Trustees Visit Memphis

From left: Karl Schledwitz, UT trustee; President John Petersen; and Arnold Perl, trustee emeritus, celebrate the Vols’ winning night.

UT President John Petersen and the entire UT board of trustees visited the Memphis Health Science Center campus in February. The academic affairs and student success committee of the University of Tennessee board met in the Student Alumni Center the morning of February 23. UTHSC deans, administrative leaders and community partners joined the group for lunch and for an afternoon session featuring speakers and presentations. The goal of the Saturday board meeting was to educate and inform stakeholders and all the UT trustees about specific challenges and opportunities on the UTHSC Memphis campus.

Following the meeting, local Memphis trustees George Cates, Rhynette Hurd and Karl Schledwitz hosted the president, the board, UTHSC leaders and guests to dinner at the world famous Memphis barbecue hot spot, The Rendezvous. The evening entertainment included Coach Bruce Pearl and the Tennessee Volunteers playing the No. 1 ranked University of Memphis Tigers in a nationally televised basketball game at FedEx Forum. UT supporters watched the Vols beat the Tigers 66 to 62.

Hathaway Speaks at Chancellor’s Roundtable

On February 18, Dean Donna Hathaway, PhD, FAAN, briefed the chancellor’s roundtable on the marketing campaign for the College of Nursing’s new program.

Hershel P. Wall, MD
Ken Brown, JD, MPA, PhD

On February 18, Dean Donna Hathaway, PhD, FAAN, briefed the chancellor’s roundtable on the marketing campaign for the College of Nursing’s new program.
William Frey, PhD, Named Dean of Allied Health Sciences

In January, Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, appointed William R. Frey, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences at UTHSC. Dr. Frey, who has served as interim dean of the college since May 2005, shares his vision for the college in this interview.

As permanent dean, what do you most look forward to doing in the college?
What is your vision for the College of Allied Health Sciences?
While serving as interim dean, I have uncovered the layers of the six professions in our college and discovered a wonderful legacy of service, of commitment and at times brilliance. In my vision as dean, our emphasis on quality and action will continue to build. With the resources that Chancellor Wall and many others have invested in our college and with the excellent relationships we have with our sister colleges at the Health Science Center, we can be counted on to do our part to support our institutional mission.

What are the major challenges you face in this position?
The first challenge is financial. Like all colleges, we know that we must continue to focus our energy on finding external sources of funding. Second, all of the professions in our CAHS continue to evolve with more discoveries and with increasing knowledge, so attracting well qualified faculty will continue to be foremost in my mind. And last, I believe that as a college, we need to balance our excellent classroom work with more attention to investigation and research.

What efforts does the college have under way to address the impending shortage of allied health professionals?
This is an extremely important topic. Like other health professions, our allied health professions are experiencing the perfect storm of an aging society needing more health services, and at the same time an increasing number of allied health professionals are retiring. We have approached this challenge in three ways. First, we are increasing the number of students in our classrooms and clinical sites where possible. One creative way to do this has been through distance education technology. Two of our graduate degree programs are completely online. One of our entry-level programs has cohorts of students located both in Memphis and Chattanooga learning synchronously. Second, as a premier college, we have designed programs that will graduate future educators who will teach not only UT students, but will hold academic appointments in other colleges across the state. Third, other members of our faculty and I are active in health policy committees and forums so that legislators and other decision makers understand the consequences of a reduction in our professional allied health workforce.

How can alumni support the continued growth and development of the college?
One of the most pleasurable parts of being a dean is talking with alumni. They tell me of the opportunities that have come their way because of their education in the College of Allied Health Sciences. Sometimes they want to know about their favorite professor. Similarly, our staff is extremely important to some of our alumni, and they recall to me how important a member of the staff was when they were going through a rough patch while a student. Other times alums want to know about new programs and express an interest in visiting the campus, volunteering their time and experiences or giving us some of their money. The bottom line is there are many ways that alumni can help our college. I enjoy speaking with alumni and learning about what is important to them and how we can continue to help them realize their goals and dreams even though they have graduated.

The College of Allied Health Sciences recently celebrated its 35th anniversary. Where do you see the college in the next five years – at 40? And in the next 15 years, at 50?
Innovative, socially relevant and well known. Our professions are “applied” sciences. We will work side by side with other UTHSC partners in the future in areas such as the Clinical and Translational Science Institute. Because the “earth is flat,” we will be interconnected with communities throughout the state, as well as with far away places. Already, our faculty is serving in important roles around the globe through lecturing and in service to their professional organizations. The future of the CAHS is bright.

Are there topics we did not ask about that you would like to discuss?
Of course, I could go on talking about our college and UTHSC. But I might end our conversation by mentioning that this past year, our faculty undertook the task of writing a “Statement of Values.” As you mentioned, this is our 35th year as a college, and we wanted to pause and reflect on what binds us together and what is important to us. The importance of each student will remain our central defining value, and that will not change while I am dean.

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The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services.
Members of the UT Health Science Center Department of Physiology have established a fund to recognize the contributions of Leonard “Rusty” Johnson, PhD, former chair of the department (1989 to 2006).

Donations from the fund have been used to purchase the portrait of Dr. Johnson, which is now displayed in room 516, the departmental conference room of the Nash Building, where portraits of other former chairs of the department are displayed.

During Dr. Johnson’s 17 years with the department, research funding grew from about $3.7 million to $12.9 million, and the department is now ranked among the top 15 departments of physiology in public medical schools nationwide. “Dr. Johnson recruited a nationally recognized group of investigators into the department,” said Gabor Tigyi, PhD, the current physiology chair. “The department has only grown by three faculty members; whereas, the funding has almost quadrupled.”

Dr. Johnson, a native of Indiana, began his career at the University of Texas, Houston, he assumed the chair position in the Department of Physiology, where he was later appointed the Thomas A. Gerwin endowed chair. Gerwin family members have been generous donors to the department, establishing the Gerwin fellowship for graduate students and donating funds to renovate a floor of the Nash Building that houses research labs.

After stepping down as chair of physiology, Dr. Johnson has assumed responsibility as vice chancellor in the Office of Research, where he continues to serve UTHSC.

**UTHSC Officials Host Discussion on Electronic Health Records**

Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, welcomed health executives to the UT Health Science Center campus when the Healthy Memphis Common Table was designated as the first chartered value exchange in the United States by the Department of Health and Human Services. The Healthy Memphis Common Table, a nonprofit group focused on improving the health of those in the Mid South, hosted a private reception for health care executives from the Tennessee region to talk with Health and Human Services Secretary Michael Leavitt about electronic medical records as a tool for improved patient care and quality improvement.

The group was told that Memphis could soon be one of 12 nation wide markets to test electronic record keeping as a way to improve health care quality. The new federal program could provide grants to 100 Memphis doctors’ groups.

**UTHSC Employees Pass CPS Exam**

Congratulations to the following UTHSC employees who passed the Certified Professional Secretary Examination and received a 9 percent pay increase:
- Gloria Wilkins, medical information assistant, Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities
- Tiffany Trice, coordinator, Equity and Diversity
- Cynthia Starke, administrative aide, Preventive Medicine
- Trushauna Morgan, patient account specialist, Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities
- Brenda Buys, payroll assistant, Finance and Operations
- Janie Hall, senior administrative services assistant, Graduate Medical Education
- Marjo Jacks, senior administrative services assistant, Clinical Pharmacy (recertification only, no pay increase)

**UT Medical Group Offers Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Scholarships**

UT Medical Group, Inc., has launched a scholarship program for students in the neonatal nurse practitioner program at the UT Health Science Center College of Nursing.

The program offers full tuition for selected candidates who agree to work as a neonatal nurse practitioner at UT Medical Group for at least three years after certification. Tuition is provided for the master of science in maternal nursing with a specialty in neonatal nursing, and in certain cases, the doctor of nursing practice in neonatal nursing.

Candidates must:
- be admitted to the UTHSC neonatal nurse practitioner program.
- be a professionally active neonatal registered nurse.
- qualify for in-state tuition.
- have a solid academic background.
- demonstrate qualities of leadership, communication and patient care.

All completed applications must be received by May 1 of the year of application. Scholarship applications are available online at www.utmedicalgroup.com. For more information on the scholarship program, contact the UT Medical Group Department of Human Resources at (901) 722-9010, extension 237. Applications for the UTHSC College of Nursing neonatal nurse practitioner program can be found at www.utmem.edu/nursing.
UTHSC Celebrates Black History Month

In February, the nation celebrated Black History Month, a time to reflect on the extraordinary black Americans who have contributed so richly to our country and community. UTHSC students, faculty and staff celebrated with several activities sponsored by the Office of Equity and Diversity and the Black Student Association (BSA), as well as the Black Graduate Student Association. The BSA kicked off Black History Month with a group outing to Laser Quest on February 1.

On February 8, the UTHSC Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA) hosted Ivory Toldson, PhD, as part of their Motivational Speaker Series. Dr. Toldson spoke to the public on the topic, “Translating Research into the Community.” A counseling psychology professor at Howard University, Dr. Toldson received his PhD from Temple University and the DuBois Fellowship from the U.S. Department of Justice. Also on February 8, the BSA held a high school essay contest, which aims to develop critical thinking skills in young authors. Students were given a topic to write 500 words on. For more information, see BLACK HISTORY, pg. 5.

UTHSC Thanks BMHC at Dedication Ceremony

On February 7, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center held a ceremony that commemorated Baptist Memorial Health Care’s generous donation of the 910, 920 and 930 Madison buildings, as well as the 20 S. Dudley building. Donated in 2002, the buildings collectively represent the single largest gift in the history of the UT system, as well as one of the largest academic gifts ever in the United States.

Guests included UTHSC faculty and staff, state officials, Baptist Memorial Health Care (BMHC) executives and UT President John Petersen, PhD. Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, welcomed about 80 people to the Baptist Dedication Ceremony in Free man Auditorium at the Hamilton Eye Institute.

“Valued at more than 100 million, these four buildings are an integral part of our Health Science Center campus,” said Dr. Wall. “The generous gifts of the Madison buildings and the Dudley site have extended our campus considerably, both in physical size and very importantly in the scope of what we do here in terms of teaching, research and patient care, three of our four missions.”

Several of the deans also expressed gratitude for the buildings, with Steve Schwab, MD, executive dean of the College of Medicine COM, conferring his college’s appreciation for the accommodation of the Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI) and surgery center. Barrett Haik, MD, FACS, chair in the COM Department of Ophthalmology, said the gift was “the catalyst that moved the HEI to its next level of development.”

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UTHSC faculty and staff, state officials, Baptist Memorial Health Care (BMHC) executives and UT President John Petersen, PhD, (fourth from right) gather for a photo with the commemorative plaque.

William Frey, PhD, dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences, also noted the importance of the gift to their college’s development. “A building can make a difference,” he said, observing that just a few years ago their college was housed in the Beale building, with leaky roofs, falling ceilings and mold. He noted the vast improvements that each of the programs in his college has enjoyed since making their home in 930 Madison.

Both Richard Drewry, Jr., MD, vice president and chief medical officer at BMHC, and BMHC President and CEO Stephen Reynolds assisted Dr. Wall in unveiling a plaque to commemorate the event. “The close association has continued between UT and Baptist now for eight decades,” said Dr. Drewry. Also reflecting the long, positive collaboration between UT and BMHC, Reynolds called UT “a gemstone…a treasure of the state. Baptist has been part of this community for 100 years, and for almost 100 years our organization has been involved with providing and improving health care for this community, for the state and around the world. The Baptist mission is healing, preaching and teaching. We see this gift as connecting with our mission. This is an opportunity for us to give back to this community.” He concluded, “We are grateful to be partners with UT and the Memphis Bioworks Foundation. We’re pleased to be part of your future.”

President Petersen remarked about the community and statewide impact of BMHC’s gift, saying, “There’s a larger research impact right now that goes on here in Memphis than in Knoxville, but the two campuses combined are an enormous impact. It’s not just about a dollar gift. The ability to regenerate these buildings and make them structures that these deans truly appreciate is incredibly significant.”
word essays that were reviewed by a committee of BSA members. The top three essay winners, all from East High School, were Kandi Horton (first place), Kristen Whitmore (second place) and Terrello Lane (third place).

Each received a monetary award and was presented with a certificate at Ballet On Wheels, held February 12. Ballet On Wheels, Theatre of Dance, founded in 2002, is Memphis’ only African American, nonprofit, preprofessional, community based classical ballet school and dance company. The group performed on campus on the evening of February 12 in the SAC auditorium.

A panel discussion, “Black Professinals in Health Care and Profesional/Graduate Education,” was held on February 21. Black administrators, faculty and alumni representing several of the UTHSC colleges shared their views on health care and cultural competence, as well as offering reflections on their careers and answering general questions.

“What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger,” was the common philosophy expressed by the seven panelists who shared their experiences in the discussion.

Malrie Shelton, director of community affairs, served as the moderator, asking panelists to offer their personal views on such topics as why they chose health care as a profession, the academic and social challenges they had to face as a minority and the motivation that drove them to succeed.

Cassandra Holder Ballard, EdD, associate professor and interim chair of the Department of Dental Hygiene and one of the panelists, credited high school mentors and health fairs with sparking the interest that led her to pursuing her doctorate in education. “I was initially interested in health care as something that would help others,” she said.

Eldridge Johnson, PhD, professor of anatomy and neurobiology, who professed to be “the oldest panelist member,” recalled the challenges he faced in his educational pursuit. “I was the first black student to get a PhD at the University of Alabama,” said Dr. Johnson. “It was very difficult to get in. The country was in the midst of Civil Rights upheaval.” He remembered saying to himself, “I have to do something because so many people died or went to jail and made sacrifices for me.” Dr. Johnson said he now strives to inspire young people to take advantage of the many opportunities available.

Lawrence “L.B.” Brown, PharmD, PhD, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, commented about the challenges he had faced in graduate school by those who would discourage him from pursuing leadership activities. “My time in the military gave me the discipline I needed. I knew that this graduate school was just another challenge.”

Dr. Brown also stressed to young people, “Whenever you do good work, you are under the limelight and will be noticed more often. Everybody has to play the games and politics—everybody who is successful.”

Veronica Mallett, MD, UTMG chair of excellence in obstetrics and gynecology and professor in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, told the audience, “Be fearless and set a standard of excellence for yourself. Even when you face obstacles, remain motivated by a strong moral compass, a sense of integrity and the sense that you have done your best and your best is good enough.”

Laurence V. Plummer, president and CEO of Plummer Financial Services, LLC, was the featured speaker on February 27. His presentation, “Financial Planning Informative (Money 101),” discussed some basics of financial planning.

The talent show, “More Talent to Celebrate,” gave students an opportunity to display their art forms to the campus. Held on February 28, the event occurred after this issue of The Record went to press.

Left: Ivory Toldson, PhD, presents “Translating Research into Community” as part of the BGSA’s Motivational Speaker Series in February.

Some of the dancers who performed at The Ballet on Wheels on February 22.

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Academic Affairs’ Carol Schwab, JD, Brings New Curriculum to Health Science Center

“On the 2007 Association of American Medical Colleges graduation questionnaire completed by M4 students prior to graduation, students were asked to rate the time devoted to their instruction in law and medicine. Ninety three percent rated it as ‘inadequate,’” said Robert Shreve, EdD, associate dean for medical education, UT Health Science Center College of Medicine.

Dr. Shreve’s account of the AAMC questionnaire results illustrates a common problem. Most health care students are familiar with the words “medical malpractice.” What students may not know is that “every patient interaction involves legal issues,” said Carol Schwab, JD, director of medical/legal education. Professor Schwab addresses the concerns noted in Dr. Shreve’s quote in her new curriculum, “Legal Issues in Health Care.” Initially developed for the College of Medicine, Schwab’s courses will ultimately be available for all six colleges.

The Lunchtime Lecture Series that began last fall was challenging for Schwab, who condensed what was originally a 40 hour, four week class into nine, hour long lunch lectures. “I am also converting the online tutorials from Georgia to Tennessee law,” she said. Schwab, who came to UTHSC from the Medical College of Georgia where she was assistant dean of medical/legal education, will also use her experience with Georgia law to allow students to compare health care legislation in Tennessee and Georgia. “Students will also examine case studies from other jurisdictions,” she said.

Higheredjobs.com Subscriptions Available for Health Science Center

The Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) and Human Resources (HR) have partnered to purchase a subscription with higheredjobs.com for unlimited job posting. This subscription arrangement enables national online advertising that should strengthen the recruitment for Health Science Center positions under the purview of HR and OED, respectively.

The goal is to encourage broad institutional outreach with the end result being stronger qualified applicant pools that are diverse. This free service is available to all Health Science Center cost centers, so please contact Cynthia Tooley at ctooley@utmem.edu or (901) 448-2112 in OED or Stacy Luckett at sluckett@tennessee.edu or (901) 448-5600 in HR for more information. You can also access this Web site at www.higheredjobs.com.

Industry-Sponsored Clinical Trials

What if Bayer or GlaxoSmithKline was interested in sponsoring your research? Alexis Tutor, JD, associate director in the Office of Research Administration, Clinical Trials, wants UTHSC researchers to know about industry sponsored clinical trials.

The Clinical Trials Unit of the UT Health Science Center, Office of Research Administration, facilitates clinical studies conducted by UTHSC, including the Graduate School of Medicine, Knoxville, and the College of Medicine, Chattanooga. In addition to offering UT faculty an opportunity to participate in cutting edge clinical research and enhance their clinical and research skills, these studies provide citizens of the Mid South and the state of Tennessee access to new pharmaceutical products that may improve their quality of life. This office handles all industry sponsored contracts.

“Our office handles confidentiality agreements and clinical trial agreements,” said Tutor, who added, “State law does not allow employees to sign their own agreements. Instead, we negotiate the wording of the agreements and route them for signatures.”

In order to get an industry sponsored clinical trial started, the principal investigator must get IRB approval, develop a budget with the sponsor and send the Office of Research Administration all pertinent information to negotiate the contract.

The steps required are on the Web site at www.utmem.edu/research/research_admin/clinical_trials. Interested departments may contact Tutor at 901 448 3303.
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY COLLEGE OF MEDICINE LEADERSHIP NAMED

In December, Steve J. Schwab, MD, executive dean of the College of Medicine for the University of Tennessee Health Science Center UTHSC, announced the appointment of James A. Greene, MD, professor, as chair and Kenneth M. Sakauye, MD, professor, as co-chair of the Department of Psychiatry.

James A. Greene, MD
Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, said, “Dr. Greene has served admirably as the interim chair for the Department of Psychiatry and has promoted the growth and stability of that department. I am pleased with his appointment as permanent chair for the department and look forward to working with him in that capacity.”

Dr. Greene’s expertise combines his in depth knowledge of psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, in particular, clinical practice and academic teaching with business experience. During his 30 year career, he held a variety of private practice and administrative positions, primarily in the South. In 1991, he founded Geriatric Medical Care GMC, Inc., whose core business was to set up, implement and manage geropsychiatric units within selected hospitals. GMC operated in seven states including Tennessee and was affiliated with five medical schools. In 2004, Dr. Greene accepted a position as professor on the UTHSC faculty, and was appointed interim chair of the Department of Psychiatry in 2005.

A graduate of the UT College of Medicine, Dr. Greene completed his residency in psychiatry at Dorothea Dix Hospital, an affiliate hospital of the University of North Carolina and the North Carolina Department of Mental Health. He completed a Faculty Development Program in Geriatric Psychiatry while teaching at the University of South Florida College of Medicine and Tampa Veterans Hospital.

Kenneth M. Sakauye, MD
Dr. Sakauye, an internationally known geriatric psychiatrist, joined UTHSC in May 2006 from the Louisiana State University College of Medicine New Orleans. He has been instrumental in the development and accreditation of a UTHSC psychiatric fellowship program in geriatric psychiatry that will begin in July. The fellowship program will be based at St. Francis Hospital and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, both in Memphis.

In addition, Dr. Sakauye has developed the UTHSC psychiatric clinical service at St. Francis Hospital, establishing a strong inpatient and consultative service, as well as a teaching program. Areas of emphasis include emergency psychiatry and electroconvulsive therapy, as well as geriatric psychiatry. Dr. Sakauye has recently authored an internationally acclaimed textbook on geriatric psychiatry, which was released in January.

A graduate of the University of Chicago School of Medicine, Dr. Sakauye completed his residency in psychiatry at the University of Chicago Michael Reese Hospital. He is board certified in adult and geriatric psychiatry.

UTHSC Hamilton Eye Institute Screens Memphians for Glaucoma

Glaucoma often has no symptoms until vision has been permanently decreased. The statistics are especially sobering for the black population, which is six to eight times more likely to develop glaucoma compared with the general U.S. population. Of the 750,000 black Americans in the United States with glaucoma, only half know they have it. The good news is that early diagnosis can protect eyesight against serious vision loss and blindness.

In January, the Friends of Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation FCGCF, the UT Health Science Center UTHSC Office of Community Affairs and the UTHSC Hamilton Eye Institute HEI provided free glaucoma screenings to the public. UTHSC medical students and fellows assisted UTHSC eye care professionals in screening more than 40 Memphians in the FCGCF mobile unit in the HEI parking lot of 930 Madison.

Jamie Scott of Memphis, who braved the cold weather to be tested, said, “I heard about the free testing from the local paper. The paper said it affects black people and people over 60 more often, and I’m in both groups. I haven’t had an eye exam in the last four or five years.”

Peter A. Netland, MD, PhD, Siegal Professor of Ophthalmology and director of the Glaucoma Service in the UTHSC Department of Ophthalmology, said he was glad to be able to partner in providing the free testing for the community. “We were thrilled by the turnout from the community and by the outstanding efforts of the medical students,” he stated. He also explained that at least 40 percent of the glaucoma cases can be managed with drops alone, but, in advanced cases, “if surgical treatment is required, ophthalmologists who specialize in glaucoma can provide this treatment. Patients with glaucoma require long-term follow up, which can be provided by ophthalmologists and glaucoma specialists. The best approach is early detection and treatment, which is why screenings such as this are so important.”

Dr. Ivan Marais, MD, one of the clinical faculty in the UTHSC Department of Ophthalmology, said of the 40 people he had seen thus far, about 10 of them had tested positive for glaucoma. The Friends of the Congressional Glaucoma Caucus Foundation provides diagnostic screening opportunities for high risk glaucoma populations in their home districts across the nation.
Posey Hedges, Jr., DDS, (right) receives the McCollum Award at the International Academy of Gnathology’s 2007 meeting. William McMorris, DDS, (left), had the honor of presenting Dr. Hedges with his award.

Posey Hedges, Jr., DDS, associate professor in the UT Health Science Center College of Dentistry’s Department of Restorative Dentistry, was recently presented the prestigious McCollum Award by the International Academy of Gnathology. Gnathology is the study of the mouth and movement of the lower jaw. Dr. Hedges formally received this honor in October at the academy’s 2007 meeting at the Del Coronado Hotel in San Diego, Calif.

The International Academy of Gnathology, founded in 1926 to foster excellence in dentistry, meets every other year. At each meeting of the academy’s American section since 1969, one member has been honored with the McCollum Award for outstanding contributions to the dental profession, active participation in the educational promotion of gnathologic concepts, and dedicated service to the academy, its principles and practices.

William McMorris, a former McCollum Award recipient, UTHSC College of Dentistry graduate and former student of Dr. Hedges, presented Dr. Hedges with his award.

Dr. Hedges, a native Memphian, pursued his undergraduate education at UT Knoxville and completed professional training at the UTHSC College of Dentistry. He received his dental degree in 1946. Except for a two-year tour in the U.S. Air Force Dental Corp., Dr. Hedges has actively practiced prosthodontics in the Memphis area since 1946. In 1954, Dr. Hedges began teaching part time at the College of Dentistry. Dr. Hedges has also provided a half century of mentorship to dental students in the areas of advanced restorative dentistry and fixed prosthodontics.

In addition to the International Academy of Gnathology, Dr. Hedges’ other professional associations include the University of Tennessee Presidents’ Club, Memphis Dental Society, Tennessee Dental Association, American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics, American College of Dentists, College of Dentistry Dean’s Society and the Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society. Dr. Hedges also has a long and active record of service to community and civic activities in the Memphis area.

“Dreams do come true,” said James C. Fleming, MD, professor in the UT Health Science Center Department of Ophthalmology, as he welcomed almost 100 guests to a consecration ceremony and open house celebrating the opening of the new Hamilton Eye Institute HEI Surgery Center in January. Guests included members from the Hamilton Eye Institute, Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare, Methodist, Baptist Memorial Health Care BMHC and UTHSC.

The surgery center, the culmination of a four-year project by the above groups, brings together a full range of all of the partners’ eye surgery services under one roof. Guests at the opening were given tours of the center, which features three fully equipped operating rooms.

Guests toured the 12-bed facility before the consecration ceremony and open house.

Peggy Troy, chief operating officer at Methodist, lauded Ralph Hamilton, MD, professor in the UTHSC Department of Ophthalmology, saying, “This most extraordinary partnership is an example of how we can bring together the best minds and do something world class. This shows the power of one man’s vision to bring together a team that will change the world.”

In addition, Dr. Fleming recognized Barrett Haik, MD, chair of the UTHSC Department of Ophthalmology, for his developmental role in the Hamilton Eye Institute.

In addition to premier surgeons, the center will be home to student residents, whose impact on health care is also envisioned to have a worldwide effect.

Stephen Reynolds, president and CEO of BMHC, also remarked on the power of the collaboration to make a global impact: “I am pleased to stand with Peggy Troy and celebrate this partnership. We are committed to making a difference in people’s lives in our community and around the world. This unique partnership is a joint venture surgery center, including world renowned surgery physicians.”

In addition to premier surgeons, the center will be home to student residents, whose impact on health care is also envisioned to have a worldwide effect.

Dr. Haik applauded the talented group of community members and ophthalmologists who made the surgery center a reality, observing, “The number of people who will have their vision restored at this center is inestimable.”

In addition to premier surgeons, the center will be home to student residents, whose impact on health care is also envisioned to have a worldwide effect.

Peter Netland, MD, PhD, Siegel Professor of Ophthalmology at UTHSC, said, “We are grateful to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Without university support the support of Dean Schaw and Dr. Wall we couldn’t have achieved this project. As a department we pledge our support to our partners we will give 100 percent to help serve.”
Linda Moses, MD, Honored with Service Award

Linda Moses, MD, an assistant professor in the UTHSC College of Medicine, was honored in January with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Service Award during a celebration at Monumental Baptist Church. The Rainbow Push Coalition of Memphis, an international human rights organization committed to economic development, education and justice, presented Dr. Moses with the award.

Born and raised in Memphis, the assistant professor in obstetrics and gynecology was recognized for her continuous efforts to correct the health disparities in North Memphis and decrease infant mortality.

“The 38108 community in North Memphis has the highest infant mortality rate in Shelby County,” said Dr. Moses, “and one of the highest mortality rates in the nation.”

Dr. Moses, who grew up in North Memphis herself, began as a child telling people she was going to be a doctor. She remembered hearing discouraging comments such as “How will you pay for that? You don’t have any money!” She answered those comments by earning her bachelor’s degree in biology at UT Martin and her MD at Quillen College of Medicine, all with scholarships and grants.

In 1988 Dr. Moses moved to Mt. Sinai Hospital in Chicago, Ill., where she did her residency and also met and married her husband. However, she always wanted to return to Memphis. “I always had that drive to come home,” she said.

In 2001, she returned to the area where she was raised, an area with infant mortality rates that she likens to those of a third-world country. “I am now a part of the Hollywood Health Community Council,” she said. “The council meets once a month to focus on health care issues in the North Memphis community. We not only educate the residents, we try to encourage them to make a difference.”

Dr. Moses’ focus and determination have allowed her to achieve her goals. “I’m living my dream,” she said.
New CEO Named for Methodist University Hospital

After a comprehensive national search, Kevin M. Spiegel, FACHE, has been selected to become chief executive officer/administrator of Methodist University Hospital, effective March 14.

“I believe we have found just the right person for this role,” said Peggy Troy, RN, MSN, chief operating officer for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare. “Kevin has a wealth of education and experience, and he is a seasoned leader who is committed to excellence in patient care, a high level of customer service, financial stewardship and community involvement.”

Spiegel earned his MBA in Health Care Administration from Adelphi University Garden City, N.Y. and a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from the State University of New York at New Paltz. Board certified in health care administration and a fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives, he currently serves as president and chief operating officer of Trumbull Memorial Hospital, a 350 bed tertiary hospital in Warren, Ohio, near Cleveland. Under Spiegel’s leadership, Trumbull Memorial experienced substantial market share growth, implemented an affiliation agreement with the University Hospital’s Ireland Cancer Center for the provision of regional cancer services and earned Solucient’s Top 100 Hospitals ranking in Modern Healthcare. During Spiegel’s six-year tenure with Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, N.Y., he served as senior vice president for a 1,100 bed academic regional/quaternary facility encompassing the University Hospital at Westchester.

“Kevin is a high energy leader and creative strategic thinker who works closely with nurses, physicians and hospital staff to foster improvements in patient care,” said Troy. “His leadership experience at both academic and private medical center environments makes him especially well suited for the Methodist University Hospital CEO position.”

Research Grant Proposals 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 April 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 information, please contact the foundation at 901 516 0501.

UT Designated as OSHA Training Institute

Tennessee workers and employers can now find qualified safety and health training closer to home.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration OSHA has selected the University of Tennessee to serve as an OSHA Training Institute OTI Education Center.

North Carolina State University and the UT Center for Industrial Services CIS will deliver OSHA certified training through the newly approved Region IV OTI Education Center. The U.S. Department of Labor chose the two universities based on their occupational safety and health experience, continuing education training background, classroom and laboratory capacity and the ability to provide training throughout the region.

CIS is an agency of the statewide UT Institute for Public Service and has provided specialized safety training for Tennessee industries for about 15 years. Among CIS’ key health and safety programs are courses for hazardous waste site workers and emergency responders. CIS also offers instruction in general industry and construction industry safety and delivers hospital domestic preparedness training. CIS operations are based in Nashville, and the agency has staff in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Memphis, Jackson and Johnson City as well.

“Training provided by OTI Education Centers serves the public by teaching workers and employers to recognize, avoid, and prevent unsafe and unhealthful working,” said Edwin G. Foulke, Jr., assistant secretary for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S. Department of Labor. “We expect UT’s training efforts to contribute to our overall workplace safety and health mission.”

There are fewer than 30 nonprofit consortiums and organizations currently serving as OTI Education Centers. The OTI Education Centers program was created in 1992 to authorize non OSHA agencies to provide training in the private sector. OTI Education Centers trained more than 27,000 people during fiscal year 2007, representing an all-time record for the program. OSHA provides no funding to the education centers. They support their OSHA training through their normal tuition and fee structures.

“By adding additional qualified organizations to the program, we are providing local communities with greater availability and access to quality safety and health training,” Foulke said. “These centers will extend access to a greater number of individuals who seek to incorporate OSHA safety and health practices into their workplaces.”

OTI Education Centers provide the OSHA Outreach Training Program, OSHA’s primary means of training employees in the basics of occupational safety and health. Train the trainer courses are available in topic areas such as construction, general industry, disaster site and maritime. Individuals who complete a one week OSHA trainer course are authorized to teach 10 hour or 30 hour courses on safety and health hazards, and in house trainers can issue OSHA cards for classes in which they are credentialed. These trainers offer a great deal of insight on how the training benefits their staff specifically.
Dental Hygiene Alumna Volunteers in Belize

Many parents in this country have to coax, prod and plead with their children to brush their teeth. However, this was not the reaction dental hygiene alumna Jeannie Petty experienced when she visited Belize last spring and taught more than 500 grateful Mayan children how to use a toothbrush.

Filling a dream she'd had since she was a child, the UTHSC College of Allied Health Sciences dental hygiene graduate spent a week on a medical/dental mission serving the Mayan population. As a child, Petty remembered watching her dad, a dentist, fly to Belize on the annual mission trips. "He told me that when I got older I would be a great helper. Of course that just solidified the fact that I was going to go with him."

"I wasn't sure that I was up for it"

A country the size of Massachusetts, Belize borders the Caribbean Sea in Central America, between Guatemala and Mexico. When Petty and her dad John flew into Belize City from Nashville, the weather changed from chilly to humid and hot.

The group then took an eight-passenger plane to inner Belize and landed in a field near the Mayan village of Punta Gorda. Petty was initially surprised by her living conditions. "As I looked around my living quarters, I felt like I was staying at the Ritz! I may have had to shower outside with about as much water as a water fountain can give off, but I wasn't sleeping on a mud floor from my first impression of the dirty, hot and damp hotel. It was hot and muggy awake or asleep, but I would go back in a heartbeat," she said.

Back Home in Tennessee

These days, Petty, a dental hygienist in Brentwood, Tenn., enjoys living close to her family in Tullahoma. "I’m close enough that I can work for my dad whenever they can’t find a substitute," she said. "I work three days a week for a general dentist and one day a week for a prosthodontist," added Petty, who said she likes the variety. Her mission adventure in Belize has been a welcome addition to Petty’s list of volunteer efforts. "These experiences helped me to see the opportunities that could arise because of my profession. I knew it was going to open doors for me to help educate and care for those who are often over looked," she observed.

The dental hygiene program at UTHSC in the College of Allied Health Sciences prepared Petty for her journey this summer. "While I was at UTHSC I got a lot out of the different rotation sites," she said. "I loved going into the schools and cleaning students’ teeth. I came home every week overwhelmed with how some kids here in America don't get the attention and care that they need and deserve. Many of the children I worked with in Belize were not that different from some of the kids here in the states. I realize now that anywhere I go there will always be people who are in need.”
Dentistry’s Taylor McGuire Participates in Memphis Make-Over

Taylor McGuire, DDS, will help one Memphis Health & Fitness Magazine reader face her “FUTURE” with confidence. Deborah VanEaton, the participant for the magazine sponsored Memphis Make Over, said she is a great cosmetic surgery candidate. “I am not turning 60 gracefully, but kicking and screaming like most baby boomers,” she admitted.

As one of the UTHSC College of Dentistry’s newest talents, Dr. McGuire joined the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery as a full time associate professor in September. Now he is showcasing his skills and the facial cosmetic surgery option by demonstrating his talents in the Memphis Make Over.

Dr. McGuire received his doctor of dental surgery with honors from the University of Toronto, completing an externship in oral and maxillofacial surgery at Baylor University in Texas. He did a one year general practice residency in dentistry at the Toronto General Hospital and was then accepted to the University of Toronto’s combined four year oral and maxillofacial surgery and anesthesia / master’s of science training program. After his master’s degree in neurophysiology, he completed a one year accredited facial cosmetic and reconstructive surgery fellowship in Co Lumbus, Miss. “UTHSC captured my attention near the end of my fellowship training,” said Dr. McGuire. “I was looking for an opportunity that would afford me the ability to work in both private practice and academics.” After interviewing with Larry Weeda, DDS, chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Dr. McGuire said he felt most comfortable starting his career in Memphis.

Dr. Weeda, who has been in the department for nine years, said, “Working alongside Dr. McGuire in the trauma center of the Regional Medical Center, I have been impressed with his hand skills, and he can verbalize the processes well to residents.” Dr. McGuire is actively developing a facial care surgery practice within the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery from the ground up.

His impressive credentials and enthusiasm for his work were also noticed by his peers. “Working alongside Dr. McGuire in the trauma center of the Regional Medical Center, I have been impressed with his hand skills, and he can verbalize the processes well to residents.” Dr. McGuire is actively developing a facial care surgery practice within the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery from the ground up.

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Correction: Campus Directory

The campus map at the front of the 2008 campus directory contains an error by omission in the legend. Building #26, the Dunn Dental Building, is present on the map but absent from the legend. We regret the error and suggest that you make a notation to place #26 Dunn Dental Building at H9.

Exploding Canister on nexAir Truck Damages Vehicles, Buildings

On the afternoon of January 7, Campus Police Lieutenant Bruce Holden was in the complex of the 920 Madison building when he heard a loud explosion. As he went outside to investigate, bits of paper were floating in the air around a nexAir truck, which was carrying canisters. The driver was standing outside the truck while people were running in the other direction.

“The truck driver told me that an oxygen canister had exploded,” stated Lt. Holden. The lieutenant called dispatch, and within minutes Captain Thaddeus Johnson and Assistant Chief Reno Greganti were on the scene, followed soon after by Chief Lue Walls-Upchurch.

The driver told police that the six remaining canisters on his truck were also not flammable, but liquid materials. nexAir officials also arrived on the scene to speak with Campus Police. Several vehicles sustained damage, as well as the side of 930 Madison.

“We are looking at roughly $10,000 for building repairs, and repair to the police cruiser by one estimate is roughly $12,000,” said James Bruce Stiles, director of facilities administration.

Stiles added that the damage to the Madison complex entailed roughly 50 broken windows; one damaged police car, which had the top crushed from part of the cylinder landing on it; minimal damage to two support columns; and damage to one track light in the 930 Madison building.
**UTHSC Receives Funds to Drive Further Development**

The University of Tennessee Research Foundation (UTRF) has selected six proposals from UT Health Science Center (UTHSC) researchers or research teams to receive technology development grants for 2008. Grant funds will allow researchers to further develop or “mature” their technologies so that they are better positioned for licensing and commercialization.

Researchers were invited to propose further work on inventions and discoveries that either had been previously disclosed to UT and assigned to UTRF or to propose new disclosures with a development plan. Forty-four proposals were received from the five campuses and four institutes that make up the University of Tennessee. A total of 11 proposals were funded, and six of those were from the UTHSC.

The six awards for UTHSC totaled $105,000 and included a $15,000 matching grant from Nashville-based Cumberland Emerging Technologies for one of the proposals.

“This program is another initiative that supports the commitment of the University of Tennessee to become one of the premier research institutions in the country, as well as its commitment to drive technology based economic development for the state of Tennessee,” said Fred Tompkins, president of UTRF. “Our mission at UTRF is to support the research enterprise, then find ways to take research results and turn them into economic benefit for the university and our society.”

UTRF used a panel of subject matter and technology commercialization experts from across the state to evaluate both the technology and the development plan proposed by each researcher. UTRF also solicited advice from Technology 2020 and Memphis Bio works Foundation, economic development organizations engaged by UTRF to assist with technology commercialization.

The following UTHSC proposals were selected for funding:

- Antonin Bukovsky and Michael Caudle, obstetrics and gynecology, Graduate School of Medicine at UT Medical Center in Knoxville, for work on improved fertility technology
- Edward Chaum, UTHSC Hamilton Eye Institute, for work on a new retinal surgical device
- Julian Hurdle and Richard Lee, pharmaceutical science, for work on a topical antibiotic for drug resistant bacteria
- Dhuuke Betty Lew, pediatrics, for work on asthma treatment and prevention
- Linda Myers, Arnold Postlethwaite and Andrew Kang, pediatrics and rheumatology, for work on a rheumatoid arthritis treatment
- Yunzhi Yang, Biomedical Engineering Department, for work on bone healing/regeneration technology

“These awards attest to the value of the research that continues to emerge from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center,” said Leonard “Rusty” Johnson, PhD, vice chancellor for Research at UTHSC. “Supporting research is critical for the eventual commercialization of the technology that will ultimately benefit Memphis and the surrounding region.”

Upon completion of the development work, UTRF will receive a report from the researchers describing the new knowledge gained and improvements made in the subject technology. These results are expected to allow UTRF to better position the technologies for licensing to either an existing company or a new start up entity.

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**New Community Education and Family Resource Library Opens**

The Boling Center for Developmental Disabilities (BCDD) maintains a library of videos, books and other training resources on their Web site: [http://www.utmem.edu/bcdd/resources/video_library.htm](http://www.utmem.edu/bcdd/resources/video_library.htm).

The library has moved from cyberspace to the first floor of the BCDD. Volunteer staff from Meritan (formerly Senior Services) assist visitors Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The library, which is open to the public, houses videos, DVDs, books and other resources on issues that pertain to individuals and children with disabilities and their families. Some material is also available in Spanish. A computer is also available with bookmarked links to helpful Web sites like Tennessee Disability Pathfinder and other disability-specific sites. For more information, please call Elizabeth Bishop at (901) 448-6511.

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**SASS Celebrates New Space for Students**

Thanks to the combined efforts of administration, faculty, staff and students, the new student space under the auspices of Student Academic Support Services (SASS) was officially opened in January. The space is located in the basement of the General Education Building (GEB) in room CB 3. The new space features a student lounge, four group study rooms, and 11 individual accommodation/study rooms. All areas will be available to students on a first-come first-served basis 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Administrators, faculty, staff and students attended the open house, which showcased the new space. Tours, food and door prizes were provided. Eldridge Johnson, PhD, UTHSC professor of anatomy and neurobiology, demonstrated the new anatomy virtual dissection software donated to SASS for use by students in all colleges. “We are so pleased that this space has been provided for students and so grateful to all those who made this opportunity a reality,” said Kathy Gibbs, director of SASS.
Eric Funk, Dining Services

Eric Funk, FMP, the new director of Dining Services, comes to UTHSC from Bridgewater College in Virginia, where he spent the last seven years as director of Operations with Chartwells. Funk, who graduated with a bachelor’s degree in hospitality tourism management from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., discussed the new restaurants opening in the Madison buildings, as well as his goals for Dining Services.

Why did you decide to come to UTHSC in Memphis?
I have been waiting for a director of Dining Services position for the last two years. When the Memphis position came available, I researched the city and visited twice.

How did you decide on the new restaurants soon to open in the 910 Madison building?
After surveying the campus, we came up with four new retail shops. Pizza and pasta received quite a bit of feedback so we chose to introduce Mama Leones. This includes a variety of pizza, fresh pastas, and specialty salads. Einstein Bagel Brothers, the first concept to be introduced, will bring breakfast and lunch options as well as a full-service coffee shop. O’Naturals is a healthy organic lunch option for a diverse community. O’Naturals will offer hormone- and antibiotic-free meats, and organic fruits and vegetables. This should be great for a health science center. Coyote Jack’s is a southwestern grill, featuring burgers, tacos and spicy cuisine.

What are you most excited about in your new position at UTHSC?
I am most excited about bringing great food and customer service to the campus. I am excited about taking the catering program to a new level through service and introducing new menu ideas. Bringing brand new retail concepts will be a great experience and challenge.

Some goals for our new management here will include increasing the catering business with quality and volume. Taking customer service to the highest level possible is top priority. This is always my number one concern at any location. Opening the coffee stand in the GEB building is very important. Soon we will start serving lunch options, which will include fresh sandwiches and salads daily.

I invite all students and faculty to stop me at any time with questions, concerns or comments about the food services or Chartwells in general. I believe in a true “open door” policy and look forward to meeting all of you.

Coffee Kiosk Opens in GEB

The Seattle’s Best Coffee kiosk celebrated its grand opening in the GEB lobby in January, marking the first of the new dining facilities that are planned for UTHSC.

Students, faculty and staff sampled free coffee and freshly baked muffins in the morning and turkey wrap pinwheels later in the day. In addition to Seattle’s Best brewed coffees and hot tea, the kiosk offers a variety of freshly baked pastries and lunch selections. The kiosk is presently open from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Among the crowd gathered to sample the new fare, Jeddie Maxwell, administrative aide in Academic Affairs, said, “This is going to be great when students and faculty are running late. It’s a great alternative to the Madison restaurants, with the muffins and fruit.”

Daisy “Marie” Dortch, who has been on campus for 28 years, now works with Chartwells, managing the kiosk. “We had between 50 and 60 students this morning,” she said.

Steve Rowland, assistant vice chancellor for business, said, “The next concept to open will be an Einstein Bros. Bagel restaurant in the Madison Avenue Plaza. It could be May or June before it opens.”

Feedback about the new kiosk is welcome. Please send an e-mail to Eric Funk, UTHSC’s director of Dining Services, at efunk@utmem.edu with any comments and suggestions.

Memphis City Schools Students Enjoy Job Shadow Day at UTHSC

Tom Singarella, PhD, professor and director of the Health Sciences Library and Biocommunications Center, talks about library issues with Memphis City Schools students, teachers and administrators during the library’s Job Shadow Day program.
Students in the College of Graduate Health Sciences will now have access to a new college website, which will showcase the college's students and their research publications. The website, conceived in the Office of Academic, Faculty and Student Affairs, also lists students' committee members by program and affiliation. The site is not only a tool for students choosing their advisory committee, it can also create web-based materials to help students as they seek new positions and grant support for themselves and the institution.

Donald Thomason, PhD, professor and associate dean of the college, said, “The most important element of this new website is that the data will be available to assist in writing training grants. For students, this means more funding for the future.”

The website will give students the ability to create their own professional face page or online dossier. Chanchai McDonald, PhD, assistant vice chancellor for institutional research and educational technology, explained the user friendly website to graduate health science students at a presentation in January.

The College of Graduate Health Sciences is the first college to receive the ability for students to submit their publications to the website. Ultimately, each college will be added, allowing the viewer to search by college, student name or keyword.

Seventh Annual UT-ORNL-KBRIN Bioinformatics Summit

Date: March 28 to 30
Place: Lake Barkley State Resort Park in Cadiz, Ky.
Sessions: Pathways to Prediction, Regulatory Analysis and Biomedical Informatics
Confirmed speakers: David Galas, PhD, Battelle; Nitin Baliga, PhD, Institute for Systems Biology; Ziv Bar-Joseph, PhD, Carnegie Mellon University; Malcolm Campbell, PhD, and Davidson Mikael Benson, MD, Queen Silvia Children’s Hospital; and Jeremy Smith, PhD, UT Oak Ridge National Laboratory.
Those planning to present a poster this year will be required to submit an abstract at the time of conference registration.

More information on the summit, including registration, can be found at: http://www.kbrin.louisville.edu/summit/. Contact Terry Mark-Major, business manager at UTHSC Molecular Resource Center, (901) 448-2656, with any questions.

Student Publications Showcased in New Website

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First Tennessee Chair of Excellence Symposium

In January, the 13th Annual First Tennessee Chair of Excellence Symposium was held in Memphis and videoconferenced to Knoxville. David Rogers, PharmD, PhD, FCCP, the current First Tennessee Chair of Excellence in Pediatric Clinical Pharmacy, honored Julie Johnson, PharmD, FCCP, BCPS, as First Tennessee Chair of Excellence Visiting Professor in 2008.

Dr. Rogers, associate professor and vice chair for research in the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, pediatrics and molecular sciences at UTHSC, said, “It was a great pleasure to host Dr. Julie Johnson as this year’s First Tennessee Chair of Excellence Distinguished Visiting Professor. Dr. Johnson is a leading expert in cardiovascular pharmacogenomics. Her state-of-the-art lecture made for yet another successful First Tennessee Chair Symposium.”

Dr. Johnson is the V. Ravi Chandran Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, professor and chair of the Department of Pharmacy Practice, professor of pharmaceutics and professor of medicine at the University of Florida colleges of pharmacy and medicine, and director of the University of Florida Center for Pharmacogenomics. Her topic, “Pharmacogenetics of Antihypertensive Agents: Blood Pressure Lowering and Outcomes,” examined one of her many research focuses, which include cardiovascular drug pharmacogenomics, disease-gene associations that may be relevant to pharmacogenomics, and the influence of race/ethnicity on drug response and pharmacogenomics.

The symposium was sponsored by UTHSC and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

March is Employee Assistance Program Awareness Month - Cynthia Tooley

Do you feel like you are in the Land of Oz looking for the trail home to peace and happiness? Whether you seek to develop more effective communication skills, the ability to make an easier transition to changes at work, or to relieve stress from issues at home or work, you can learn how to “Leap over the Rainbow to Stay Connected.”

Don’t get lost or caught in a whirlwind of changes, ineffective communication and stress. Follow the yellow brick road to the EAP seminars to learn:

- assertive communication skills
- key strategies for dealing with change
- stress relievers

The Employee Assistance Program is calling for entries in its “Staying Connected and Grounded” Contest. Write your account of what has helped you stay connected and grounded at work or home in 2007. Describe how you handled changes and stressors in your life. What helped you cope and survive? Did the use of assertive communication with others help? How did you relieve stress and cope successfully with the changes last year? The most creative entry is sought. Only individual essays will be accepted.

All entries will become the property of the State Employee Assistance Program. Entries should be typed consisting of one page (8 1/2 x 11) single- or double-spaced (maximum length). Entries may be e-mailed, faxed or mailed to the State EAP Office no later than March 31. Please include your name, addresses (street and e-mail), agency/department and telephone number. A winner will be selected and receive a prize at the EAP Awareness Month Awards Ceremony in April.

Send entries to State EAP Office, 312 Eighth Avenue North, William R. Snodgrass–TN Tower, 26th floor, Nashville, TN 37243

E-mail: employee.assistance@state.tn.us
Fax No.: (615) 253-8556

Inaugural Prostate Lecture Draws Crowd of Learners in Knoxville

The inaugural 2007 John W. Whittington, MD, Endowed Lecture, on November 1 and 2, brought the latest developments in management and treatment of prostate cancer to a large crowd of physicians at the UT Graduate School of Medicine, Knoxville. Guest lecturers, Thomas Keane, MD, professor and chair, Department of Urology, Medical University of South Carolina, and Herbert Lepor, MD, professor and chair, Department of Urology, New York University School of Medicine, taught participants about outcomes that can be expected from a nerve-sparing radical retropubic prostatectomy and how sexual rehabilitation is managed with post-radical prostatectomy. Also presented were current guidelines for the use of PSA in prostate cancer management; prostate cancer updates from the AUA and ASCO; and case presentations. The lecture was directed by Frederick Klein, MD, professor and chair, Department of Urology, Medical University of South Carolina, and presented by the UT Graduate School of Medicine and the Department of Surgery.

Phone Numbers have Changed at UT Graduate School of Medicine

All telephone and fax number prefixes for the UT Graduate School of Medicine, Knoxville, have changed. Please update your records to reflect the change from the prefix 544 to the prefix 305. The area code 865 remains unchanged. If you have questions, please call UT Graduate School of Medicine Office of Communications and Outreach at 865-305-9190.

SAVE THE DATE!

The theme of the UTHSC 2008 Administrative Professionals Conference is “Communicating Across the Workplace.” Only 190 employees will be able to register, so please register early if interested.

Date: Friday, May 16
Time: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Location: Student–Alumni Center, 800 Madison Avenue
Price: $100 for early registration; $125 (May 2 to May 16)
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: BARBARA FLANAGAN — Lynne Moore

Barbara Flanagan, a native of Chattanooga, Tenn., is a fourth-year student in the College of Dentistry. She received her bachelor’s degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn.

After graduation, she decided to attend the UTHSC College of Dentistry because of the beautiful campus, nice labs and the sense of familiarity, since she had friends here and the staff and students were so welcoming. Her biggest obstacle as a student has been getting accustomed to the long hours at school and juggling study time for classes.

Barbara is currently the president of the American Student Dental Association. In her spare time, she likes to volunteer at the Target House where she has been involved in various activities, such as movie night, meal nights, face painting, holiday cookie decorating and an Easter egg hunt. Through her community efforts, she has had the opportunity to volunteer at Downtown Elementary for their “Give Kids a Smile Day,” where she helped hand out toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss and gave information on oral hygiene to more than 400 students.

Her most rewarding moment as a student at UTHSC will be graduating. “Dentistry school is such an accomplishment because you have to get through so many classes and labs. It is a sense of achievement to graduate from the College of Dentistry,” stated Flanagan. “My favorite thing about the College of Dentistry is the instructors. They take their time to teach us everything we need to know and to make sure we achieve greatness in every area of our studies.”

Barbara’s interest in dentistry came from her father, who is an orthodontist in Chattanooga, and she looks forward to the flexibility that she could have in the future to raise a family or travel.

After she receives her DDS in May, Barbara plans to return to Chattanooga and begin her career; however, she will not forget the professors who influenced her life and the rewarding experience she had in the College of Dentistry.

Condolences

The UT Health Science Center community extends condolences to Drs. Santosh Mukundan and Suba Nookala for the loss of their baby girl Nilajana. Staff, faculty and students gathered for a memorial honoring Nilajana’s courage during her brief 111 days of life. Many have graciously offered to help the family. For information please contact Jeddie Maxwell at (901) 448-8484.

The University Health Services sadly shares the news of the death of Milton Deneke, MD, on February 7 in Fort Smith, Ark. He received his bachelor’s of science from the University of Missouri and his doctorate of medicine from the University of Tennessee. Dr. Deneke was a family practitioner in West Memphis, active in Crittenden County Health Department and retired from the Department of Family Medicine at UTHSC. He was the former medical director of University Health Services 1992-2001, known and loved by his patients and staff.

His wife Opal, his three sons, a sister, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren survive him. Memorial contributions may be made to West Memphis First United Methodist Church, 215 Missouri, West Memphis, AR 72301-3139.

Family News

Cynthia Tooley, employee relations coordinator in the Office of Equity and Diversity, was photographed with her son, Richmond, at National Football Signing Day in February.

Team captain at Christian Brothers High School, Richmond was named first team All Metro and earned a spot on the 2007 first team All Super Prep Conference squad. A two way starter, he had 38 total tackles with two tackles for loss, four interceptions, three passes defended and one fumble recovery from his defensive back spot. On offense, he had 22 catches for 293 yards and five touchdowns, and was chosen to play in the Memphis East/West All Star game. In addition, The Commercial Appeal named Richmond Athlete of the Week in October 2007.

Richmond, who received an athletic scholarship to Tennessee Tech University in Cookeville, will join the Golden Eagle football family in the fall of 2008. He plans to major in physical therapy.

UTHSC General Store

8 S. Dunlap St. (GEB) Room B41, Phone: 448-6152 / Fax: 448-8747
E-mail: gstores@utmem.edu, Web Page: www.utmem.edu/gen_store
Hours: M-F 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Lab Supplies / Office Supplies / Software/ Departmental Software Licenses for Microsoft & Adobe / Microsoft Licenses for Faculty, Staff and Students / UPS Shipping / Apple Computers / and more

Personal purchases can be made using Visa, MasterCard or Discover.
Gabor Tigliy, MD, PhD, professor and chair of the Department of Physiology, was elected to the European Academy of Arts, Sciences and Humanities EAASH.

The EAASH, a non-governmental organization, elects its members among the national or international academies and winners of significant international prizes. Members include 72 Nobel Prize winners, as well as presidents, vice presidents and permanent secretaries of national academies. EAASH also maintains official relations with 53 national academies.

Dr. Tigliy said that the group’s mission is to contribute to the maintenance of peace by encouraging collaboration among nations in education, science, arts and humanities, without distinction of race, gender, language, religion or political preference. EAASH plays a complementary role to that of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization by working with it, as well as other national or international bodies.

Lorraine S. Wallace, PhD, UT Department of Family Medicine, UT Graduate School of Medicine, led a team of researchers in a study of more than 19,000 U.S. adults to understand how Hispanics and non-Hispanics reported interactions with health care providers and how demographic and socioeconomic characteristics impact interactions between Hispanics and their medical providers.

The team’s data, appearing in the November 2007 issue of the Journal of General Internal Medicine, called attention to the role that race and ethnicity play in the quality of health care a person receives in the United States. “Because recent studies have reported that Hispanics have lower quality patient-physician interactions and poorer self-reported health as compared with non-Hispanics,” said Dr. Wallace, “we sought to investigate these differences. Links between health-related outcomes and quality of care indicators have been explored, but little is known regarding these issues within the Hispanic population exclusively.”

For the complete story on Dr. Wallace’s study, visit the UT Graduate School of Medicine news link at http://gsm.utmck.edu/news/main.htm.

Sharon Thorpe, FNP, joined the University Health Services staff in October. Thorpe comes from the Methodist University Hospital emergency room and has six years of experience in primary and HIV/AIDS care.

A graduate of the UTHSC MSN program, Thorpe has previously worked in the Department of Preventive Medicine.

Sheldon B. Korones, MD, UTHSC professor, was featured on a segment of the “NBC Nightly News” in January. Each Friday Brian Williams, news anchor, high lights a person who has made a major difference in the world. Dr. Korones began the Regional Medical Center’s newborn intensive care unit in 1968. He was featured because of his work in addressing the high infant mortality rate in Memphis.

Virginia Trotter Betts, RN, Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities UTHSC College of Nursing class of ’69, was named president of the National Association of State and Mental Health Program Directors NASMHPD in January.

Betts was elected vice president in July 2007, having represented the southern region on the NASMHPD board of directors since 2005. “We look forward to Commissioner Betts’ leadership as president of NASMHPD,” stated Robert W. Glover, PhD, executive director of the association. “She brings a wide range of expertise to this role: clinical care; federal and state policies; and financing strategies.”

Glenn Phillip Schoettle, Jr., MD, thoracic surgeon at Methodist University Hospital and assistant professor at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, co-authored...
an article that was published in the journal *Innovations: Technology and Techniques in Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery*, the official journal of the International Society for Minimally Invasive Cardiothoracic Surgery. Dr. Schoettle's article was titled, “Hand Sewn Proximal Anastomoses in Off Pump Coronary Artery Bypass Without the Need for Partial Occlusion Clamping: Experience With the Heartstring II Proximal Seal System.”

**Mona Wicks, PhD, a professor in the UTHSC College of Nursing, co-authored an article with other University of Tennessee colleagues in the November December 2007 issue of *Nephrology Nursing Journal.* The authors address the depression, anxiety and other symptoms that often affect caregivers of family members with end stage renal disease, a disease which is prevalent among black Americans. Black Americans account for approximately 32 percent of patients with the disease, more than any other group in the United States. These family caregivers, often black women, could benefit from an intervention to reduce these symptoms, and nephrology nurses are in a unique position to be the first ones to step in and help caregivers deal with these symptoms. The authors also suggest using a behavioral group therapy approach designed to prevent and reduce depression in women. Dr. Wicks and co-authors hope to reduce or eliminate depressive symptoms in this group.

**Dominic M. Desiderio, PhD,** UTHSC professor of neurology and molecular sciences, presented a lecture "The Human Pituitary Nitroproteme" in November 2007 at the Svedberg Lecture Series at Uppsala University; in December 2007 at the Department of Chemistry, University of Akron; and in January at the Brain Proteome Project BPP workshop in Barbados. The BPP is sponsored by the Human Proteome Organization HUPO, and Dr. Desiderio is on the board of directors of the U.S. HUPO.

**CAMPUS CALENDAR**

**March 12**
*“Good Clinical Practices”*  
March "Lunch and Learn"  
Derita Bran, RN, CCRC, UTHSC noon, 910 Madison, Suite 650  
More info: Melanie James 678 5948

**March 14**  
*"Cell Signaling: Specific Responses with Limited Resources"*  
Judith Cole, PhD, assistant professor  
Biologys Department  
The University of Memphis 3:30 p.m., The University of Memphis Room 203, Engineering Administration Building  
More info: Melanie James 678 5948

**March 27–29**  
Symposium on Critical Care and Emergency Medicine  
Hot Springs, Ark.  
More info: www.utmem.edu/cme

**March 28**  
*“Translating Biomedical Engineering Concepts in Clinical Practice”*  
Edward Chaum, MD, PhD, Plough Foundation Professor  
Ophthalmology Department, UTHSC 3:30 p.m., The University of Memphis Room 203, Engineering Administration Building  
More info: Melanie James 678 5948

**April 4**  
*TB4*  
Charles Handorf, MD, PhD, chair and professor  
Department of Pathology, UTHSC 3:30 p.m., The University of Memphis Room 203, Engineering Administration Building  
More info: Melanie James 678 5948

**April 9**  
*“Using Race to Sell Drugs: Pharmaceutical Marketing and Challenges to Medical Profession”*  
Howard Brody, MD, John P. McGovern Centennial Chair in Family Medicine  
Director, Institute for Medical Humanities  
University of Texas Medical Branch 8 a.m., North Coleman Auditorium

**April 11**  
*“Of Mice and Men: From the Lab to the Operating Room”*  
Charles Blaha, PhD, professor and W. Harry Feinstone Chair of Excellence in Functional Genomics, Biology Department  
The University of Memphis 3:30 p.m., The University of Memphis Room 203, Engineering Adm. Bldg.  
More info: Melanie James 678 5948

**GRANTS**

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

**Yi-Hong Zhang, MD, PhD**  
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development  
*“Elucidating the Neural Substrate of Taste Analgesia”*  
73,000

**Anton Reiner, PhD**  
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke  
*“Organization of the Cortical Projection to the Basal Ganglia”*  
319,375

**Hitoshi Kita, PhD**  
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke  
*“Synaptic Transmissions in the Basal Ganglia”*  
255,500

**Yunzhi Yang, PhD**  
University of Tennessee Research Foundation  
*“Tricalcium Phosphate as an Osteoinductive Material to Preserve Subchondral Plate of Osteochondral Repair”*  
15,000

**Antonin Bukovsky, MD, PhD**  
University of Tennessee Research Foundation  
*“Oocytes Derived from Ovarian Culture Initially Containing No Oocytes”*  
15,000

**Julian G. Hurdle**  
University of Tennessee Research Foundation  
*“Investigation of Tetramic Acids as Topical Antimicrobial Agents”*  
15,000

**Linda Myers, MD**  
University of Tennessee Research Foundation  
*“Altered Peptide Ligands to Treat Rheumatoid Arthritis”*  
15,000

**Dukhee Betty Lew, MD**  
University of Tennessee Research Foundation  
*“A Novel Microfabricated Instrument to Remove Epiretinal Membranes from the Retina”*  
15,000
Compliance with Laws and University Policy

A prohibited activity addressed in the Code of Conduct under the heading highlighted in this edition is falsification. More specifically, falsification of university records, including but not limited to, time records, employment applications, research, and work related documents may lead to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal. The introduction of this section states, “University staff members are expected to follow acceptable business and professional principles in matters of business and personal conduct and to exhibit personal and professional integrity and objectivity at all times.”

In a consistent fashion the Health Science Center has taken action with students, faculty and staff for filing false reports with Campus Police, falsification of credentials with employment applications, and the falsification of time records. The University of Tennessee system has openly encouraged team members on each campus to report the falsification of university time records. This type of falsification can involve an employee and anyone who prepares, certifies or approves time in that department, but more importantly these are actions subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal and prosecution.

Application Deadline for Certificate in Clinical Research Program in May

In May, the Certificate in Clinical Research program at UT Health Science Center will be considering applications for admission to the upcoming 2008–2009 academic year. The program aims to enhance the education and skills of clinical researchers by offering online, introductory graduate courses in epidemiology, biostatistics, clinical research design, ethics and other disciplines related to the effective and efficient conduct of clinical research. The 12-credit-hour nondegree program, leading to an awarded certificate, is designed primarily for junior faculty, fellows and other health care professionals who are not in a degree program and seek initial training in the methods and skills to conduct clinical research, but whose schedules may not accommodate traditional, classroom-based courses.

The program was launched in fall 2007, enrolling a distinguished first group of participants who are on track to receive a certificate on completing the program in spring 2008. The current group includes several UT assistant professors, associate professors, research staff and fellows from UTHSC and St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital from varied disciplines.

For the fall 2008 semester, the program will offer two online courses on the fundamentals of clinical investigation and biostatistics, followed in spring 2009 by two additional online courses on principles of epidemiology and ethical/legal issues in clinical research. The application deadline is May for those who want to be considered for fall 2008 admission to the certificate program. More details and a downloadable application form are posted at http://www.utcem.edu/premed (link to the Certificate in Clinical Research program). The Department of Preventive Medicine is coordinating this program along with the current graduate program in epidemiology.